

International Education and Services Committee meeting  
Nov. 21, 2006

In attendance: David Doellinger, Claudio De Soller, Michele Price, Denvy Saxowsky, Karen Haberman, Daryl Thomas, Ann Bliss, Neng Yang

**Report on International Education week:**

- 1) 4 students – excellent reports on their travels, very enthusiastic – fulfilled capstone requirement.
- 2) International Potluck –75 students, packed & fun
- 3) Ping pong tournament
- 4) Ann – French films were great
- 5) The week was considered successful! Keep students involved.

**Laura Stahlman's proposal:**

- Was asked to follow through, she has part of the proposal done.
- Michele: Takes lots of support to do faculty initiated programs. Ideally, they should began planning one year in advance.

**School for Field Studies:**

- Holds promise for science students (yes!)
- 2 levels of agreement
  - o 1) Student level allows students to use financial aid, use courses for credit
  - o 2) Faculty level
- They are sending copies of contracts at both these levels. No cost to having an agreement.
- Motion – Move forward with contract negotiation with the School for Field Studies.
- Motion moved, seconded, passed.

**Programs in Australia and England – OUS:**

Michele introduced two OUS proposals for review: University of Sheffield, England and James Cook University, Australia—both have a science focus. Will look it over and vote at the next meeting.

**Teaching in China:**

Neng introduced an opportunity at WOU: to send 5 faculty to China for 2 week tour – WOU faculty to give lectures. Any interested faculty can apply. Provost/International programs will cover air-fare; institutions in China will cover the rest of the cost.  
Conditions of award: Serve as advisor to international students and contact dean's office for specific information/application.

**International Students for next year:**

- 70 students accepted, 20 new visas, hope for 30 by next quarter.
- ESL going well—All in Level 5 (16 students) – Regular classes
- 4 – 5 (1/2 ESL, 1/2 Regular classes)

**International Students are doing pretty well:**

- 1 major trip per month for international students

**Developed handbook-** (available on web) This is a contract between International Education Office and students. Requested committee check it, and report any errors  
Next Year: Focus on Japan, Korea, and Russia to diversify international student population. Laid foundation last year with Chinese. Then focus on South America. Would also like to bring in more students from Eastern Europe, perhaps with more use of existing and new scholarships

**Appreciation:** that many faculty responded to requests for Thanksgiving dinner (20-30 students, maybe as many as 40?)

**Visiting scholars:** Right now – 5 (4 from China, 1 from S. Korea)

Next year – 6 (similar make-up) – will be looking for mentors. We now have resources to implement program, better quality of service next year. Neng welcomes recommendations from International Education committee members. Ann Bliss commended Neng on great success in bringing in international students and also likes the focus on different countries and parts of the world since this will enrich the connections among the students. Neng said that Beto and Amber will be the main communicators with Chinese agencies and institutions. Dave emphasized Ann's point of diversity in international students, saying it will make a positive impact on campus.

**Question on new students:**

1) 10 China, 5 Saudi Arabia, 4 Japan

2) How many total if 30 new students arrive? Some will be transferring away because they are unhappy about grocery shopping difficulty, may lose 10 students.

120 (new) less 10 approx (attrition) plus 20 new = 130

Dave suggested cutting excursions, diverting the money to grocery shopping runs. Neng advised that different funding sources may not make this possible. It would be costly, not everyone wants to go to same place at the same time. Currently faculty, staff and administrators have been shuttling sometimes, but there are liability issues.

Neng – Biggest retention issue is transportation. Committee suggested several ideas; maybe buddy with non-international students who have cars, the Carts shuttle, a community bike drive to give bikes to students, family sponsored bike donations, approach student government (ASWOU) about funding, rooming with American students to carpool.

Michele – really likes Ann's idea about bicycles, there was a similar drive in Kefalonia. Lots of U.S. students at WOU are interested in international students. Success hinges on successful pairing – for example, returning study abroad students. Can we as a committee sponsor events to bring together interested students (American & International)

Neng – Each year, many airport pick-ups. Have to get vans from motor pools as well as supplement with staff vehicles. This gets costly.

Ann – New movie theatre in Independence, planning to have shuttle to pickup students from Monmouth. Would the grocery store (i.e. Waremart) assist in transportation if we could guarantee business? We must resolve transportation issue or we will lose students.

We appreciate hearing about problems & success.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:20PM