

**International Education Council  
Minutes of 15 September 2022**

**Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate International Education Council was called to order at 3 p.m. on 15 September 2022, via Webex video conferencing by David Huffman, chair.

**Members in Attendance:** Ellen Breakfield-Glick, Chuck Bruce (substitute for Eric Archer), Valerie Chan, Joan Conway, Bradford Dennis, Jessica Gladden (substitute for Shannon McMorrow), David Huffman, Elena Lisovskaya, Joseph Milostan, Michelle Metro-Roland, Jun-Seok Oh, Xiaodan (Abby) Wang, Jim Whittles, Paulo Zagalo-Melo, German Zarate-Sandez (substitute for Anna Popkova)

**Ex Officio in Attendance:** Lisa DeChano-Cook

**Guest:** Sarah Summy, Faculty Senate President

**Quorum**

A quorum was present.

**Acceptance of the Agenda**

**[MOTION]** It was moved by DeChano-Cook, seconded by Wang, to accept the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of the Minutes**

**[MOTION]** It was moved by Whittles, seconded by DeChano-Cook, to approve the minutes of 19 May 2022 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**Reports of Officers**

Faculty Senate President Summy presented the International Education Council 2022-23 Charges.

Chair Huffman reported that IEC will be reviewing the Internationalization component of the WMU Strategic Plan draft this fall. IEC will review the 2022-23 charges and potential changes to the Global Engagement Awards.

Ex Officio DeChano-Cook reported that over the summer, the Faculty Senate Executive Board did a needs assessment (SWAT analysis). Ex Officio DeChano-Cook reported that a calendar has been added to the Faculty Senate website, which includes council and committee meeting dates and Webex meeting links. [The calendar is located here.](#)

**Reports of University Representatives**

Zagalo-Melo reported that the Internationalization Strategic Planning Working Group submitted the first version of the Internationalization Strategic Plan in spring 2022 and received comments. The first draft had strategies and metrics. In August, Zagalo-Melo met with the student feedback group and received suggestions and questions. The plan was changed to include more explanation and defined terminology based on the feedback. The current version of the plan will be shared via email. IEC members are encouraged to make comments directly to Zagalo-Melo via email. Zagalo-Melo suggested including the Internationalization Strategic Plan in the IEC 13 October 2022 meeting agenda.

Zagalo-Melo reported an overall increase in enrollment of international students of 3% this fall. Relative to fall 2021, this comprises an undergraduate increase of 0.5% and a graduate increase of 10.4%. [An article by Karin Fisher in the Chronicle of Higher Education discusses the details of the United States issues recruiting international students.](#) According to Fisher, there was a backlog at the United States consulates

during the pandemic, causing delays in acquiring visas. Milostan added that WMU study abroad numbers this year are more consistent with 2020.

### **Reports of Councils/Committees Standing Committees**

None.

### **Unfinished Business**

None.

### **New Business**

Metro-Roland reported that there are two Global Engagement Awards, one for faculty and one for staff. Metro-Roland asked IEC members to encourage applicants to apply. Last year, a question regarding whether emeriti should be included for an award was raised by IEC. Metro-Roland asked Ex Officio DeChano-Cook about the procedure and the need for a new MOA to replace MOA-1503. Ex Officio DeChano-Cook will investigate and report back to the IEC. Chair Huffman asked for volunteers for a working group to address this issue. Ex Officio DeChano-Cook, Wang, and Whittles volunteered. Milostan volunteered to help with the staff award.

Metro-Roland clarified that the Fulbright award does not have to coincide with sabbatical leave. Metro-Roland recommended that the IEC create a working group to create WMU guidelines to support best practices for Fulbright awards and the dissemination of information about opportunities. Metro-Roland, Zarate-Sandez, and Gladden volunteered to be a part of the Fulbright Awards working group.

Chair Huffman led a discussion on 2022-23 Charges.

- Charge 2: Chair Huffman asked if any IEC members are also members of the international committees within the WMU Colleges. IEC members serving on the international committees for their respective colleges are as follows:
  - Gladden for the College of Health and Human Services
  - Wang for the Hayworth College of Business
  - Whittles for the College of Aviation
  - Oh, for the College of Engineering
  - Breakfield-Glick will inquire about the College of Fine Arts International Committee
  - Bruce will obtain information regarding the College of Education and Human Development International Committee.

Chair Huffman asked that each IEC Council member report on their respective international committee at the October meeting.

- Charge 3: Chair Huffman commented that Charge 3 is an important component in the Internationalization Strategic Plan draft. Milostan stated that one of the goals is to increase the number of classes that include internationalization. Bruce and Ex Officio DeChano-Cook recommended working with the WMU Essential Studies Executive Advisory Committee on this charge.
- Charge 4: Metro-Roland reported that she and Milostan are working on Global Curriculum Grants.
- Charge 5: Chair Huffman stated that IEC officers will meet with the Graduate Studies Council and the Undergraduate Studies Council to address this charge.
- Charge 6: Milostan and Bruce volunteered to explore this charge.
- Charge 7: Chair Huffman asked for volunteers to serve on a working group to help international students feel welcome on campus. Dennis, Breakfield-Glick, Chan, and Oh volunteered.
- Charge 8: Metro-Roland stated there is a Fulbright scholar-in-residence program, which is an opportunity to bring scholars to campus. Metro-Roland reported that the program brings about 20 scholars per year, and funding is needed. Metro-Roland reported that WMU has a reciprocal faculty exchange that is usually four weeks in duration. Ex Officio DeChano-Cook recommended more promotion of these programs to faculty. Chair Huffman asked if the programs are identified on the WMU web pages. Metro-Roland responded that some are, but not all, and suggested a PowerPoint presentation to the Faculty Senate.

A discussion was held regarding the 2022-23 IEC guests.

**Announcements**

Chair Huffman noted that four Fulbright scholars were awarded at WMU. Chansheng, He received a Fulbright Distinguished Scholar Award, while Eric Archer, Shannon McMorrow, and Mónica Codina received Scholar Awards. Metro-Roland reported that this was the largest number of WMU Scholars since 2016.

Metro-Roland announced the Global Engagement Award will be presented at the fall convocation to emeritus Gregory Veeck.

**Adjournment**

**[MOTION]** It was moved by DeChano-Cook, seconded by Whittles, to adjourn the meeting at 4:52 p.m. The motion carried unanimously. The International Education Council will meet next on 13 October 2022 at 3 p.m. virtually via Webex.

**Approval**

Submitted by Bradford Dennis, Secretary

Minutes approved on 13 October 2022