

April 23, 2001

To: Policy Council

From: Martha Nyikos & Peg Sutton, Co-Chairs, International Program Committee

Re: Activities of International Programs Committee, 2000/2001

Committee members: Martha Nyikos, Enid Zimmerman, Sharon Pugh, Laura Stachowski, Wendy Gaylord, Peg Sutton, Bradley Levinson, Nita Levison, Robert Arno, Robert F.; Khaula Murtadha-Watts, Luise McCarty, Deborah Hutton, Kate Cruikshank, Byung-Ro Lim; Eugene Tempel, Shoko Yamada, Ted Frick, Nancy Boatner, John Patrick, Elizabeth Boling, Marie Edwards (ex officio)

In the 2000/2001 academic year, the International Programs Committee and its members have been involved in the following activities:

1. International Student Orientation for SOE graduate students;
2. Goodwill Ambassadors;
3. Formation of the International Graduate Student Association in SOE;
4. Upgrading of the SOE office for Coordination of Diversity and International Programs;
5. Design of a structured mentoring program for international students;
6. Support to Visiting Scholars;
7. Development of an Area of Concentration in International Studies;
8. Consultation on request for special program for the Saudi Ministry of Education

These activities are described in greater detail below.

Support to international students in SOE (items 1-5)

One of the primary concerns of the IPC is to support the academic success and social well-being of international students in SOE. At 258, international students comprised 22.6 percent of students enrolled in SOE graduate degree programs in 2000/2001.

1. Academic orientation program for new international students, September 8, 2000

The second annual Academic Orientation program for International students was held on September 8, 2000, in the SOE auditorium from 1:00 to 5:00 pm. Using information collected from evaluations completed by those who attended the previous year, the program was presented on September 8, several weeks earlier in the semester. The previous year the program was held on September 26, 1999.

Although all new graduate students were welcome to attend, the primary focus was on those students for whom English was a second language, and for those who had not studied in an American university before.

The following program was offered:

Dean Gonzalez - Welcome
Louise McCarthy - Major Goals of the Graduate Program
Kate Cruikshank - Academic Norms and Expectations in American Universities
Ann Bristow - The Graduate School Library: Mining for gold
Chalmer Thompson & Graduate Student Panel - Dealing with the Pressures of Graduate School
Gerald Marker & Nita Levison - Problem Solving: Where to find the help you need at IU

A document was prepared and distributed to those attending. "Academic Success Tips from the Experts." The attendance was not as large as the previous year (first year 73, second year 37) and this may have been due to changing the program date. This change resulted from the student evaluations from 1999, who recommended that the program take place earlier in the semester. The fall in attendance the second year has led to a discussion of whether the program should be continued in its present form but better promoted or whether another approach should be sought.

2. Goodwill Ambassadors

The Goodwill Ambassador program was launched last year by the Coordinator for Diversity and International Programs. The URL for this program is: <http://education.indiana.edu/~edfolks/goodwill>. Goodwill Ambassadors are students who agree to respond to queries from prospective students and other interested parties concerning their experiences as students at SOE. It is a popular site; in January of 2001 there were 654 hits and in February 543. Most inquiries were from prospective international graduate students.

3. Formation of the International Graduate Student Association in SOE

In October, 2000, the International Graduate Student Association of SOE was approved as a student organization. It has sponsored coffee hours throughout the year and will host a Culture Fest at the Leo Dowling International Center on Friday, April 27.

4. Upgrading of the SOE office for Coordination of Diversity and International Programs Responding to IPC initiatives to increase support for international students in SOE, the position of Coordinator for Diversity and International Programs was increased to a half-time position.

5. Design of a structured mentoring program for international students

As a result of a study of international student experiences in SOE, directed by Sharon Pugh and Nita Levison, a new internship opportunity has been developed through Language Education, to begin next year. Students interested in acting as mentors to international students would register for internship credit and participate in a professional development seminar aimed at enhancing their knowledge of and skills in effective mentoring.

Other activities

6. Support to Visiting Scholars *Committee on Teaching*
With support from the Dean's office, the IPC hosted a coffee hour for Visiting Scholars in February 2001. In the process, IPC assisted in identifying all current Visiting Scholars (14 in Spring 2001) and in standardizing and publicizing the information available about them.

7. Development of an Area of Concentration in International Studies
In conjunction with the Center for the Study of Global Change, the IPC has developed a proposal for providing an Area of Concentration in International Studies for Elementary Education majors. The proposal will be submitted to the TEC in Fall, 2001.

8. Consultation on request for special program for the Saudi Ministry of Education
At the request of the Dean, members of the IPC reviewed an invitation from the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Education to formulate a proposal for a professional development program to serve Saudi MOE staff. Committee members met with Dr. Al-Mansour, an SOE alum, who visited IU to discuss the request for a proposal. A proposal was formulated by the Grants & Contracts office and is currently under review by the Saudi MOE. *MOE - the Celebration of Teaching - This ceremony is subject to review by the Awards and the Gannan Award.*