

USG System Council on International Education
21 January 2011
Minutes

- I. Call to Order and Introduction of New Members
 - A. Directory of SCIE Representatives will be circulated for updating. Please make sure that your name and contact information is correct.
- II. University System of Georgia Update (Linda Noble)
- III. Residency Verification and Tuition Rates (Kimberly Ballard-Washington)
 - A. In last six months there has been a lot of activity with regard to residency and undocumented students. The BOR appointed a Residency Verification Committee with BOR members and staff. That committee tried to keep its focus on tuition and not citizenship issues when making its recommendations.
 - B. One result is that every student seeking in-state tuition rate must have her/his citizenship verified.
 1. Questions about how that process works
 - a. BOR will have contract with SAVE, each institution will have contact person and will act on behalf of their campus. There are plans for a webinar on SAVE.
 - b. Each SAVE verification costs 50 cents, a charge that is the institution's responsibility.
 - c. Trying to establish relationship with Social Security system in order to validate students who do not have driver's license or other form of identification that would answer request for verification.
 - C. What role do international offices have in this process?
 1. Many feel admissions and registrar offices should be responsible.
 2. BOR hopes for input from international education offices because DSOs think of questions that admissions and registrar offices do not. International offices may have to examine documents on some students.
 3. To access the website that holds information for registrars, contact Cori Loftis at coriloftis@usg.edu and ask for password to access website: http://www.usg.edu/student_affairs/faculty/policies_resources
 - D. 2009 Senate Bill #1 is the statutory basis for verification process.
 1. In-state tuition is considered a benefit for students who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents and who are official residents of the state.
 2. House and Senate committees are examining this issue and there is a good chance they will decide that undocumented students cannot attend any USG institution.
 3. Current BOR policy—any USG institution which turned away qualified Georgia applicants within the last two years, cannot admit undocumented students.
 4. Currently there are five USG institutions that meet this but re-evaluation will occur every year.

5. Possible that Georgia House and Senate will mandate that no undocumented students attend any USG institution.
- E. How is BOR seeking input?
1. Through e-mail
 2. Meetings with various USG groups.
 3. E-mail either Tonya or Cori if want to have a group set up to respond.
- F. CISS Response (Libby)
1. Given all the questions about verification, CISS feels that USG schools are not ready to implement this process.
 2. CISS recommends a delay in implementation of the verification process until fall 2012 to give time for the USG office to provide complete info to schools and evaluate impact on budgets and staffing in a time of budget cuts.
 3. BOR tried to have process delayed but was not successful.
 4. Dwight moved to pass the resolution, Ivan seconded.
 - a. Neal agreed with the criticism and concern but wondered if it was politically astute to act now given the legislature's attitude.
 - b. After further discussion including the positive economic impact of undocumented students, the motion was withdrawn.
 5. The CISS recommended and the SCIE endorsed a request that the BOR advocate in favor of keeping the Department of Homeland Security SEVIS system as the official verification tool for F and J international students.
 - a. Recommendation is to be sent BOR Secretary with copies to Linda Noble and Tanya Lam
 - b. Kimberly Ballard-Washington indicates that she expects SEVIS will continue to be used to verify international students

IV. Student Health Insurance Plan (Dwight Call)

- A. International student health insurance policy with Pearce and Pearce now entering its sixth year and will be renewed for next year.
- B. In December a committee met at the BOR and should meet again soon. Three committee members are connected to international education: Linda Noble, Sylvia Shortt and Dwight Call.
- C. Committee is working on RFP for next year. Paul Ferguson (Georgia Southern) volunteered to work on RFP. Asked that comments and suggestions to be sent to him.
- D. One change is that USG institutions will be able to obtain their own insurance policy.
- E. CISS passed a couple of resolutions related to insurance at its meeting that morning:
 1. CISS requests more transparency in communication about student health insurance policy.
 2. CISS requests annual reports showing completed and categorized claims data at the end of each year to meet American College Health Association standards.

3. Bill Schaniel moved to support both resolutions and was seconded (by whom?).
4. Bill accepted a friendly amendment to the effect that we have a point person at the BOR office who would assist us in obtaining this data and would be responsible for keeping our institutions informed
5. Motion in support was passed unanimously.
6. Bill asked that e-mail addresses for the representatives on the insurance committee be distributed to SCIE. Dwight will post these to the listserv.

V. CIGNA Secure Travel (Linda Noble)

- A. SCIE asked for more information about the medical reimbursements under the policy.
- B. One particular question was whether there were limits in the amount of coverage.

VI. Committees: Reports and Items for Discussion

A. Committee on International Education Strategy (Neal McCrillis)

1. Campus Strategic Planning Template (Draft)

- a. A revised version of an international education strategic planning template was distributed to members. This is an alternative to the current goals and targets on the USG website which were never reviewed by the old OIE or SCIE. In addition, since the goals were imposed, the whole OIE office and funding was cut. There also have been massive cuts at all institutions.
 - b. Committee sought to develop a comprehensive planning instrument but reducing the number of goals and targets for ease of administration while allowing institutions a more flexibility.
 - c. It is a consensus document that considers variety of institutional types with very different missions, needs, and resources.
 - d. Jeff Palis (GSoU), Tracy Harrington (Bainbridge), John Hicks (GSU), Jim Anderson (AASU) and Neal McCrillis (Columbus State) were the members of the committee.
2. Motion passed to approve the planning template and recommend to the BOR that these goals and targets replace the current (unapproved) ones. USG institutions should select goals and set targets as appropriate to their institution based on the template.

B. Faculty Internationalization Committee (Chaudron Gille)

1. Trying to capture faculty internationalization in some manner so that it is not lost.

C. Committee on International Students and Scholars (Libby Davis)

1. Best Practices project—Adam Johnson and Kelley Riffe
 - a. CISS is hoping to conduct a survey on various topics and share that information with other USG institutions.
2. International Student Handbook
 - a. CISS will request sample handbooks and post online.

3. Study Georgia initiative is moving along
 - a. Website should be live in the next couple of weeks
 - b. 30 + members
 - c. Study GA is filing non-profit 501-c3 paperwork
- D. Study Abroad Committee (Tracy Harrington)
 1. There will be a risk management workshop all morning on Friday, 4 Feb at the GAIE conference
 2. Workshop on assessing learning outcomes all day in Athens 22 April is targeted at faculty interested in teaching abroad and administrators
 3. Seeking to make the listserv more of a discussion board
 4. Hoping to promote professional development and more institutional collaboration or at least awareness of each other's programs abroad

VII. Regional Councils: Updates and Items for Discussion

- A. Africa Council (Nuru Akinyemi)
 1. Southeast Model African Union will be at Savannah State in November
 2. Discussing options for a faculty development seminar in Egypt
- B. European Council (Dwight Call)
 1. Recruitment for summer programs is up
 2. Next meeting is Feb 18th at GCSU Macon Center
 3. Faculty Teaching Applications for 2012 due 18 March
- C. Americas Council (José da Cruz)
 1. Americas Conference will be 11-12 February at GPC
- D. Asia Council (Sally Vargis)
 1. Asian studies certificate is ready and council will be sending materials to campuses soon.
 2. Language program in China and general studies program in China are running concurrently.
- E. Middle East Council (Sunita Manian)
 1. MidEast symposium is 16 April with a proposal deadline of 1 March.
 2. Hoping keynote address will be on Tunisia
 3. Nearly finished working on a book for those teaching the MidEast
 4. Hoping for a faculty development seminar next year that will combine student study abroad and faculty development.

VIII. New Business—NONE

IX. Next Meeting—15 April