IBEC MEETING MINUTES
September 9, 2015

Present: Zahir Quraeshi (chair), Mimi Coleman, Bernard Han, Mingming Feng, Duke Leingpibul, Steve Newell, Roger Tang, Bret Wagner, Abby Wang

Guests: Jane Blyth (HIGE), Jim Eckert, Ann Ganz (HIGE), Korey Force (HIGE), Satish Deshpande (HCOB)

Proposed Agenda

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Informational Items
4. Status of college international exchange and other initiatives (Satish)
5. Short-term Study abroad programs: Review of summer 2015 programs and status of 2016 programs (faculty leaders)
6. Status of semester programs (Barb)
7. University Study Abroad fair HIGE (Ann)
8. HCOB Study Abroad Fair (Eckert and Barb)
9. Status of prep course (BUS 6050) for incoming international students (Barb)
10. Assimilation of foreign students into the college and university (Bret)
11. IEC Developments (Bret, Steve)
12. Other

1. Agenda – Newell moved, Han seconded. Agenda approved.


3. Informational Items – Professional Development Programs are going well with a variety of business topics that are being offered in different locations. GBC hopes to further diversify offerings.

4. Status of college international exchange and other initiatives – Discussion on GUFI ensued. Ninety-nine students are signed up for the GUFI dual-degree program. The first three years’ courses are taught at GUFE. Some of these courses will be taught by WMU faculty at GUFI during summer. The fourth year of instruction will be at WMU. Two-thirds of applicants got a 60% or above on the English portion of their national entrance test. Concerns were raised about the language skills of the cohort. We will have to ensure that student’s English is up to par before they come on campus. Questions on the details of the program should be directed to Associate Dean Chris Stamper.

5. Short-term Study abroad programs: Review of summer 2015 programs and status of 2016 programs – Summer 2015 short term study abroad programs went very well. Eckert’s program had 26 students. Of the 26 students, 21 participated in the optional week (plus 2 extra WMU students from Paderborn). There was better negotiation experience with
support of e-learning—thanks to Julie Scott. Jim expects sufficient enrollment for Summer 2016. Duke’s program in Thailand had 21 students; he expects 20 students to participate in summer 2016. Karen’s program to the Dominican Republic—HCOB’s first to DR was very successful with 20 participants; based on reviews, she will offer the program again in summer 2016. Newell and Quraeshi will lead the program to Chile in Summer II 2016. Tim Palmer is planning to lead another program to India in December 2016. Al is working on a program to Ghana in December 2016. This will be HCOB’s first short term study abroad program to Africa.

6. Status of semester programs – there was considerable discussion on the process of overseas institutional recommendations by HCOB to students for semester study abroad programs. Quraeshi underscored that HCOB scholarships to business students were limited to HCOB approved semester programs with dedicated faculty champions. Business course equivalence has to be established through assessments with inputs by faculty champions and whether the offerings are appropriate (AACSB or equivalently accredited e.g. EQUIS). IBEC needs to continue to review the credibility of course offerings by approved institutions to maintain that institution on the select list so that business students can be provided with appropriate recommendations for semester programs.

7. University Study Abroad fair HIGE – Quraeshi will request that all HCOB study abroad tables for the fair (wed, Oct.14, 2015) should be together. Not all of the faculty leaders will be able to be there all the time and this would allow us to collectively provide guidance to interested students for any of the HCOB programs.

8. HCOB Study Abroad Fair – HCOB’s Study abroad fair will be held on Monday October 26, 2015. Jim and Barb will be requesting information on the respective programs from the faculty leaders. Please request your colleagues to encourage students to come to the fair and get information from, former student participants, HIGE representatives and from representatives of the financial aid office.

9. Pre-MBA preparation of International students course offering (Barb) – Orientation screening process and enrollment in MGMT 6050 has been very successful.

10. Assimilation of foreign students into the college and university – International activity with BUS 2200 students will be conducted again this fall. The goal is to also have students who have participated in study abroad to lead the effort to for this assimilation initiative. Bret Wagner will get together with Zahida Luqmani to integrate this initiative into those by the Global Business Student Association.

11. IEC Developments (Steve and Bret) – IEC provided a global initiative report to the president and provost. Report needs to go through Faculty Senate process.

12. Other. IBEC meetings will be held as needed.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:12 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Bret Wagner