**Minutes: Academic Senate Standing Committee on Internationalization**

Friday, 13 November 2009

Present: Ball, Mihalopoulos, Oates, Orf, Peters, Schmidt, Siles, Stunkard

Excused: Li, Mowafy, Shevy

Absent: None

Meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m.

Agenda for the current meeting was approved with the addition of two topics to New Business, COI meeting schedule and COI operating procedures.

Minutes from October 15 meeting approved with minor corrections and forwarded to Mark.

**Reports**

**Chair Report**

A subcommittee will convene at the end of the semester to work on the “International Scholar” award details. It was suggested that the term “scholar” be replaced with another word to avoid confusion with AAUP contract language. This suggestion will be forwarded to Tim Compton.

Amy raised the topic of satisfactory/unsatisfactory (S/U) grades as applied to study abroad courses. It was mentioned that S/U grades already apply to both 296/496 Special Topics courses at NMU. Students who direct register for courses abroad will need to verify the grading criteria used at that institution as problems may arise with transfer credits if misunderstandings occur. Marcelo will report on the number of direct enroll students from NMU.

COI had previously discussed the possible need for additional financial aid scholarships for international students. Marcelo reported that an unlimited number of scholarships are available in the sum of $3200 for all international students who maintain a GPA of 3.0 or better. The committee determined that they are satisfied with the scholarships available.

The needs of international students were discussed. The All Nations Club is available to provide social networking for international students. It was noted that some students may be more interested in study and not participate. As the holidays approach, members expressed concern for the dorm shut down and how to accommodate international students who don’t have a place to stay during that time. Marcelo will determine the number of students impacted by the closure and report back to the committee.

**Secretary Report**

No report.

**Executive Director of International Programs Report**

The International Programs office is having an open house on Monday, 11/16/2009 from 3-5pm in Whitman Commons.

NMU Passport Day will take place on Wednesday, 11/18/2009 for those applying for new passports. The event will take place in the lower level of the LRC.

NMU has received a 1-year educational license for students and faculty to travel to Cuba.

**New Business**

Update on Honors Program

A motion was made and passed to forward to Andy Poe and the Academic Senate the following: a copy of the original proposal sent to CUP with a cover letter emphasizing COI’s position regarding the removal of the foreign language component from the Honor’s Program. Amy will forward the proposal to the Academic Senate.

Presentation to the Academic Senate

Amy asked for feedback on the draft presentation to Academic Senate. Several suggestions were made. A motion was made and passed to accept the amended presentation to the Academic Senate.

COI Goals for 2009-2010 – Second Reading

The Committee felt that, with a few changes, the Goals were acceptable. Bill requested that a goal be added and placed at the top of the last, stating that COI would establish best practices for the freshman study abroad experience. It was also suggested that goals related to the International Scholar/Global Edge award and Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading be moved to the top of the list of goals. A motion was made and passed to accept the change to Goals.

COI Meeting Schedule.

A motion was made and accepted to add a statement to the Operating Procedures as follows: In instances where there are no pressing matters, members of COI will meet monthly at a designated date and time, per email vote.

COI Operating Procedures

A motion was made and accepted to add a statement to the Operating Procedures as follows: A quorum is constituted by 5 voting members.

The meeting was adjourned at 12: 30.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Stunkard**.**