

**International Affairs Committee
October 5, 2021**

Members Present

Steven Anton
Cheryl Corder
Angie Denson
Tina Girdley
Regina Gragg
Callie Johnson
Bobbie Maynard
Amy Miller
Mary Pashley
Mark Stephens
Yixing Wang

Members Absent

Ahsan Ayub
Becky Asher
David Gallop
Mary-Grayson Hamrick
Harry Ingle
Matthew Nisbet
Liqun Zhang

Guest

Charles Wilkerson
Jerri Winningham

Dr. Miller called the meeting to order.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda had been provided to the committee members earlier via Teams committee folder and by e-mail. Dr. Pashley made the motion to approve and Ms. Gragg seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of March 30 Minutes

The March 30 minutes had been provided to the committee members earlier via Teams committee folder and by e-mail. Ms. Corder made the motion to approve and Dr. Pashley seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Creation of Subcommittee for Policy 246

Dr. Miller called for volunteers to serve on the subcommittee to review Policy 246 Recruitment of International Students. Regina Gragg, Mary Pashley and Angie Denson agreed to serve on the subcommittee. Mr. Wilkerson will work with the subcommittee as a resource.

Policy 240 Full Course of Study Requirements for International Students

The committee approved the proposed changes by Qualtrics survey that was sent out in September in order for the policy changes to be submitted to the Graduate School Executive Committee's October 5th meeting.

Dr. Miller shared with the committee members that discussion had occurred regarding the changes for this policy. Upon submission of the policy changes to the College of Graduate Studies for the Graduate School Executive Committee meeting, Dr. Camuti had questioned the difference in credit hours for the summer semester compared to Policy 274. Policy 240 has that students must register for a minimum of three credit hours in the summer whereas Policy 274 has that students must register for one credit hour. Dr. Miller read a statement to the committee members that Andrew Bleignier had shared with her. Per Mr. Bleignier the answer is that "The US Department of Homeland Security allows universities to define full-time for Master and PhD graduate level based on what the school says is full-time in this case the switch from three hour to one hour is matching with the Graduate Studies Department." Dr. Stevens responded that this is graduate students who are finishing their program and only need one hour to finish their thesis. This only impacts students on assistantships. Dr. Miller mention that immigration requirements change on an annual basis. Dr. Stevens shared with the committee that this only impacts students who begin at the University in the spring. He doesn't believe this will be an issue.

Such Other Matters

Dr. Miller questioned the members whether anyone had any other items to bring before the committee. Mr. Wilkerson shared with the committee that our ESL students started August 23 and the session will be ending this week. The second group will start next week. The third session will begin in January and the fourth session will be in March. The cost is \$2,400 per seven-week term.

Dr. Pashley questioned how quickly they needed to move on Policy 246. Ms. Winningham shared that any changes to the policy needed to be made this academic year. Changes for this policy go to University Assembly after the committee approves. Mr. Wilkerson has one recommended change and it relates to the ESL program. He is conducting research and will share with the subcommittee before they begin their work.

Dr. Miller adjourned the meeting.