

International Education Council of the Faculty Senate at WMU

*Brad Dennis,
Chair 2025-26*



Brad Dennis

- (he/him/his)
- Librarian for 30 years, 22 years at WMU
 - Former Head of the Education Library
 - Education and Human Development Librarian
 - Member of the WMU Cold Case Team
- IEC Council 6 years
 - Secretary 2022-23
 - Chair 2023-24
 - Chair 2024-25
 - Chair 2025-26

IEC Charges 2025-26

Faculty Senate

Home

About

Senate

Executive Board

Councils

Academic And Information
Technology

Campus Planning And
Finance

Graduate Studies

International Education

Members

Schedule

Archives

Research And Creative
Scholarship

Undergraduate Studies

Committees

Archived Councils And Committees

Current Campus Initiatives

International Education Council

Role statement

The International Education Council serves in an advisory capacity to initiate, review, and recommend policies dealing with the international aspects of the University's mission and goals. The council serves to advocate the continued internationalization of the University and to maintain review of the University's various administrative arrangements, policies and procedures for the conduct of international programs and activities.

The council's oversight includes internationalization activities on campus including, but not limited to, internationalization of the curriculum and enrichment of the international development and experience of faculty, staff and students, as well as the University's presence in other countries and territories.

Charges 2025-26

In addition to its specific responsibilities listed in the International Education Council's role statement and the work of its standing committees if such exist, the Faculty Senate Executive Board charges the IEC to consider, as a committee of the whole or through the appropriate committee or task force, the following:

1. Increase contact and collaborations with college-level international committees.
2. Promote greater internationalization by...
 - a. developing and recommending mechanisms to encourage faculty to develop and/or participate in bringing global perspectives to teaching, scholarship, and research
 - b. communicating with the provost's office and the Office of Research and Innovation.

<https://wmich.edu/facultysenate/councils/international>

IEC Council Charges

1. Increase contact and coordination with college-level international committees (approved 2025-26).

- Every college has an international education committee.
- Your IEC representative reports on the activities of the college level international committee every month and vice versa.
- This March or April we hope to have a panel involving Deans and Associate Deans regarding best practices and recruiting ideas for the committee membership.

IEC Council Charges

2. Promote greater internationalization of individual, college level, and Essential Studies curriculum and faculty research by:

a) developing and recommending mechanisms to encourage faculty to develop and/or participate in bringing global perspectives in teaching, scholarship and research b) collaborating with the Provost's Office and the Office of Research and Innovation (approved 2025-26).

- Met with search consultants for the HIGE VP from Witt-Keiffer in December 2024
- Explored opportunities to strengthen support for international students through collaboration with Dr. Danyelle Gregory from the Office of Diversity and Inclusion in January 2025.
- Created a working group for review of IEFDF proposals (Nov. 1 and April 1 deadlines) funding faculty international research.
- Met with Provost in November of 2025 to share ideas and collaborate to support international students and faculty.
- Council members actively contributed to International Education Week in November
 - Movie Night
 - International Professionals Panel
 - Fulbright Info Sessions
 - Community partner events like the Globally Grounded event

IEC Council Charges

3. Develop and recommend best practices for ensuring that international students at WMU are made to feel welcome and directly connect with U.S. based students in real and meaningful ways. Conclude the initiative by producing a report to the Executive Board or a Memorandum of Action (approved 2025-26).

- Representative of the WSA, GSA, and ISC met with IEC in December 2024 and will meet with us to collaborate in January 2025.
- Every month our representative has a chance to report from the WSA, GSA, and ISC.
- Scheduled a “town hall” meeting with the International Student Council in May 2025 and will meet with them again in December 2025.
- IEC members advocated for WMU to reinvigorate the "You Are Welcome Here" campaign.
- Added a nonvoting administrative member of HIGE to the IEC – Brian Childs, Director of International Student and Scholar Services to facilitate communication in challenging times.
- IEC working group on Welcoming International Students.
 - New development in transportation communication with Metro Transit MetroLink – an app based rideshare service.
- We have 3 faculty working on International Students Experience Survey

IEC Council Charges

4. Collaborate with the Graduate Studies Council and the Undergraduate Studies Council to provide recommendations on how to best support faculty in the area of global learning (e.g. global classrooms and internationalized curriculum). Conclude the initiative by producing a report to the Executive Board or a Memorandum of Action (approved 2025-26).

- Met with Chair of UG Studies council, Diane Riggs in November 2024 to collaborate with the IEC.
- Last year worked on a MOA collaboratively with UG Studies Council.
- In October 2025 met with UG Studies representative on concerns about study abroad credit hours and transfer credits for students.

IEC Council Charges

5. Review WMU's Global Student Learning Outcomes (<https://wmich.edu/global/curriculum>) and revise if necessary. Conclude the initiative by producing a report to the Executive Board or a Memorandum of Action (approved 2025-26).

- Working group reviewed GLOs, revised language, approved by IEC, created a revised MOA that will be submitted in December 2025 or January 2026 to the Faculty Senate Executive Board.

IEC Council Charges

6. Encourage utilization of external campus resources and innovative programs (i.e., Institute of International Education, Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence Program, Scholar Rescue Fund), and reciprocal faculty exchanges with international partners to increase internationalization on WMU's campus (approved 2025-26).

- Invited Dr. Susan Freeman in February 2025 to discuss efforts by WMU faculty and the Kalamazoo Immigrant Solidarity Coalition to support students affected by current political developments.
- Continued to promote the WMU University of Passau Exchange and sent Dr. Priscilla Lambert to Passau in June 2025.
- Continued to promote Fulbright Scholar In Residence Program (we have received two of these awards already and possible 3rd applicant)
- Remain members of IIE Network.

IEC Council Charges

7. Review the scope and description of the council's role statement and assess the effectiveness of the council's practices (approved 2025-26).

- Reviewed in September 2025

8. At the annual April IEC meeting, the council members must review the draft year-end report, to be submitted to the Faculty Senate office, by the council chair no later than May 30 (approved 2025-26).

- Used Qualtrics for initial review of charges then IEC approved in April
- All working documents stored in Microsoft Teams IEC files

9. Address any continuing or outstanding issues or initiatives as directed by the Faculty Senate Executive Board, members of the council, faculty, and/or academic administrators. Conclude the initiative by producing a report to the Executive Board or a Memorandum of Action (approved 2025-26).

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Appointment with Brad:

<https://wmich.libcal.com/appointments/braddennis>