

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE**

**INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION COUNCIL
Minutes of Thursday, 17 January 2019, 3 p.m.
Room 4550 Sangren Hall**

Members present: D. Eric Archer, Pnina Ari-Gur (for Jun-Seok Oh), Steve Covell, Robert Dlouhy, Igor Fedotov, Janet Hahn, Chansheng He, David Huffman, Michelle Metro-Roland, Rebecca Natale, Maria Perez-Stable, Paulo Zagalo-Melo

Members absent: Kalani Gates, Duke Leingpibul (for Zahir Quraeshi), Jim Whittles

Guest: Evan Heiser, Director of WMU Signature Program

Procedural Items

Acceptance of the Agenda

Perez-Stable moved to accept the 17 January 2019 agenda; McMorro
seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes

Dlouhy moved to approve minutes from the 6 December 2018 meeting; Ari-Gur
seconded. Motion carried.

Discussion Items

WMU Signature Program – Heiser

Heiser explained the purpose and historical development of the WMU Signature Program. He also highlighted the fact that WMU is the only institution which currently places the student's Signature pathway on his/her diploma. Heiser then provided council members with information on how students declare and pursue a particular signature pathway. Several IEC members also asked for clarification on various aspects of the program and the three stages for completing a pathway: 1) Explore, 2) Focus, and 3) P.E.A.K.; and provided ideas to help promote the global engagement pathway in particular. Metro-Roland also suggested that the WMU Signature program could be an ideal co-curricular opportunity for international students and that opportunities to discuss the program at international student orientation should be explored. Finally, Covell asked how the IEC could support the WMU Signature program and, more specifically, the global engagement pathway. Heiser stated that members could help by encouraging hosts of global engagement events to please submit them to his office, so they post more opportunities related to the global engagement pathway.

Working Group Updates – Metro-Roland

Global Classrooms – Metro-Roland reported that an announcement concerning the call for global classrooms has been distributed through multiple channels and discussed the process by which faculty can submit applications for these grants. Metro-Roland also asked IEC members for their thoughts related to the global

classrooms stipend being paid directly to the faculty member or being placed in a department funding account for the faculty member.

International Faculty Research – none

International Student Inclusion – McMorro stated that plans are to connect with individual college diversity committees to see what work they are doing around international student inclusion. In addition, Metro-Roland highlighted that there was an international student inclusion learning community as part of WMU's Everyone Counts Learning communities and another call for 2019-20 learning communities will include an international student inclusion learning community.

College International Committee Updates – Archer, Ari-Gur, Covell, Fedotov, and McMorro

College of Arts and Sciences – Covell: Faculty learning community being developed for CAS faculty.

College of Fine Arts – Fedotov: No Report; committee will begin meeting regularly later in spring 2019

College of Health and Human Services – McMorro: No Report

College of Engineering and Applied Sciences – Ari-Gur: No Report

College of Education and Human Development – Archer: Faculty and staff internationalization development funds are being developed for travel for research and staff participation in WMU study abroad opportunities.

Haenicke Institute for Global Education Report – Zagalo-Melo

HAENICKE INSTITUTE:

1. December 17-20 Shenyang Sport University (China) Visit
2. December 17-19 Hanshan Normal University (China) Visit
3. December 17-January 10 Sisay Asefa to Ethiopia

Upcoming:

4. January 19-23 Zagalo-Melo to San Francisco for Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA) Conference
5. February 27-March 1 Zagalo-Melo to Eurasia Higher Education Summit (EURIE) –Istanbul
6. **Sunday March 24 – 4 to 8 p.m. WMU's 30th Annual International Festival**

INTERNATIONAL ADMISSIONS / CENTER FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS:

1. Spring 2019 international student enrollment = 1,798 including CELCIS (increase of 44 over spring 2018 census figures), total new student enrollment = 182 (increase of 6 over spring 2018), average CGPA of enrolled international students = 3.25 as of beginning of spring 2019, compared to 3.22 as of beginning of spring 2018.

2. CELCIS Conversation Circles from 2 to 3 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays

STUDY ABROAD:

1. Lee Penyak and Marshall Kim awarded \$1,750 WMU Student Sustainability Grant in Guatemala
2. A banner year for faculty-led study abroad participants during spring semester, from 60 in 2018 to 130 in 2019, mostly due to the addition of 3 new programs to Portugal, Costa Rica, and Italy.
3. The "Fast Facts" section in the Study Abroad website (located with the left-hand column "ABC's of Study Abroad") has been updated and includes statistics on scholarships, outreach efforts, destinations, and student participation by term, college, grade level, gender, race, etc.

ASIAN INITIATIVES/CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE:

1. Culture Classes – 12 week, low-cost courses began this week
2. Chinese New Year Gala – **Saturday, January 26, at 3 p.m.** Recital Hall, Dalton Center

IMMIGRATION SERVICES:

1. Most immigration functions remain largely unaffected during the government shutdown due to predominately being fee-based programs:
 - **U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services** continues to process immigration benefits during the shutdown.
 - **Department of Labor** operations remain as normal as it is fully funded. However, due to a technical malfunction unrelated to the shutdown, the iCERT system was offline temporarily suspended a week affecting H-1B petitions and prevailing wage requests.
 - **Customs and Border Protection** continues to adjudicate border applications. Deferred inspection offices continue to accept Form I-94 correction requests, but may be backlogged.
 - **Social Security** number issuance and driver's license and ID processing should not be affected by the shutdown.
2. WMU Immigration Services and Miller Johnson presenting an employment seminar for international students **February 1** at Bernhard Center hosted by WMU Career Services.
3. Reminder to departments that if they decide to convert a program to all or **predominately online**, they eliminate their ability to have F-1 students continue study in the U.S.

Chair's Report – Covell

Covell provided updates of guests for future meetings: Vice President for Research Terri Goss Kinzy will be attending the February 21, 2019 IEC meeting. In addition, Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion Candy McCorkle will attend on March 21, 2019. He also asked for requests for any guests for the April 18, 2019 meeting.

Covell also highlighted various Faculty Senate charges for the IEC that need to be addressed during remaining meetings in spring 2019. In addition, he informed the council of a recent international excursion developed by the Office of Alumni Relations for alumni and asked if any council members were aware of its development. Zagalo-Melo stated that he would follow up with the Office of Alumni Relations to find out more information and what input it received from faculty/staff who are involved in international work on campus.

Other

Ari-Gur presented an initiative being developed in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences to help support internationalization of the curriculum related to students engaging in collaborative, international projects. She asked for input from council members regarding their experience with such programs.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
D. Eric Archer
IEC Secretary