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

Friday, 15 January 2010

Present: Ball, Li, Oates, Orf, Peters, Schmidt, Shevy, Siles, Stunkard

Excused: Mihalopoulos, Mowafy,

Absent:

Meeting was called to order at 11:07 a.m.

Agenda approved.

Last meeting’s minutes approved with some corrections.

**Reports**

**Chair Report**

The remaining meeting dates are in the Dec. 4, 2009 minutes and at the bottom of the agenda.

At the Title VI meeting, initial brainstorming was done to create titles for the “international scholar” designation. The suggestions were “Global Faculty Recognition” and “Global Student Recognition.” Perhaps the designation can be earned through a point system.

As requested by COI, Orf sent a message to Modern Languages asking whether they are interested in gaining oversight of teaching evaluations for courses that count toward their major in International Studies. Orf is waiting for the reply.

Peters’ link to the Internationalization sites sent by Siles may be useful when it is time for COI to develop best practices for NMU.

The first International Programs newsletter recently came out via email. It was nicely done. It goes to faculty and staff only, so they should forward it to interested students. Siles comment: The same information is posted on FaceBook, where there are currently 350 subscribers. FaceBook has become an important recruitment tool for international students.

Orf circulated an article by the AACSU commission titled “Decline in college degrees threatens U.S. global competitiveness.” It shows the need for internationalization on university campuses.

**Secretary Report**

Shevy updated the COI operating procedures on the Web site and will soon finish updating the minutes.

**Executive Director of International Programs Report**

NMU has a FaceBook posting with 10 reasons why students should attend NMU. It reaches students abroad.

The next International Programs newsletter is coming out next week.

The Title VI meeting occurred as Orf reported above.

International Programs is finishing the logistic arrangements for the Central American students who will visit this winter. Contact **Rehema Clarken if you have suggestions. The Marquette community has given a good response to the request for lodging. It has been good exposure for NMU.**

**A recent meeting with Seethoff, Z. Z. Lehmberg, Peter Goodrich, and Michael Broadway helped develop the Wildcat Prep Program, which consists of three preparatory courses about American culture that students in China can take before coming to NMU.**

**The “volunteers company” promoting international trips has been noticed on campus. International Programs has tried to contact their main office in California and Haiti but has not reached anyone. The Better Business Bureau link on their Web site is broken. It is uncertain whether they are for profit or nonprofit. They are renting space in the University Center as an office. NMU may establish a policy that they are not allowed in classrooms.**

**The International Speaker Series is starting on Monday with an experimental theatre group from Mexico. There will be three more speakers in Winter 2010.**

**Siles met with Korean consulates in Chicago about two programs.**

**1. TALK is for undergraduates; they can apply in their sophomore year to go to Korea as a K-12 English teacher during their Junior or Senior years. They would teach English after school hours as a sort of remedial school. The duration would be 6 months to 1 year. They could take classes, such as Korean languages, in the mornings. A Korean grant will pay for travel to and from Korea, room & board, and a $1300/month stipend.**

2. EPIK is for graduate / post-bachelor students. They will teach full time, and receive a $1600-$2500/month stipend.

The programs are particularly interested in English and Education majors, but any students who are interested can apply. There will be a study abroad fair to advertise this soon, and a call for applications in March to go in Fall 2010. Placement in the program is competitive nationwide, but because of Sile’s contact with them, the representatives have made a contract to accept 20 or more students from NMU automatically. This solves the money problem that many students have for studying abroad. The agreement is between NMU and the Korean government. The Korean government will assign rural areas in which the students will teach.

**New Business**

Follow-up from last meeting’s discussion with Rotunda:

∙ COI sees no need for further pass/fail alterations.

∙ There is lots of great information for Study Abroad on the International Programs Web site, including a nice preparation check list and comments from students.

∙There is similar Web content for incoming international students. Global recruiting is getting extremely competitive. Students may often choose a school based on how fast the school responds to their requests. NMU aims for a 24 turnaround.

Mentoring: **Rehema Clarken is already working on this. She can talk with COI about it.**

**North Wind Article: It seems that student reporters should contact the International Programs office to get current events of interest.**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00. Respectfully submitted by Mark Shevy, COI secretary**.**