

International Education Council

Minutes of 16 May 2024

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate International Education Council was called to order at 3:13 p.m. on 16 May 2024, via Webex video conferencing by Bradford Dennis, chair.

Members in Attendance: Eric Archer, Bradford Dennis, Anne Kairu, Shannon McMorrow, Michelle Metro-Roland, Joseph Milostan, Barry Olson, Anna Popkova, Paulo Zagalo-Melo
Members Absent: Dyanne Foskey, Tarun Gupta, Lucius Hallett, Reetha Raveendran, Leon Sun, Abby Wang, Ying Zeng

Ex Officio in Attendance: Osama Abudayyeh

Quorum

A quorum was present with 10 members in attendance, of the nine needed to establish a quorum.

Agenda

[MOTION] It was moved by Milostan, seconded by McMorrow, to accept the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes

[MOTION] It was moved by Zagalo-Melo, seconded by McMorrow, to approve the 18 April 2024 minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports of Officers

Chair Dennis did not provide a report

Ex Officio Abudayyeh did not provide a report.

Reports of University Representatives

Zagalo-Melo reported that WMU is in the admissions yield season for international students. Some colleges with earlier deadlines are reporting expected visa denials. WMU is continuously seeing high levels of visa denials.

The Computer Science Department asked to start a pilot with the Global Tech platform, but given the Faculty Senate's position on the Memorandum of Action (MOA), Zagalo-Melo recommended delaying starting the pilot. Discussion of issues and obstacles to implementing Global Tech projects, and the role of the WMU Senate in the process. Key points: no issues for AAUP for partnering with Global Tech because courses would be run under existing course numbers; MOA's intention was to make things more transparent; those most opposed to Global Tech did not attend any of the several Global Tech presentations.

Zagalo-Melo announced his upcoming retirement this summer.

Reports of Council/Committee Standing Committees

Archer reported that the College of Education Committee will start again next year.

The Welcoming Students Working Group reported developing a survey, like campus climate, but more detailed. The working group is reviewing literature on how to make this a good survey.

Olson left the meeting at 3:47 p.m.

Kairu left the meeting at 3:58 p.m.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

Chair Dennis discussed the response from the Faculty Senate President to the Global Tech MOA. Discussion on how MSU is using Global Tech through experiential learning. The next steps for the Global Tech charge were discussed.

Question about the modality of the meetings for next year – Qualtrics vote will be sent out after the meeting.

Speakers for 2024-25 were discussed – an email will be sent with more information on speakers. Charges for this year and next year were discussed, but the IEC was unable to vote on 2024-25 charges because of the quorum; two members left the meeting early.

Announcements

None.

Adjournment

[MOTION] It was moved by McMorrow, seconded by Popkova, to adjourn the meeting at 4:19 p.m. The motion carried unanimously. The International Education Council's next meeting will be determined over the summer.

Approval

Submitted by Anna Popkova, Secretary

Minutes approved on 19 September 2024.