



COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS FOR INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS (CVIP)

Board Minutes

January 14, 2015

ATTENDANCE: Peggy Arbanas, Mary Barrett, Pat Barrett, Jan Bernsten, Stacey Bieler, Marion Chapman, Rick Emerson, Karen Goven, Mary Hennessey, David Horner, Erika Larson, Sue McDonald, Harsha Patel, Barb Sawyer-Koch, Dottie Schmidt, Pam Sievers, Jim Stedman, Carol Towl. Christine VanNada, Susan Ventocilla, Joy Walter – OISS.

WELCOME: Stacey Bieler, President

SECRETARY'S MINUTES – Susan McDonald – M/S/A (motion made/seconded/approved)

TREASURER'S REPORT – David Horner – M/S/A

Below is a summary of the treasury report.

Will be submitted at later date.

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General Discussion:

Tossed around ideas for raising money for Scholarship Fund, such as “non-event party”.

OISS (Office for International Student and Scholars) Update – Joy Walter

- Offer was made and accepted to new Director - James Dorset. From Iowa State. Start date of March 16, 2015
- Year of China
- Meridian Mall – Chinese New Year table being worked on for February.
- MAIE (State Education Conference) March 12 and March 13 in Mt. Pleasant
- Working on ice skating event at Munn

OLD BUSINESS

STRATEGIC PLAN – Stacey

Will vote next month

BY-LAWS COMMITTEE – Pam Sievers

-Lengthy discussion. New ideas suggested. Two Vice Presidents. Splitting duties of President's position.

-Tweaked wording of proposed document.

-The Bylaws will be presented later this spring for the Board's approval.

NEW BUSINESS

- *Marion Chapman – Interfaith Conference - February 24, 2015
- *International Spouse Connection is organizing sledding trip
- *International Friendship Program needs families for February 8th match

IMPORTANT DATES

February 4, 9:30 – Executive Committee

February 8, 3:00 – IFP Orientation

February 11, 9:30 – Board Meeting

March Treats – PR and Office

Goal 1: Develop training materials including procedural manuals for all leadership positions – officers and position chairs.

Goal 2: Develop program specific policies and procedures (in writing).

Goal 3: Develop and implement a communication/PR/marketing plan.

Goal 4: Complete the strategic planning process.

Goal 5: Identify and engage in advocacy efforts on behalf of the international students/scholars.

Submitted by Secretary, Sue McDonald

2014-2015 CVIP Committee Reports

ADMINISTRATION

Office: As was reported last month, John Alzubaydi retired from the Office Manager's position to volunteer in other CVIP programs. Happily, **Bernard Pope** has agreed to take on the Office Manager's role, serving as a co-chair with Pat Barrett for the remainder of this year. It is expected that Bernard will continue as chair alone beginning this coming summer.

Submitted by Pat Barrett

Membership: The membership total stands at 1003, with 16 new volunteers joining CVIP in January and 13 more so far in February. The majority of the new recruits are MSU undergraduate students joining VETP as tutors. They have been designated as "unassigned" at present, and only when they have been given tutoring assignments will they be added to the "active" volunteer list.

Submitted by Pat Barrett and Ruby Bato

Website: A few updates were posted on the CVIP website during the last month.

Submitted by Pat Barrett

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP

The IFP Committee completed processing the student and local volunteer applications for participation in the International Friendship Program for Spring Semester. The Orientation Meeting was held on February 8 in the International Center. We matched 20 students from 11 countries, including Bangladesh, China, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Turkey, and Vietnam. For the 2014-2015 academic year, we matched a total of 71 students from 26 different countries.

Applications will now be accepted for participation in the program for Fall Semester. Additional local volunteers are still needed and we will be conducting outreach activities during the coming months.

--submitted by Larry Karnes

I SPEAK

Since the last report from I SPEAK on December 10, these events have taken place:

1. In December during MSU's break, Dion Ginanto and his wife Ira showed pictures and talked about their traditional Indonesian wedding of the summer of 2014 to the International Interest Group of the MSU Community Club.
2. Dion returned to the International Interest Group in January, bringing with him Karen Klein from MSU's Asian Studies Center, to describe the work of LATTICE (Linking All Types of Teachers for International and Cross Cultural Education), a group administered out of MSU's College of Education that brings together its international students with local teachers who want to internationalize their classrooms.
3. Huimin He gave a presentation about Chinese New Year for the Allen Senior Center coffee hour.
4. A Pizza supper and orientation session was attended by 14 international students, scholars and spouses. Husam Abdulrhaman demonstrated a presentation about Libya, telling what went into the planning. Joy Walter, Mitsuko and Bill Marx, and Chuck Curry joined Carol Towl and Mary Hennessey to share experiences and ideas about customizing presentations for various types of audiences.

--submitted by Carol Towl

INTERNATIONAL SPOUSE CONNECTION

The International Spouse Connection got off to a great start to the new year with three meetings in January. At our January 16 Welcome to Newcomers, we greeted six new members from six different countries. On the 23rd, we fulfilled the request of several members and went sledding on the Frandor hill next to Marshall Music. Their response: "We want to go again." The last meeting of the month, our three Indonesian members collaborated to present a program on Indonesian history, culture and food. Several of our Facebook members who have returned to their countries posted that they wished they could have been with us to sample the Indonesian cuisine.

--Submitted by Jan Bernsten

LILLIAN KUMATA SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Nothing to report this month.

--submitted by Peggy Arbanas and Dottie Schmidt

VOLUNTEER ENGLISH TUTORING PROGRAM

This semester VETP has a total of 9 classes - another one will begin in mid-March.

Class attendance was 150 for the month of January. Some of the tutors did not report their attendance to me so it was probably more than that.

One of the VETP Tutors, Mark McCarthy, is a PhD student in the College of Education. He is teaching an undergraduate class this semester, and made participating in VETP a requirement for the class. He felt that his students are going to be teachers, and will have diverse classrooms, but many have no experience with someone from another culture. So, 24 students in this class were interviewed and told about VETP and CVIP and how we help international students. They were all matched with international students and scholars, which really put a dent in the waiting list. :)

Besides the students from the class (above) we have 40 conversation partners meeting. The tutors for this are made up of 18 community members, 4 graduate students and 18 undergrads. So all together, we have 64 conversation partners meeting.

Peggy Teoh is an American conversation partner who has also been volunteering in the VETP Office to help me with interviewing potential conversation partners and other tasks. I noticed that OISS, VETP and other places on campus were handing out a list of ESL classes in the Lansing area that was old and had out-of-date information. So Peggy called places and updated information and compiled a list. I am attaching it - feel free to hand it out to anyone who is looking for other classes in the area.

I worked 70.25 hours in January for VETP. I also put in 2.5 hours with I-Speak.

--submitted by Mary Hennessey

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