**Minutes: Academic Senate Committee on Internationalization (COI)**

Date: October 05, 2012

Present: Arenillas (Chair), Burgmeier, Compton, Delpier, Fletcher, Kakas, Steinhaus, Whalen, Warchol, Xie

Absent: Stunkard

Next meeting: October, 19, 2012, 12:30-2:00pm in room 124 Whitman Hall.

Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m.

**Reports:**

**Director of International Programs Report**

1. During the first search for a new Director of International Programs, we offered the position to one of the candidates but they ended up turning it down. The second search for a new Director is currently in-progress. There is an interview with one of the candidates scheduled for Monday, October 8. COI members have been invited to meet with the candidate in 604 Cohodas from 10:30-11:15am.

2. International Programs has identified a number of academic programs with capacity for growth of international students (Computer Science, Math, English, CAPs, Business, etc.). Currently some of our programs don’t have the capacity for new students (Art & Design, Nursing, etc.).

There was some discussion regarding the Capital University: 2+2 program, and international students in general, and whether some of these students have the appropriate language or intellectual skills needed to succeed. Compton said we have been getting students from Capital University that scored below our minimum TOEFL requirement. We have indicated to Capital University that we will only accept students with a minimum TOEFL score and it appears that enrollment has dropped as a result.

Compton indicated there are currently 129 international students at Northern, 25 of which are exchange students. The top three countries represented are Saudi Arabia, China, and Canada. Recruitment efforts in the coming year will focus on the United Arab Emirates, Korea, China, England and Germany.

3. The English as a Second Language (ESL) program is up and running. There are three levels of instruction (Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced) as well as an activity component designed to familiarize students with North American culture. The program is offered during the fall and winter semesters as well as a 12 week summer session. Students receive university credits but credits cannot be applied toward a degree. There are currently 17 students enrolled in the program with a capacity for 60.

4. Northern continues to send students abroad for study, although the numbers are down slightly from prior years. There are 17 Faculty-Led Study Abroad (FLSA) programs approved for this academic year. The International Programs office is looking at ways to increase departmental and cross departmental coordination of FLSA proposals.

5. The International Programs office continues to host students as part of the Central America Youth Ambassadors program. The Youth Ambassadors program, funded by the U.S. Department of State and administered at Georgetown University, offers Central American youth from Costa Rica, The Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama the opportunity to experience and expand their knowledge of U.S. culture, society, and education. This program has been designed for youth between 15 and 18 years of age who have shown superior leadership and entrepreneurship skills. Students spend one week at Georgetown University and then one week each at two additional sites. The International Programs office typically hosts two groups of 25 students each throughout the year, one in January and another in summer or late spring.

6. Compton confirmed that the International Visiting Scholars Series has been cancelled. The Provost’s office felt there was not enough attendance to continue the program. Compton suggested that COI work to try to revitalize the program. As discussed at the previous meeting this will likely be one of the COI agendas for the year.

**The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted

Mike Burgmeier