**Planning and Finance Committee Meeting 11/9/17**

Roll Call

Members Present: Wendy Bates, Lauren Chan, Tony Crowley, Amanda Hendrix, Susan Kalter, Arthur Martinez, David Marx, Adena Meyer, Amelia Noel-Elkins, Dimitrios Nikolaou, Jackson Pryhuber, Michael Rubio, Joe Sandridge, Samantha Lewis, Tracy Mainieri,

Members Absent: Patti Hoit, Alan Lacy, Zach Schaab

Meeting called to order at 6:05

Guests: Brent Paterson, Assistant to the President

 Jonathon Rosenthal, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education

 Amy Hurd, Director, Graduate School

Senator Marx began the meeting introducing our guests.

Brent Paterson: Where the University is headed with international students? One of President Dietz’s goals is to increase international enrollment. The foundation for the international initiative is to enhance diversity, broaden global learning, and create global campus environment. The goal is to increase international enrollment to 10% of the total enrollment at Illinois State University. Currently, the international enrollment is a stagnant 2%.

Illinois State University researched other Universities that have been successful in their recruitment of international students. What we discovered was that ISU lacked the knowledge and resources to be competitive in international student recruitment. The world of recruiting international students has drastically changed in recent years. Many parents of international students hire agents to find the best US schools to send their children. Some institutions have established relationships and networks with the agents to recruit students to their specific schools. The best option for ISU is to partner with an experienced entity with a track record of success in international student recruitment. ISU has decided to partner with INTO University Partnerships.

**Will the program replace admission of direct entry international students?**

Brent Paterson: No, we expect to increase the admission of students who meet the regular requirements while building the pathway program for students who do not meet current entry requirements because of English language abilities

**Will high school graduates from Illinois be displaced by students in the program?**

Brent Paterson: No, the program and direct admit international students will assist the university in addressing the declining amount of Illinois high school graduates.

The university is intentional about making this a 10 year goal so that the institution can better maintain and manage the growth rather than increase rapidly and struggle to manage.

The requirements of the pathway program require students completing the pathway to meet all of the other requirements of admission as well as language proficiency. At the undergraduate level, all majors are open with the exception of nursing. If the student does not have academic English language proficiency, they enter into the Pathway Program.

About 80% of students who enter pathway programs enter the university as fully enrolled students and about 80% of those students go on to graduate from the institution.

**Q: “Does the university require international students to demonstrate English language proficiency after they enroll?”**

A: No. International students are required to submit a score on the TOEFL or IELT to demonstrate English proficiency during the admissions process. Students are not retested after enrollment.

There was a question about measuring the English proficiency of graduate assistants. The response from Jonathan Rosenthal was that the University has an annual obligation to report complaints about instructors’ proficiency in English communication to our accrediting agency. When the University becomes aware of a concern, it investigates and would take appropriate action if English communication is determined to be a detriment to student learning.

**Senator Marx: Who is doing the teaching of Academic English and will you need additional faculty to do that?**

Brent Paterson: We will. We currently have faculty who will be teaching Academic English, but we are not in the number stage yet. We are still in the negotiating phase.

**Are these only Non Tenure Track faculty teaching these courses?**

Brent Paterson: Yes, these are mostly NTTs.

**Q: Is there any vision outside of instruction of the English language about other course offerings?**

Brent Paterson: Yes, we are working with the Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology. They are working on proposals of how to work with faculty who will teach international students.

**Q: What about in terms of course offerings and programs?**

Jonathon Rosenthal: That is at the top of our agenda and that is why we want to start with a smaller group so that we can gauge which courses should be offered.

**Senator Chan: In terms of culture shock, are we changing some of the programs to combat psychological issues like that?**

Brent Paterson: Yes, we are evolving programs and resources to tackle those issues that come along with going abroad.

**Q: Is there any idea of what measure if students are becoming more global in their mindset?**

The national survey of student engagement is a survey that is offered to measure engagement.

Right now, international studies are looking at AMALI program to see how surveys and entry/exit tests can be applied to measure things like that.

**Q: I recently sat in on the CRCC conference where a panel of students discussed how they do not feel accepted and/or supported as minority students at ISU. How do we encourage cross cultural interaction without our diverse domestic students feeling as if their concerns are being ignored?**

Brent Paterson: That is a great question in which we don’t have an answer for yet.

Senator Bates: Looking at programs like Diversity Advocacy, Health Services, Housing, etc to work towards cultural competency and cultural exchanges between students of different backgrounds.

**Senator Kalter: What kinds of the WX flexibility is there given that students withdraw for a multitude of reasons including family and financial issues.**

Brent Paterson: Situations would be evaluated on a case by case basis when there are extreme circumstances. However, international students must maintain full-time status to meet Visa regulations.

**Q: When are the first groups of students coming?**

Brent Paterson: We don’t know. The hope was that students would first enroll in summer 2018 and the fall 2018. Any institution in the US who wants to have a Pathway program, must have it approved by SEVP and that process takes a long time. We submitted our original request last November and we submitted the follow up details in May. The university recently received a request for evidence from SEVP to answer some of their questions. We are currently in a waiting process. We cannot begin recruiting international students for the pathway program until approval is received. We need to make a decision by January; if we haven’t heard back by then, we will not be able to recruit for the summer and fall of 2018. We need to make sure we do things right this time and not do things in a rush.

**Q: Is the goal to maintain 21,000 students or to decrease the total amount of students?**

Brent Paterson: When we think of the 20-21,000, we think of all full-time students. We really need to begin thinking about full-time equivalency. It’s predicted that half of the international students coming through INTO will be graduate students. There is greater capacity for graduate students. When we think of an enrollment of 21,000, it’s the total number of students enrolled, but the student who is taking 1 hour counts just the same as a student who is taking 3 hours, which is a huge difference financially.

The university is examining expanding online degree programs.. Most of these students would be part-time graduate students. So, you can see that the question about maintain an enrollment of 21,000 needs to be reframed.

**Senator Marx: Many people outside the US believe that the US is not friendly toward international visitors. Has there been a corresponding decrease in the number of international students seen at other institutions?**

Brent Paterson: International enrollment this fall is dependent upon the university. ISU’s international enrollment has increased slightly. Institutions that are heavily dependent on international students from certain regions saw a decrease in international students.

Meeting adjourned at 6:52