
Proposed Agenda

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Informational Items
4. Status of short-term study programs (faculty leaders)
5. Status of semester long study abroad programs (Zack)
6. Assimilation of international students into the college and university (Bret)
7. GBSA – Suggestions for Revival
8. IEC Developments (Bret, Steve)
9. Specialized Study Abroad programs (Han)
10. Other


3. Informational Items
   - The Professional Development workshops/conferences offered primarily for international students through the Global Business center have been very successful with significant participation. GBC staff led by executive coordinator Assim Alaqeel has been doing outstanding work in helping to organize, promote and successfully implementing these workshops. We plan to expand the scope of these programs.
   - Please remind colleagues to share notable proposed internationalization activities with IBEC

4. Status of short-term study programs – Duke Leingpibul has 50 students who have completed the application process for Thailand. Jim Eckert has 38 students who have completed the application for Germany. Karen Lancendorfer has 22 students who have indicated their intent in joining the study abroad program to the Dominican Republic.

5. Semester study abroad programs (Zack). HIGE had requested that IBEC should consider including UNIBE, in the Dominican Republic as a site in the list of approved semester programs. UNIBE offers suitable courses in English at one of their campuses. A motion was made to add that program to the list with Karen Lancendorfer as the faculty champion. Newell moved, Coleman seconded. Motion approved. With the addition of this program, we will have nine dedicated HCOB approved semester long programs for business students.
6. Assimilation of international students into the college and university – IBEC members feel that with more international students joining HCOB, there is a strong need to promote greater interaction between domestic students and their foreign counterparts and to support ways of creating a more comfortable and welcoming environment for incoming foreign students. Bret Wagner stated that Marcel Zondag is very supportive of incorporating activities promoting such interactions in the large section of BUS 2200 (Global Business) that he teaches regularly. Bret has 4 students who studied abroad (2 for a semester, 2 short-term) who are interested in developing such activities. The goal is to have a core group of students who will manage former WMU study abroad participants in developing and executing these programs. The plan is to include a program activity in spring 2015 as an extra-credit assignment in Sontag’s BUS 2200 section. Based on the experience in that class, such activities could be an integral part of the required assignments in BUS 2200.

7. GBSA. Zahida Luqmani as an experienced adviser to GBSA had sent a memo outlining ways to make GBSA into becoming more active; one suggestion was that GBSA should try to develop student mentoring teams that will develop one to one linkages between domestic and foreign students. Wagner indicated that he would work with Zahida to have students who would be leading activities in the BUS 2200 class, become office bearers of GBSA. Coleman suggested that the international festival is a good forum for participation and recruitment for GBSA. Quraeshi indicated that GBC can provide limited support for GBSA activities that promote interactions between our domestic and foreign students.

8. IEC Developments (Bret, Steve) – IEC has an increased focus on “globalizing the curriculum”. Quraeshi reiterated IBEC’s collective view that study abroad programs should be an integral available alternative that fulfills needed General education course requirements. This would present opportunities for students particularly in areas such as accounting and business information systems, who have limited flexibility in their majors for their students to avail of study abroad experiences

9. Specialized Study Abroad programs (Han) – Bernie discussed the need to have specialized study abroad programs (such as in IT). In the discussion it was pointed out that programs can be successful if there is sufficient demand within a department to offer these.

10. Other – Meeting times in spring will be the same i.e. on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:30 pm

Minutes submitted by Bret Wagner