

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY SENATE

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION COUNCIL  
Minutes of Thursday, 18 February 2010, 3 p.m.  
Faculty Lounge, Bernhard Center

**Members present:** Sheila Bair, Blain Auer (for Stephen Covell), Robert Dlouhy, Willem Homan, Wei-Chiao Huang (for Sisay Asefa), Yvette Hyter, Lydia King, Mary Lagerwey, Dewei Qi (for Said AbuBakr), Mushtaq Luqmani, Donald McCloud, Dini Metro-Roland, Andre Venter (for Stephen Malcolm), Bill Woods.  
**Member absent:** Lygia Mueller. **Also present:** Lee Balcom, doctoral associate, Michelle Metro-Roland, Haenicke Institute for Global Education.

**Procedural Items**

*Welcoming Remarks and Introductions*

Council Chair Maira Bundza called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. She introduced the substitute members Blain Auer, Dewei Qi, and Andre Venter.

*Acceptance of the Agenda*

Lagerwey moved, seconded by Homan, to accept the agenda. Motion passed.

*Approval of the Minutes*

Huang moved, seconded by D. Metro-Roland, to approve the minutes of 21 January 2010. Motion passed.

**Informational Items**

*Chair's Report – Maira Bundza*

Bundza reported that she and a number of people from the IEC and HIGE attended the American Council on Education Internationalization Collaborative Annual Meeting. She mentioned that the ACE Internationalization Laboratory peer review team will be on campus March 21-23 and on Monday, March 22, they will meet with the IEC from 9:00-11:45 a.m. The site visit will be coordinated by Lee Balcom and Rena Lynema of the Haenicke Institute.

*Haenicke Institute for Global Education Report – Donald McCloud*

Dean McCloud reported that he had returned from a visit to Indonesia where he signed a twinning agreement with Jakarta International College. He visited two of Indonesia's most respected universities and found that they were quite interested in collaborating with WMU. They are interested in institutions that have strong services for international students, and offer resources for graduate and

undergraduate research. Woods mentioned that the study abroad coordinators have been reclassified as study abroad specialists.

*American Council on Education Internationalization Cooperative Annual Meeting*

Bundza reported that she and Lee Balcom, Mary Lagerwey, Michele Metro-Roland, Rebecca Solomon, and Jane Blyth Warren attended the American Council on Education Internationalization Collaborative Annual Meeting in Arlington, VA, February 4 and 5. Several of the people who attended the meeting commented on what they had learned.

Bundza mentioned that for internationalization, collaboration inside and outside of the University is very important. She observed that the IEC seems unique among ACE lab participants in that it is a representative body. Within WMU, collaboration with other councils and units such as the Lee Honors College, the Academic and Information Technology Council, and the Research Policies Council is possible. Between institutions, it is possible to share Fulbright scholars, study abroad programs, and write grants for collaborating on larger programs.

M. Metro-Roland indicated that technology has an important role to play, particularly if applied to project-based activities across continents. Personal and cultural background preparation is needed for success of such projects, and close collaboration between faculty on both sides of the project is important. Interesting student-to-student collaboration has been observed. Lagerwey learned about international programs working together with diversity programs.

Balcom attended a roundtable discussion on service learning in international education. While most U.S. students have their international experiences in high-income countries with contexts that are relatively similar to those they came from, service learning provides an opportunity to interact with populations in different contexts. A number of organizations supply information and opportunities for short-term projects. Fitting service learning experiences into existing curricula presents challenges.

**Discussion/Action Items**

*Summer Study Abroad Program Development*

On 10 February 2010, a letter was sent to some faculty members from Jane Blyth Warren, assistant to the dean for study abroad and global program development, postponing development of new faculty-led summer study abroad programs for 2012 until the fall of 2010. Several IEC members expressed concern over this decision and how it was made. Dean McCloud explained that although HIGE had been encouraging development of such programs for the past two years, budgetary problems have been encountered because faculty salaries funds for summer teaching are extremely limited. In addition, under the current economic conditions study abroad enrollments have been declining, with the result that internal competition for enrollments has developed. In these circumstances, it

was decided to put a temporary hold on development and reconsider the process for creating new programs of this type.

IEC members remarked that they wished this had been approached in a more collaborative manner with the IEC and college international committees. There was concern about lost enthusiasm and individual efforts for program development. This new decision will need to be reflected in the ACE Laboratory report. This discussion will be continued at a future meeting.

*ACE Internationalization Laboratory – Recommendations*

Bundza distributed a draft of the compiled recommendations the IEC will include in the ACE Lab report. The purpose of these recommendations is to provide input to the strategic planning process of HIGE, the IEC, and the colleges. Council members discussed adding and modifying some points, the order of presentation, and wording. Bundza invited members to send her any suggestions as soon as possible. The report needs to be sent to the peer review team the week of March 8.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Dlouhy, IEC Secretary