

Minutes
USG System Council for International Education
Morning Business Meeting
5 September 2014

I. Call to Order and Attendance

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. The following representatives were present:

Alencio, Marisa	GaTech	McClellan, Irina	VSU
Anderson, James	AASU	McCrillis, Neal	CSU
Ayuninjam, Funwi	Gwinnett	McDuffie, Tara	KSU
Bacud, Danielle	VSU	Miller, Maggie	GaTech
Bearden, Camille	UNG	Monds, Kathaleena	ASU
Blair, Cele	Gwinnett	Mootenaar-Wirsiy, Pamela	GPC
Bongang, Benn	SSU	Mukhtar, Mohamed	SSU
Bright-Ragland, Margee	GPC	Nelson, David	Bainbridge
Carley, Hannah	GRU	Newman, L.D.	GRU
Catmur, Robin	UGA	Nguyen, Ken	Clayton SU
Cornish, Yana	UGA	Nikolov, Ivan	VSU
Crane, Janet	CSU	Northcutt, Nadine	KSU
Da Cruz, Jose	AASU	Osakwe, Nneka-Nora	ASU
Darley, Maria	GRU	Palumbo, Carmine	E. Georgia
Dickerson, Aerial	Coastal GA	Pandit, Kavita	UGA
Doyle, Maria	UWG	Phipps, Amanda	UNG
Dubriel, Victoria	FVSU	Podoll, Doug	BOR
Fontenot, Olufunke	GCSU	Reichart, Brett	GSU
Guffey, Karen	Gordon	Schwarzer, Chris	UGA
Guo, Baogang	Dalton	Smith, Danielle	GSoU
Havey, Liz	GCSU	Spears, Eric	GCSU
Hynes, Katie	SSU	Speir, Sarah	GSW
Keevy, Joline	SSU	Staton, Cecil	BOR
Kirchdorfer, Ulf	Darton	Szmedra, Philip	GSW
Lanham, Jarris	GCSU	Tatlock, Jason	AASU
Long, Bronson	G. Highlands	Thomason, Laura	MGSC
Lubecki, Jacek	GSoU	Vargis, Salli	GPC
		Wilson, John	UNG
		Wynn, Jason	GCSU

II. Introductions and Approval of Minutes

Representatives from institutions introduced themselves. Dr. Cecil Staton, Vice Chancellor for Extended, Military and International Education, Dr. Doug Podoll, Director of International Education in the BOR office, and Steve Hopkins,

insurance representative, also introduced themselves. Minutes from the January meeting previously distributed, with copies available at the meeting, were accepted unanimously.

III. Reports from SCIE Committees

- a. CISS: Robin Catmur stated that the committee had input into the job description for the position of Director of International Education and that it had high hopes for the positions filled by Doug Podoll as well as the vice chancellor position filled by Cecil Staton to further efforts in international education. The NAFSA Regional Conference will start on October 26, in Jackson, Mississippi. The GAIE conference website is now available. Robin Catmur stated that the committee's afternoon session would include a discussion about the development of a CISS website, the deployment of a SEVIS field representative Holly Williams, OPT and Congressional oversight, health insurance, and the ongoing issue about documentation of students.
- b. Study Abroad: Liz Havey stated that the committee's work in the afternoon would include a demo of the CISI insurance user portal, an update on crisis management information, curricular changes, study abroad programs, the USG website, faculty salaries, and professional development. Also, new committee leadership would be discussed, as three-year terms are about to expire.

IV. Updates from USG Councils

- a. Africa Council: Funke Fontenot reported that Columbus State University hosted the Southeast Model Africa Union Conference last November and Clayton State will host the conference this November. New officers for the council have been elected. Planning for future host sites for the SEMAU will be discussed as well as plans for the 2014 SEMAU.
- b. Americas Council: Jose da Cruz reported on the council's successful Americas Conference was held February 7-8 at GCSU. The conference always includes faculty research presentations as well as student paper presentations. Da Cruz also commended GCSU for doing a fabulous job in every way as host. Next year's conference will again be held at GCSU during February 7-8 (<http://www.americasconference.org/about>). He also noted the importance of creating greater awareness that the Americas Council includes the North American countries of Mexico and Canada.
- c. Asia Council: Salli Vargis reported that 25 students and 5 faculty members participated in the China study abroad program. The "Teaching Asia" Workshop at Georgia Perimeter College was successful and the distribution of information via flash drives was well received. Another conference, perhaps to be held at Georgia Perimeter College again, is being planned.
- d. European Council: Margee Bright-Ragland reported that 341 students participated in the EC programs last summer. Next week a European Council

meeting will be held at GCSU. Nominations for officers will be made, as the three-year terms of officers will expire this year.

- e. Middle East Council: Jason Tatlock reported that the Middle East Symposium was held at Georgia Regents University and the Middle East Council is collaborating with the American Council for the Study of Islamic Societies.

V. Update from the BOR

Doug Podoll announced that the listserv would be managed by him and Cory Loftis. Podoll expressed his pleasure at having Vice Chancellor Cecil Staton at the meeting and that his BOR position signaled that the BOR is taking international education seriously. Podoll gave a preview of BOR agenda items to be voted on, such as a proposed change to out-of-state waivers which limited waivers for athletes but specifically mentioned international students. There will also be a BOR discussion concerning discounting of tuition.

Podoll also announced that the USG J (Visa) Program is now in his hands.

Global health insurance, with short-term enrollment, is possible for visiting scholars although Podoll suggested they should strongly consider whether to bring their family members given the high costs of adding them to the policy. Every USG employee has travel insurance as part of his or her coverage and should not necessarily purchase additional, expensive insurance for the purposes of travel on business for the USG.

VI. SCIE Housekeeping and Elections

Neal McCrillis pointed out wording to be considered in the Bylaws under “Membership” which does not specify the BOR representative. He will draft a revision for the membership to consider at the January meeting.

McCrillis also mentioned that three-year terms of officers will expire this year and he asked those assembled to consider serving. He also said this would be his last year as Chair after what would be his fourth year. McCrillis asked representatives send him suggestions for nominations which the executive committee will review and consider presenting at the January meeting. There will be an opportunity for nominations from the floor also.

McCrillis explained the new meeting format allows for “lunch and learning” opportunities and asked participants to give Podoll or McCrillis their feedback.

It was agreed that the next SCIE meeting will be January 23. There being no other matters to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.