

IES Committee Monthly Meeting

Date: 05.03.24

Time: noon-1 pm

Location: Zoom

Attendance: Ya-Fang Cheng, Feier Hou, Rajeeb Poudel, Ricardo Pelegrín-Taboada, Sean Roush, Dani Lane, Ardy Clark, Joe Macade, Carmen Caceda

The group discussed updates and opportunities in the International Education Program at their university, including new initiatives for bipoc faculty members, successful advocacy for merit scholarships, and expanding study abroad programs. They also discussed ways to improve international collaboration and student engagement on campus, and proposed the idea of a two-year chair position with a vice chair learning the role in their second year.

Action Items

- Submit proposed changes to the committee's charges and membership structure to Faculty Senate for review.
- Organize an online celebration for the final committee meeting in June.
- Adry will finalize a proposal for Career Center to take over responsibility for the university's study abroad program as a temporary solution.
- Select a Vice Chair for the committee for the next academic year.

Outline

Revising committee charges and hosting events for international students.

- Ya-Fang discusses agenda items, including revising committee charges and developing a vision for the International Education Program.
- Joe discusses updates on scholarships and international student admissions.

International office update.

- International students inquire about financial aid for graduate courses, which are not currently available.
- Joe discusses potential university partnerships in India and Latin America.
- Ricardo and Carmen share their contacts to recruit students in Latin America.
- Merit scholarship is now available for undergraduate students at the non-residency rate.

Study Abroad Program update.

- Adry shared a new proposal to host the Study Abroad Program under the Career Center and will revisit this plan after 2 years.
- Sean discusses study abroad programs for underrepresented students, including heritage seekers and IE three.

International scholarships, cultural exchange programs, and COVID-19 impact on student engagement.

- The committee discusses the difficulty of hosting visiting scholars.
- Joe discusses challenges with engaging international students after COVID-19, including difficulty organizing events and low attendance.
- Ya-Fang highlights the importance of revisiting International Education Week and scholarship opportunities.

Improving international student engagement and representation in university committee.

- International students are not participating in events, despite efforts to increase diversity.
- International students struggle to participate in campus events due to COVID-19.
- Committee discusses ways to increase diversity and representation in international education initiatives.

Committee leadership and meeting attendance.

- Committee members discuss changes to the committee's structure and voting system.
- Committee members discuss succession planning, including a two-year chair term with a vice chair learning the role.
- Ya-Fang discusses the challenges for every committee to attend the meetings.
- Committee discusses the frequency of committee meetings
- They agree that it is important to have a dedicated time and date for meetings to ensure participation and commitment.
- Sean suggests rethinking the frequency of committee meetings.
- Carmen mentions that the Faculty Development Committee meets monthly, but the frequency may vary depending on the need.