

**CSM International Education Committee**  
**Thursday, March 20, 2014**  
**1:00-2:15 pm**

**Meeting Summary**

**Committee Members Attending:** Sandra Stefani Comerford, Jennifer Hughes, Patty Kwok, Yaping Li, Yiyuan Liang (student representative), Mario Mihelcic

**Review the Meeting Agenda**

The agenda was approved.

**Review Summary Notes from February 27, 2014 Meeting**

The summary notes from the February 27 meeting were approved.

**CSM Committee Membership – identifying new members**

Due to other commitments, Brandon Smith, ESL faculty member, will be unable to continue to serve on the committee. It was agreed that we would wait until fall to seek a replacement. Yaping and Sandra will assist in making sure that any faculty related issues are communicated to the faculty.

**Native English Placement Testing Issue**

Prior to her departure, Patty provided information from Skyline regarding how they handle ESL students and English placements. Her summary is provided below:

*A new student who has not taken any English or ESL course in the District can choose to take the ESL or English test. Once a student enrolls into the ESL or English class, Skyline considers that as a student “accepting his/her placement.” An exception would be if the student dropped/withdrew from the class. In this case, the student has not “accepted his/her placement” since s/he hasn’t started the sequence of classes. However, if the student has started a sequence, s/he would need to get a referral form from a counselor to allow him/her to take the placement test for the other language sequence. For example, a student who has completed an ESL class will have to get the permission of the counselor in order to take the native English test. Usually, the counselor will consult with the ESL instructor. If CSM were to go down this route or something similar to it, we would definitely need Marsha and Carol’s feedback because this would add onto what counselors need to do and I don’t know their feelings about that since counselors are so busy as it is.*

Further discussion of this topic is necessary. We will invite Marsha and Carol to a future meeting.

### **Summer Bridge Program**

The committee brainstormed a number of ideas to provide opportunities for new international students. The time period would be approximately July 15 – August 15. Several ideas were suggested, including:

- English workshops
- Field trips
- Activities in the Learning Center, Communication Studies
- Exposure to community events/activities
- Introductions to Academic departments
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Mario mentioned that there is a volunteer group that works with International Students at DeAnza/Foothill. They provide drivers and chaperones for events. It was agreed that we invite them to our next meeting.

### **Update on District International Education Advisory Committee**

None

### **Updates from Committee Members**

Mario mentioned the insurance for international students. Jennifer will contact Jan Roecks about this, as she may have been working on it with District personnel. Some colleges build the cost of the insurance into the students' fees, rather than relying on the student to purchase the insurance. This helps ensure that all students are covered.

Jennifer mentioned that the college is currently reviewing the job announcement for the vacant Director position. As soon as it is finalized, it will be posted.

### **Concerns/Issues to Forward to District International Education Advisory Committee**

None

**Next Meeting: Thursday, May 15, 2014**