

International Education and Services Committee
September 19, 2005 3PM

Attendance: (who has that list?)

I. International Student and Scholar Affairs Director, Neng Yang. He introduced his new proposal, *Strategies for International Student Recruitment at Western Oregon University*, to increase international student recruitment and strengthen WOU's International Education Program.

- 1) Establish the 2+2+0.5 degree program with Chinese institutions. This program increases ease of visa granting to the US since the student must return to their country to finish their degree. The committee understood the benefits to be: increase international student enrollment, have a stable international students' retention rate, generate revenue and enhance WOU's international profile. Discussion included the concern that faculty would not be enthusiastic about this if it meant changing any course requirements or criteria. Neng Yang assured us that changes are not necessary, and students from these schools will have high academic standing. Our current requirements and criteria can be maintained. This program can be modified and initiated for universities in Japan, South Korea and Taiwan.
- 2) Establish a full time ESL program, as described by a memo from Darrin Divers. This would be a non-credit program for international students on campus and a for ESL students who may later seek to obtain degrees here. This ESL program would charge tuition based on similar programs in PSU, OSU, SOU and U of O. Benefits would include: help for international students with English and study abilities; support our efforts to recruit and retain international students and also generate revenue.
- 3) Change our current TOEFL requirement from 550 to 520 for undergraduate admission. Neng Yang told his own story of having a TOEFL score lower than 550 and completing his undergraduate and graduate degrees here in the US.
- 4) Reduce the international application fee from \$50 to \$25 to encourage more students to apply. This fee can later be recouped as part of the international student activity fees. Discussion generally was positive and supportive of all these aspects of the proposal. There was general enthusiasm and optimism about increasing WOU's international student enrollment. The committee endorses these proposals with the following addendum to the 2+2+.5 programs proposal: "Department Chairs, Division Chairs and Deans of any potential majors or programs that would be established under 2+2+0.5 programs will be consulted in the planning stages to ensure that students will have the necessary prerequisite coursework, staffing will be adequate to enroll students in upper division coursework, and other discipline-specific considerations."

II Michele Price handed out the WOU International Education Week, November 14-18, 2005. There will be a visiting professor, Kozawa, that week. International Students will have presentations and demonstrations. French films *Moolade* and *8 Women* will have

shows Tuesday and Thursday evenings. There is still much to be prepared and suggestions or proposals can be considered.

III. Ann Bliss announced the end of her term as Chairperson. The committee thanked her for her service for the past 2 years. A new Chairperson was elected, Daryl Thomas; and Karen Habermann was elected and Secretary. Congratulations and thanks to you both.

The meeting was adjourned at 5PM.