International Education Advisory Committee

Minutes (draft)

Monday 03/09

Attendance:

Arnab Shaw, Thomas Fenton, Yi-Hui Lee, Michal Kraszpulski, Bill Holmes (UCIE), Shengrong Cai (English Dept. TESOL), Carl Holtman (TurcaSolutions)

Notes

I. Meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm

II. Duolingo presentation:

Carl Holtman (TurcaSolutions), one of WSU's recruiting partners, presented information on the Duolingo web-based English language test. Information was shared regarding online proctoring and security/lockdown features of the test. The test's merits were considered in light of challenges many applicants face in accessing TOEFL and IELTS testing centers, many of which are closing as a result of the Coronavirus. The test also has a much lower price point (\$50) compared to IELTS (\$215-\$240) and TOEFL (\$200). Some concerns were discussed regarding the lack of benchmarking, and also its use for conditional admission.

III. Updates

Bill Holmes (UCIE) updated the committee on developments related to the Coronavirus. There are concerns for students currently studying abroad, although none are staying in hotspot countries, and the support networks available (or not) at those partner institutions.

IV. Old Business:

The committee was updated on the international education grants that had been awarded to WSU faculty to develop programming and curriculum.

The committee reviewed the revised admission policy 3110.3 which was approved by the senate and is currently pending administrative approval.

The committee discussed the possibility of including the SAT as a metric for proof of English language proficiency. Many other Ohio institutions are using the SAT for international admissions. The committee members present agreed that a good SAT score would indicate language proficiency and, given the extra rigor of the test, academic preparedness.

The committee discussed several gaps in undergraduate admissions policies that the revision to 3110.3 might serve to address. Unlike graduate admissions policy, WSU does not recognize applicants who have graduated from institutions where the mode of instruction is verified as being in English.

TESOL faculty will review the use of SAT as a measure of English language proficiency and provide a recommendation to the IEAC.

The IEAC will deliberate on an undergraduate admission policy that accepts applicants who verify that they have graduated from an institution where the mode of instruction is English.

V. Meeting adjourned at 3:30