International Student Advisory Board
The Reves Center for International Studies

Date: February 2, 2014
Time: 2-3pm
Location: Campus Center

In attendance
Lopamudra Das
Shweta Kulshrestha
Ma Hua
Melody Qingmei Li
Adela Roa-Varon
Eva Wong

1. ISSP Reports to ISAB
   a. Spring 2014 orientation
      - 20 new students. 9 exchange, 1 ugrad transfer, 10 grad
   b. International Student Leadership Conference 2014 will take place on Friday, March 28
evening and Saturday, March 29 all day & evening.
      - Hosted and sponsored each year by James Madison University and Eastern Mennonite University.
      - Offering students the opportunity to feature their accomplishments, special programs, unique ideas and activities with a student poster session.
      - Offering scholarships to students majoring in business/management to attend conference. Will send info to these students.
      - Let Eva know by February 14 if you plan to attend.
   c. Scholarships for international students
      - Jack Wolfe: general funds for continuing students (spring semester).
      - Clark Campbell: competitive merit based for continuing undergraduate student (spring semester).
      - New scholarship from international alumni: over 5 years for an incoming undergraduate student.
      - New scholarship from Reves Advisory Council member: for incoming grad or ugrad student.
      - The terms of the Jack Wolfe and Clark Campbell scholarships are being renegotiated with the donors. The Development Office is finalizing the details of the two new scholarships with the donors. ISSP’s website information will be updated once we have the details.
   d. W&M Ambassadors for Home for the Holidays Program
      - 3 undergraduate intl. students visited their high schools over break.
2. ISAB Updates
   a. International students and the honor code
      - There are immigration consequences for an international student who receives a
        sanction (e.g., suspension) due to an honor code or student conduct violation. When an
        international student is suspended, ISSP has to terminate the student’s SEVIS record and
        the student has to leave the country. Upon return to the College, the student has to
        fulfill the one academic year enrollment requirement before being eligible for CPT of
        OPT. Therefore, a sanction can have huge consequences for an international student.
      - Most ISAB members felt that students were not aware of the immigration implications.
      - ISAB members provided feedback on honor code education in their respective
        programs.
      - MBA:
        - Has Student Honor Code Committee
        - Committee sends out reminders about the Honor Code to students
        - Most professors designate categories to their assignments (e.g., individual
          assignments, group assignments, etc.).
        - Common practices in other countries might not be acceptable in the US. For
          example, making photocopies of the entire text book or sharing coursepacks.
        - Specific examples of honor code violations would be helpful for students.
      - Undergraduate:
        - Most professors talk about the honor code in their classes and address it in
          their syllabi.
        - There is an Undergraduate Honor Council.
        - Students should ask their professors if they are unsure.
      - School of Ed:
        - There is a Student Honor Council.
        - Plagiarism is addressed during program orientation. However, there is not a lot
          of education after that.
        - There are honor code posters in classrooms.
        - Specific scenarios would be helpful
      - Arts and Sciences:
        - Received a booklet the honor code during program orientation.
        - Professors talk about how to avoid plagiarism but does not talk about other
          honor code rules.
      - VIMS:
        - Students know there is an honor code but the topic rarely comes up.
        - Expectations vary between the professors.
      - Law:
        - There is a Student Honor Council. The council provides a training session for all
          new students and also before exams.
        - Professors are very clear of their expectations in their classes. Students know
          to ask their professors if they are unsure.
b. Health insurance education and use of W&M health center
   - Members were relatively satisfied with the insurance and health center. However, most of them had not encountered major health problems.
   - Insurance does not cover dental care and it is very expensive to see a dentist without insurance.
   - There is an optional dental insurance that students can buy but it cost an additional $554 a year.
   - The student insurance covers eye exams but it is still very expensive.

c. Member updates
   - Adela asked about English classes for VIMS students. Eva’s response: The A&S Graduate Center offers English classes to graduate students but it might be difficult for VIMS students to come to the W&M campus. VIMS is also part of our ESL initiative conversation. Eva is also working with the Writing Resources Center to find a way to videotape workshops, simulcast, etc.

3. Summarization and Future Goals
   a. Spring 2014 meetings
      Sunday, March 16, 2pm
      Sunday, April 13, 2pm
   b. Next meeting’s agenda:
      i. Report on outreach interviews
      ii. Feedback on tax software and tax information
      iii. Presentation on ESL initiative by Steve Sechrist