

Student Recruitment, Retention and Alumni Services Committee Minutes
April 18, 2007
Academic Affairs Conference Room , BB Dougherty

Members Present: Tracey Wright, , Paul Hiatt, Rachel Shinnar, Xiaorong Shao, Monica Silva, Carter Hammett-McGarry and Ex-Officio members; Jeanne d’Arc Gomis, Nancy Wells, and Bob White.

Notes prepared by Carter Hammett-McGarry

Minutes from the Feb. 21 and Mar. 21 meetings were approved with corrections.

International Student Enrollment Plan Update

Tracey reported that Dr. Lutabinwa had distributed the Plan for review to the members of the IEC Executive Committee. The Graduate School staff had suggested several revisions to reflect their unique processes and situation. Some of the suggestions are actually talking points for the proposed director and the graduate school staff to talk through. Other suggestions from the Grad School and other interested parties have been incorporated into the document. Bob requested that the chair of the ESL Task Force, Alexandra Hellenbrand receive a copy to consider ways to mesh our report with the one they are preparing. Tracey will include her in the distribution of current draft.

Cooperative Degree Program with Kansai Gaidai University in Japan

Nancy has been working with officials from Kansai Gaidai University to offer a cooperative degree. Our participation will expand options for Appalachian students to study abroad at this University (currently, our demand outnumbers the slots we are allowed per year) KGU students would complete their first 2 years of study in Japan and then transfer to ASU for their last 2 years and earn a bachelor’s degree from ASU.

Details to be worked out:

- Consultation with the ASU Admissions Office to specify admissions criteria for these students that might include a statement of acceptance of a “core equivalency” and an institutional TOEFL score. (rather than using the ETS test.)
- Criteria for assessing language proficiency prior to and /or upon arrival.

VPI Shootings Impact

Tracey reminded us all to be aware of the reactions in the public to the fact that the shooter at VPI was a resident alien from S. Korea and there are rumblings among the public that could affect the work we are involved in on this committee. Discussion regarding background checks for international students that parallel current admissions procedures for domestic students ensued. Paul will look at the questions we ask on the International Application and will talk to Harry Williams about bringing this topic to the table at the safety Committee meeting in May at Chapel Hill.

Overview of the Work of OIED

Members viewed the INTAPP DVD that was created to assist in recruiting international students to ASU. Comments about the DVD to assist with creation of a new DVD included “should have more of an academic focus, include financial aid information, emphasize the pre-professional options here, target academic areas that are of interest to international students.

Bob shared an overview of the breadth of services provided by the OIED and indicated that a summary in paper form will be forwarded to committee members. He also discussed Appalachian’s upcoming participation in the ACE Leadership Lab in Internationalization which is a 1 year assessment project that we will be doing 2007-2008.

Jeanne d’Arc and Bob talked about ways they gather feedback from international students and students who have participated in either short-term, semester long or year long study abroad. Both Jeanne d’Arc and Bob indicated that a detailed Strategic Plan with Assessment measures is being worked on in the OIED and the assessment will be guided by activities of the ACE study.

Wrap Up

Tracey expressed interest in having those who are here in the summer get together to work on questions for Focus groups in the fall. Members were thanked for all efforts since our inception and wished well in travels and adventures for the summer.