

**International Affairs Committee
March 30, 2021**

Members Present

Mariam Abbas
Becky Asher
Cheryl Corder
Tina Girdley
Regina Gragg
Harry Ingle
Bobbie Maynard
Amy Miller
Matthew Nisbet
Mary Pashley
Mark Stephens

Members Absent

Angie Denson
Ada Haynes
Megan Diem
David Gallop
Laurie Messerschmidt
Gift Nwabueze
Liqun Zhang

Guest

Charles Wilkerson

Ms. Miller called the meeting to order.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of November 5 Minutes

The November 5 minutes had been provided to the committee members earlier via Teams committee folder. Ms. Corder made the motion to approve and Dr. Pashley seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

ESL and Pathway Program

Mr. Wilkerson shared with the committee that the program is scheduled to begin this summer. He is recruiting a couple of groups from South America. Prospective students are requesting to live with families in the United States. The program will be operating under the Foreign Language Department. The first group of students will be from Panama and it is a government sponsored program called Efireu.

These students will need assistance in transitioning to the United States due to not having the same access to modern conveniences like washing and drying clothes.

Status of Procedures

Mr. Wilkerson shared with the committee members that the procedures had been approved by the Administrative Council at the January 27, 2021 meeting. The procedures are effective this fall and will be provided to the President's staff in order for them to be made available on the University's website.

Status of Policies

Mr. Wilkerson shared with the committee that Policy 240 Full Course of Study Requirements for International Students was approved by the Graduate School Executive Committee at the March 2 meeting with minor edits regarding the number of weeks that students must study and by Academic Council on March 30. This policy along with 242 International Undergraduate Admissions, 243 Transfer Credit for International Undergraduate Students and 244 International Undergraduate Students Readmissions will be presented at the University Assembly meeting scheduled for April 21.

Announcements

Ms. Miller asked if there were any announcements by the members regarding international students or diversity.

Mr. Ingle announced to the committee members that the College of Engineering had set up a new fund for a non-residential merit scholarship. Since this is private dollars, international students do qualify and they are eligible to receive the scholarship.

Additionally, a grant has been set up similar to the Eagle Assistance Grant that is called the Engineering Assistance Grant. International students are eligible for this grant. This fund can be used specifically for tuition and fees. No application is needed. Any student enrolled in the College of Engineering would contact him or the staff in Clayton N. Hixson Student Success Center.

Chair Election 2021-2022

Ms. Bobbie Maynard, Dr. Mary Pashley and Ms. Becky Asher whose appointments are scheduled to expire at the end of term met to provide a chair nominee who would be willing to serve for the 2021-2022 academic year. Ms. Miller was willing to serve an additional year. No other nominations were submitted by the committee members. Ms. Miller was elected unanimously by the committee.

Mr. Wilkerson asked the members if they had any suggestions for individuals who would be willing to serve on the committee to please let him or Jerri know.

With no other items to discuss, Dr. Pashley made the motion to adjourn and Ms. Girdley seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned.