

CSM International Education Committee

Thursday, September 6, 2012

1:15-2:30 p.m.

Meeting Summary

Members Attending: Susan Estes, Jennifer Hughes, Patricia Kwok, Yaping Li, Maggie Skaff, Brandon Smith, Henry Villareal, Fan Wan (student representative)

Guest: Jing Luan

1. Review the Meeting Agenda

The meeting agenda was approved.

2. Review Summary Notes from May 6, 2012 Meeting

The summary notes from the May 6 meeting were approved.

3. Demonstration of International Education Online Application

This item was tabled due to the presentation by Vice Chancellor Luan.

4. Update on District International Education Steering Committee Meeting

There has not been a District International Education Steering Committee meeting since the semester began. Thus, there was no report on this item.

5. Updates from Committee Members

Maggie and Henry provided an update on fall, 2012 enrollment (see attached report). We have 50 new students and 88 continuing students. The majority are from East Asia. Only two are from Saudi Arabia. We also had over 20 students who transferred at the end of the spring, 2012 semester. Thus, our total enrollment of international students is 138.

The committee would like to administer a survey to students to determine information about their experience at CSM, including what's working and what's not. We will enlist Fan's help and the PRIE office in developing the survey.

We also need to start tracking the success rates of our international students. Jennifer mentioned that the college already collects persistence, retention and success data for all students. She will ask PRIE to sort this data for our international students. Because international students are coded in Banner, we should be able to extract this data. Everyone expressed interest in making sure that our international students have a successful experience while at CSM. If they do not, word will quickly spread.

6. Concerns/Issues to Forward to District International Education Steering Committee

The committee expressed concern regarding the information that is being shared by agents and others when recruiting students. It was noted that many of this year's students arrived with the expectation that they would be able to finish their program of study in two years. This is often not the case given the students' placements in English/ESL. Patty has to spend a good deal of time explaining this to students, many of whom are dismayed when they learn that they will not finish in two years. We want to make sure that we're marketing accurate information to students and not misleading them. Also, while many students may score quite high on the math placement test and be eligible to enroll in transfer level math courses, they often do not possess sufficient proficiency in English order to do well in math courses. Patty attends the counseling division meetings and will mention this to counselors. In addition, some students are taking the English rather than ESL placement test. They often do not perform well in English classes and sometimes fail the course which delays the completion of their goals. We will raise these issues at the District Steering Committee meeting. Finally, concern has been raised about marketing the three colleges as "The San Mateo Colleges" as it may lead students to believe that the only college is College of San Mateo and Skyline and Cañada are sites or satellite campuses. The other two colleges have expressed similar concerns.

7. Other Items

Vice Chancellor Luan provided an update on the District's efforts for increasing international student enrollment. A presentation on the international education initiative was provided to the Board of Trustees at their June meeting. The current goal is to have twenty letters of conditional acceptance with four-year institutions, twenty institutional partnerships, and raise \$5 million dollars in international education revenue. The recruitment of students is coordinated with the three colleges and the District. Greg Chang is one of the agents that the District has hired to assist with the recruitment of students. Once the student has been recruited there is a hand-off to the colleges. Jing will be traveling extensively this fall to a variety of countries. There are still concerns regarding housing options for students. Host families with ISP receive an orientation from the ISP staff regarding what to expect when hosting an international student. However, students could benefit from an orientation so that they have a better sense of what to expect when coming to live with an American family.

8. Next Meeting: October 4, 2012, 1:15 – 2:30 p.m.