

International Education Council
Meeting Minutes January 11, 2007 2pm

Present: Mara Loeb, Tae-Yun Kim, David Burley, Pam Newman, Mary Schemer,
Victor Hsia, Salman Tashin, Nina Krey, Cissy Clark
Unable to attend due to Dept. meetings: Jim Wood, Miguel Perez, Amanda Richardson
Absent: Ron Guidry, J. Smith

David Burley agreed to serve as acting Secretary.
Review of last semester's accomplishments.

Three Nexus events last semester: students and faculty attended

- These events meet Goal 3
- the events also set tradition for the council and meet long term goals
- council plans to make Nexus events a permanent part of IEC

How to distribute International Student Survey developed by Victor Hsia was discussed.

- Different options discussed were to have the survey put on ULM website, emailed to students, as a table favor at banquet, bring students into office and once they complete survey they will be entered in a drawing, have an incentive for filling out and returning such as t-shirt, coupons (pizza)
- also goals of the survey should be clearly stated to students

An informational base for international education and travel opportunities (Pam Newman) to be put on website was discussed.

- study abroad meets goals #6 and 2 of the IEC
- discussion of linking directory of International Speakers' Bureau to larger ULM directory of speakers.

Discussion of need to investigate grants and scholarships.

- possibility of contacting businesses in the area that are involved in international trade (contact Chamber of Commerce); to sponsor students/internships

Council wants to facilitate international student exchange. We must clarify cultural differences in definition of exchange.

- goal of raising reputation of ULM internationally
- we need sponsors for visas for US Embassy – post-docs
- there are many guidelines for accepting students with tests other than TOEFL (roadblock to obtaining students?); high transcript evaluation fee is another deterrent
- Mary Schmeer will ask Continuing Education Dept. to give ESL space in their flyer/semester schedule mailers – sending mailers to area high schools to access exchange students and host families about ESL. They might be interested in dual enrollment.

International Week – Mara Loeb recommended April 16-20; Spring Fever would follow and Spring Break week would be before Int. Week thus eliminating conflict and competition with these events. How can we help make the International Food Fair a success?

- Int. Week meets goal #4
- aspects discussed were whether to hold event outdoors or in new SUB, choice of day, and samples of food for sale, opening up International Banquet to more people (tickets \$15), food fair to begin week

Salman Tahsin suggested ULM establish a liaison office in different countries; possibility of staff from university or contact existing liaison offices that represent and recruit for many different universities. There is the question of funding.

Mara Loeb stated ULM is not renewing recruitment representation on international database.

Next meeting: Feb. 13th, 3:15 in the TLRC