

International Education Committee
Minutes of the November 2019 Meeting

Present: Gareth Barkin, Carmen Eyssautier, Karl Fields, Sunil Kukreja, Sara Protasi, Hilary Robbeloth, Roy Robinson, Brett M. Rogers, Rokiatou Soumaré, Matt Warning, Sheryl Zylstra

Co-chairs Barkin and Warning convened the meeting at 9:00 AM.

Agenda Item 1. Announcements

Roy Robinson announced the events for the upcoming International Week.

Agenda Item 2. Discussion of minutes from October 30 meeting

One committee member noted that there is a rule requiring University committees to use past tense in its minutes. A couple of minor edits were made to the minutes. Then a committee member asked questions about the IEC drive and the logistics around our minutes. Motion to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved.

Agenda Item 3. Subcommittee reports

Subcommittee on charge 1b

The subcommittee on charge 1b goal is to develop ways to support faculty development of international programs. The subcommittee goal is to support faculty development on international programs. The members of the subcommittee had a meeting about workshops and established a tentative timeline they wish to follow. The workshops will give faculty an introduction laying out for them the basics. Faculty who already ran programs will be invited to talk about the impacts their programs had in their classes and share some tips. The second workshop will be dedicated to the form the subcommittee is currently revising. A committee member inquired about the way in which the subcommittee is publicizing its events. The subcommittee replied that the word is getting out through posters. Some committee members expressed concerns about faculty attendance at the workshops planned by the subcommittee. A committee member proposed to set up meetings with department chairs. A 15min pitch during the chairs' meeting would be ideal. A member noted that the work of the subcommittee aligns with the spirit of high impact practices, department chairs should be a captive audience. They will surely spread the message of the subcommittee within their folks thus providing us more visibility. A subcommittee member volunteered to make an announcement about the workshops during the next chairs' meeting.

A committee member working on revising the form raised an issue related to the health section and the title IX insurance. The committee wondered if we should continue to demand meetings between CHWS and faculty/students. A committee member suggested that we should no longer require it. A discussion followed about the possibility of creating online modules that folks could take, once completed the online system would generate a confirmation. A committee member suggested that we should keep in mind the perspective of student's affairs as we move forward.

Before moving to the next subcommittee report, a committee member remarked that we need some organizational norms because the IEC has an accumulating report file. One committee member proposed to have subject folders then specify the years, etc. The decision was made to leave it to the subcommittees to figure out if they want to have individual folders and how to organize them. A discussion followed about finding ways to simplify the titles of our folders to avoid confusing individuals outside the committee who would want to access our documents. Executive decisions to be made by the co-chairs.

Subcommittee on Charge 2

The subcommittee on charge 2 goal is to finalize evaluation criteria for reviewing sexual assault response and evaluation programs, in coordination with the Deputy Title IX Coordinator. The subcommittee met to look at all documents collected. The members noted that there was ambiguity at the end of last year because there was a change with the deputy title IX officer. A meeting is scheduled with the new deputy title IX coordinator to finalize the process started last year.

Subcommittee on Charge 3

The subcommittee on charge 3 goal is to develop resources to support retention of international students including collaborating with campus and community partners. The first thing the subcommittee did was to expand its mandate to not just retention but recruitment. The subcommittee reflected about what we could do on campus in terms of retention. The subcommittee talked about ways to enhance the experience of international students on our campus with for instance language partner's programs sponsored by the CWLT. Any international students or third culture students can sign-up and meet with a tutor once a week to help them with their writing or learning. The subcommittee is considering contacting the advisors of international students to give them information about the CWLT programs.

The university currently has 12 international students with F1 visa. Of the incoming class there were over 100 students who speak more than one language at home. In addition to those numbers, 30 of our students self-described as third culture students. A committee member suggested that we should focus on recruiting international students. Another committee member pointed out that other liberal art colleges have sometimes 10% international students. A conversation followed about other schools and how they managed to attract international students. A committee member wondered if our yield when it comes to international students could be increased by giving more attractive financial packages to international students. The committee concluded that we need a creative vision and a comprehensive plan.

Meeting ended at 9:52.

Minutes submitted by Rokiatou Soumaré