

Student Recruitment, Retention and Alumni Services Committee Minutes
March 21, 2007
Student Affairs Conference Room, BB Dougherty

Members Present: Tracey Wright, Rachel Shinnar, Xiaorong Zho, Monica Silva, and Carter Hammett-McGarry and Bob White.

Notes prepared by Carter Hammett-McGarry.

Minutes from the Feb. 21 and Mar. 21 meeting will be reviewed for approval at the April 18 meeting.

After establishing that a quorum of voting members Tracey asked for a motion to approve the Enrollment Management Plan as presented through e-mail. Rachel moved acceptance of the plan. Xiaorong seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Tracey will forward the plan to Dr. Lutabingwa and Dr. Williams. Tracey led us in a mini-celebration for work well done.

Tracey has asked Dr. Lutabingwa to bring up our concern about defining services available to undocumented citizens and their access to funding for and participation in higher education at the meeting that will be held on our campus in April.

The committee generated a list of areas for focus in our future work. Suggestions included:

- Invite Dr. Peacock and Dr. Baumhover to our first fall meeting to discuss progress on international issues, funding inequities, and program initiatives on the Appalachian campus from their perspectives.
- Aligning funding opportunities, particularly graduate assistantship offers, for international students with acceptances for admission to facilitate enrollment and commitment from the students. **(Carter will research current processes with Dr. Huntley)**
- Survey and conduct focus groups with international students and their families to acknowledge successes and identify gaps in areas where the committee has advisory and oversight responsibilities. **(Committee members were asked to think about questions that need to be included.)**
- Explore ways to expand services to include students who are not attending in the specific visa categories currently defined to receive those services and supports.
- Request research data on the academic success, retention, graduation and majors of our international students over a 5 year period. Also, get the number of alums and their current addresses, if possible. **(Tracey will work with Heather Langdon and Tina Hogan to get the information).**

Tracey will ask the OIED staff on the Committee to provide an overview of their work and show their DVD/CD at the April 18 meeting of the committee so we can all have a better understanding of the work of the OIED office. She will also ask them for sample surveys or assessments they may have conducted or samples from other institutions.

Rachel reviewed the roster of international faculty who have volunteered to contact prospective international students to discuss questions and opportunities available to them at Appalachian should they choose to enroll. These faculty and staff partners have also volunteered to provide translation services if needed.

Tracey distributed copies of *The AACRAO International Guide; A Resource for International Education Professionals* which Dr. Lutabingwa purchased to support the work of our Committee. Members are asked to return these when their term of service to the committee ends.

Tracey and Bob shared information from the American Council on Education International Collaborative Meeting they attended Mar. 8-10 in Washington, DC. Tracey highlighted her participation in a pre-conference workshop on developing a comprehensive campus internationalization strategic plan and its relevance for the process OIED is launching to develop a strategic plan for ASU. She also discussed a dialog about the use of video classes to expose larger groups of the student body at ECU to global areas and students from across the world, especially students for whom study abroad is a difficult choice.

Xiaorong asked whether or not Appalachian has any Joint Programs that we participate in with universities in other countries? Bob indicated that we do not have any at the present time, but that this is one option being considered at this time.

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 18 at 9:00 a.m. – perhaps in the Academic Affairs Conference Room.