International Student Advisory Board  
The Reves Center for International Studies

Date: March 20, 2015  
Time: 3-4:30pm  
Location: Reves Room

In Attendance  
Lopa Das  
Adela Roa-Voran  
Angel Zhang  
David Ji  
Ashley Deng  
Steve Sechrist

1. ISSP Reports to ISAB  
   a) **ISSP receives Grant to establish English Language Program**  
      - Talked about how an ELP can support international students at W&M  
      - 1st semester and year support is most critical  
      - Adela advocated for VIMS, that either classes be taught there or we schedule the graduate student ESL classes so that the VIMS students could take the bus

   b) **Welcome Book going online!**  
      - Positive response from board  
      - Liked the look of it – very attractive  
      - Suggested having a link to the welcome book available because a couple of board members had read it and found it helpful  
      - A campus map would be helpful  
      - New Student and Scholar website needs to be clearer – too confusing

   c) **Recruitment for new ISAB members will take place in early April. Please let Eva know if you do not plan to serve on the board next year**  
      - Asked how many new members they are recruiting (Eva will follow up)

2. ISAB Updates  
   a) **Member updates**  
      - No updates voiced

   b) **International Student Fee**  
      - Steve talked about the need for a fee increase to support our operations  
      - Members were generally fine with the fee increase if it means better support, particularly in the area of career services/support  
      - In terms of messaging, it would be important to tell students what they will get for the increase
• In terms of timing of message, avoid beginning of May when messages about all the other fee/tuition increases go out
• Discussed some ideas to enhance career support:
  o Bringing in a speaker (e.g. Dan Beaudry)
  o Offering to cover travel costs for company recruiters who hire international students to come to W&M fairs
• Lopa suggested perhaps phasing the increase in 2 steps (i.e. 1 year to $50 and then the next to $65). Steve responded that makes it seem like we are constantly raising fees.

c) **Suggestions for making orientation more interactive**
• Liked the idea of making it more interactive
• Angel said it was like the orientation they went through for her winter internship and she thought that was a good model
• Adela agreed that if you have to find the information yourself you remember it longer
• David mentioned the importance of covering topics like local laws, “what to do if you get pulled over or arrested”
• Police presenter was not clear last time during Fall orientation.

3. **Summarization and Future Goals**
   Final ISAB Meeting Friday, April 17, 3pm