

CSM International Education Committee

Wednesday, December 5, 2012

1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Vice Presidents' Conference Room, College Center Building 10, Room 482B

Meeting Summary

Members Attending: Susan Estes, Jennifer Hughes, Patricia Kwok, Vivyan Lam (student representative), Yaping Li, Aaron Schaefer, Maggie Skaff, Brandon Smith, Henry Villareal, Fan Wang (student representative), Tim Yuen (student representative)

Review the Day's Agenda

The agenda was approved.

Review Summary Notes from October 30, 2012, Meeting

The summary notes from the October 30, 2012 meeting were approved.

Update on District International Education Committee Meeting

A meeting of the District International Education Committee has been set for January.

Updates from Committee Members

Patty reported that the spring, 2013 orientation for new students is scheduled for December 11, 2012. Thirty (30) students will be attending. To date, CSM has received 130 applications; 54 of these are completed applications; 47 students have been accepted (14 new and 33 transfers); 7 students have been denied due to low TOEFL scores. Most students are from China.

Yaping reported that George Kramm and Amy Sobel have been pairing a Communications and ESL course for several years. Kristi Ridgeway and Yaping will be pairing an Interpersonal Communication course with an ESL writing course that will have similar themes.

Patty provided the results of the recently conducted international student survey. Fifty-one (51) students responded to the survey, which is almost 50% of our students. The majority of the responses are in the "excellent" and "very good" categories. Patty will share this report with the District International Education Committee. The other two colleges have expressed interest in conducting a

similar survey. Patty also distributed copies of the new student handbook. Everyone agreed that it is an excellent document.

Aaron provided an update on the volunteer opportunities available for students. He and Fauzi will maintain a database of these opportunities.

The committee is still very interested in developing peer mentoring opportunities for international students. We may use some of our international funds to pay for the peer mentors.

Concerns/Issues to Forward to District International Education Steering Committee

The following concerns were raised:

1. Students are still being told that they can complete their program of study in two years, which is not always the case.
2. The TOEFL score required for admission is set too low.
3. Agents are creating email accounts for students and then communicating and interacting with the school on the student's behalf.
4. District ESL faculty were asked to develop a test for students coming to SMCCCD from a high school in China. The ESL faculty have met and articulated their concerns about this matter.

Spring, 2013 meeting dates

It was agreed that we would meet the third Thursday of the month from 1:15 – 2:30 p.m. in the VP Conference Room, College Center, Room 482B.

Summary notes provided by Jennifer Hughes 2/11/13