

International Programs Committee
Year-End Report, 2001-2002

Co-Chairs:

Sharon Pugh and Enid Zimmerman

Members:

Hope Elkins
Christopher Frey, Student
Ted Frick
Deb Hutton
Barry Levinson
N. Levison, Ex Officio
Luise McCarty, Ex Officio
Karen Newman, Student
Sharon Pugh Co-Chair
Carmen Simich-Dudgeon
Laura Stachowski, Staff
Kazuko Suematso, Student
Margaret Sutton
Don Warren
Martha Nyikos
Enid Zimmerman Co-Chair

Meetings:

September 14, 2001; October 19, 2001; November 16, 2001; February 8, 2002;
March 29, 2002.

Events sponsored or co-sponsored by the International Programs Committee:

*September 7, 2001: International Students Academic Skills Workshop
*March 3, 2002: Reception for international scholars, hosts, and associated staff and faculty at Don Warren's house, Sunday, 3:00 to 5:00.

Ongoing programs sponsored or co-sponsored by the International Programs Committee:

*Goodwill Ambassadors: School of Education undergraduate and graduate students in good standing volunteer to serve as online ambassadors of the School to prospective students. Ambassadors write a short biography of themselves, supply a photograph, and indicate their departmental affiliation; this information is linked from the School of Education homepage under "For Prospective Students."

*Research on Expectations and Experiences of International Graduate Students:

Interview data are being collected for the third year of this research, sponsored by IGSA and the International Programs Committee. Project coordinator is doctoral student Anne Therese Falkenstein working with Sharon Pugh.

Responses to issues and requests for information:

Education track for International Studies Minor: Ken Steuer & Brian Winchester of IU's Center for the Study of Global Change were instrumental in helping create the new Minor in International Studies as it relates to School of Education undergraduate students. While the minor is officially housed in COAS, it will be available to students in all IU schools. The School of Education will now offer a new track for students called "Global Education" to reflect this new minor. It was previously agreed that there

would be separate tracks for Elementary and Secondary Education students; students will be required to enroll in 15 credit hours of courses to obtain the minor. Bradley Levinson and Peg Sutton coordinated the development of this track.

Course for undergraduate international students: The Student Academic Center piloted a support course for international undergraduates in order to address academic and cultural issues.

The Long Range Planning Committee request for an updated mission statement. The following statement was sent to the LRP Committee:

The International Programs Committee promotes and enhances the international mission of the School of education by initiating and developing policy recommendations concerning international issues; helping to develop curricula and programs with international emphases, disseminating information pertinent to international scholarship and as a liaison with university-wide international committees and offices; supporting international students and visiting scholars; and engaging in other activities pertinent to the international character of the School.

Peer Mentoring Program: The International Graduate Student Association, affiliated with the IPC, initiated a peer mentoring program with credit opportunities for mentors. This program continued into its second semester under the coordination of Kazuko Suematsu, doctoral student, and Sharon Pugh.

Anti-Harrassment Measures: Dean Kenneth Rogers (International Services), Gonzales Isidoro Bruno (International Center), Pam Freeman (Office of Student Services and Anti-Harassment Program) met with the committee to discuss current issues of harrassments affecting international students, including distribution of online conference postings with inflammatory content.

International visiting scholars checklist: The Graduate Studies office now has some shared responsibility (with the Dean's office) for international visiting scholars and requests the help of the IPC, especially to clarify guidelines for bringing scholars TO THE SOE. Martha Nyikos and Deb Hutton edited the manual for hosting visiting scholars developed by the IPC in the early nineties and suggested streamlining to make the manual easier to use as well as changes to make it current. Although steps prior to a scholar's arrival are technically the responsibility of the Dean's office, they will be bounced back to faculty, so accurate and clear guidelines on what to do are needed, including

- *what is done by the Dean's office
- *the responsibilities of a faculty member who agrees to be a host (e.g. arrival, lodging)
- *monitoring of visa applications in an era of tightened security
- *communications with potential visitors that are accurate and culturally appropriate.

The Dean's office will provide well-crafted generic letters to be adapted to particular scholars both culturally and in terms of content. The Associate Dean for Graduate Studies will monitor letters before they are sent for appropriateness. The IPC will advise the Graduate Dean as needed and review drafts of letters. It is also recommended that when in doubt about cultural appropriateness the staff consult with a member of the scholar's national community. As before, the committee strongly recommends staff support, in the form of at least 10 hours per week of a GA's time, be provided to see to the details of hosting international scholars and other

matters relevant to the School's international mission, to be supervised in the Graduate Studies office.

Assistance for Alumni Scholars: In answer to the committee's request, relayed by Faridah Pawan, the Alumni Office provided the following information: They considered themselves pretty well-equipped for most requests, although they need to develop a more organized presentation of materials. They cannot provide assistance with housing beyond providing a list of possibilities and cannot provide escort or transportation services.

Within a few weeks, the staff will put together a set of information and develop a response plan that benefits from errors made in the past

Carry-over agenda item for next year: Support services for International Students: The committee will review and discuss with interested parties progress made on providing academic, writing and personal support for the international students in the School of Education and the faculty who work with them.

04/15/02, Sharon Pugh & Enid Zimmerman