

**International Affairs Committee  
November 13, 2025**

**Members Present**

Becky Asher  
Heather Cathey  
Marwan ElAwady  
David Gallop  
Tina Girdley  
Lela Gracy  
Justin Lee  
Bobbie Maynard  
Amy Miller  
Darian Moore  
Jennifer Murphy  
Matthew Nisbet  
Queen Ogbomo  
Lianqun Sun for Dennis Duncan

**Members Absent**

Steven Anton  
Pedro Arce  
Reina Imoto  
Padmini Veerapen

**Guests**

Andrew Bleignier  
Mary McCaskey  
Charles Wilkerson  
Jerri Winningham

Dr. Lee called the meeting to order.

**Approval of Agenda**

The committee members received the agenda by e-mail. Ms. Girdley made the motion to approve and Ms. Maynard second the motion. The committee members approved the agenda unanimously.

**Approval of March 13, Minutes**

The committee members received March 13, 2025, minutes earlier by e-mail. Ms. Murphy made the motion to approve and Mr. Nisbet second the motion. The committee members approved the minutes unanimously.

### **Updates from International Programming Office**

Dr. Lee recognized Mr. Wilkerson to share information from the International Programming Office. The Center for ESL program will continue business until Kings Academy receives immigration approval for the new program. Each school must have their own designation by the Department of Homeland Security.

Mr. Wilkerson's recruitment plans for the upcoming months include traveling to Japan, China, South Korea, Taiwan, Saudi Arabia and Brazil. Questions were asked whether anyone may attend the ESL program and if scholarships were available. Anyone may enroll in the ESL program. For the ESL program, the student must meet the criteria for the international scholarship which requires that the applicant has a F1 visa or a legal visa to be eligible. The maximum amount would be 20% of the program cost. A seven-week semester is \$2400 so the max amount is \$480. Discussion was held about the cost of the program. The ESL Program is under the Foreign Language Department. Dr. Olsen maintains the course schedule and assists in hiring the adjunct faculty. No action was needed by the committee.

### **Policy 240 Full Course of Study Requirements for International Students**

Dr. Lee recognized Mr. Bleignier to present proposed changes for Policy 240 Full Course of Study Requirements for International Students. Major revisions are:

- Rules for summer 2 enrollment.
- Change 30 weeks to 15 weeks.
- Remove graduate level courses as a requirement and open it to all level courses.
- Update rules on when asynchronous courses must begin for students in F1 status
- Codify rules on COOP on international full-time.

Discussion was held by the committee. Dr. Ogbomo made the motion to approve and Ms. Girdley second the motion. Policy changes were approved as submitted.

### **Policy 246 Recruitment of International Students**

Mr. Lee recognized Mr. Wilkerson to present changes for Policy 246 Recruitment of International Students. The only change presented in the policy was to update the office name change from International Education to International Programming. Mr. Nisbet made the motion to approve and Dr. Sun second the motion. Policy change was approved as submitted.

### **Such Other Matters**

Dr. Miller shared that there are four student groups traveling during spring break to Italy, Scotland, Guatemala and London. At the end of spring in May there will be four more groups traveling to Belize Spain, Prague and Portugal. There are 23 students traveling abroad individually for the semester.

She has launched new study abroad management software that has not been announced yet to the campus since they have been testing it on the group trips to ensure that the software is functioning properly. There are filters available for students to use to search. When the software goes live for the campus, all users will be required to create a profile including faculty. The new application system will

have discussion boards for professors and students. Another feature of the software is virtual study abroad programs.

Discussion was held by the committee regarding scholarships or grants for students to increase the opportunities for studying abroad. Dr. Miller shared that additional funding had been provided but it is for semester study not short-term study. Deadlines were provided for faculty who want to apply for trips when the new software is rolled out to the campus. February 1 will be the deadline for fall semester and December trips and August 1 for spring semester and summer semester.

Next semester the University will be welcoming 18 exchange students from Korea.

Ms. Maynard made the motion to adjourn, and Mr. Nisbet seconded the motion.