



## GEAC Meeting Notes

February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025

11-12:30pm

**Attendance:** Will Coghill-Behrends, Erica Johnson, Jacy Fry, Paolo Infante, Olga Nelson, Paulina Camacho, Heather Camp, Rachael Hanel, Chandler Holland, Elizabeth Finsness, Andrea Vasquez, Mohammad Alam and Brittany McKibben

Notes by Brittany McKibben

### Updates from Global Education:

#### Dean of Global Ed:

- New Hires
  - The KIC has finalized hiring for two new employees; Jarreth Martina (JJ), Assistant Director of International Recruitment & Enrollment and Violet Just-Kind, International Enrollment Coordinator
  - The hiring of these individuals is aligned to having strong international enrollment
  - We need to continue to foster the environment where we are standing up to colonial environment and the humanizing approach to Higher Education and the work that we do
- Budget
  - Global Ed was asked to submit two versions of the budget- doors open and how we operate (what we need to maintain the work we are doing) and the second budget is an idealized budget on what we need for the future
  - The status on the ability to hire GAs is still pending, we are hoping to learn more in the coming weeks
  - International students weren't immune to tuition increases; if base tuition rates go up, to too will international tuition again. We are continuing to advocate for students in this regard.
- Fulbright
  - We have convened a group of Fulbright awardees
  - Tim Smit is reaching out to students to inform them on opportunities with Fulbright
  - Jefferson Scholars are administered as part of the state; if we are seeing cuts and funding changes, we are likely to see this happen with Fulbright's
  - There are a variety of Fulbright awards including English teaching, which will allow students to teach at schools in other countries
  - We will be submitting a proposal to Cabinet to offer a standing award for Fulbright to students and faculty; will be in the form of a tuition scholarship
  - It's important that we share stories from the students to the campus community after their travel and two to three years later regarding the impact and importance of the Fulbright

- Alumni Foundation
  - Attended a two-day training last Fall; while the university has yet to assign us someone from advancement to focus on this work, we are continuing to work on this behind the scenes
    - Gladys Olson Scholarship Group
  - Recently worked with the Alumni and Advancement folks regarding the cost of study abroad; there is funding around campus that haven't been used and we have inquired about how to use these funds in more strategic ways that students could benefit from
  - We are wanting to increase the number of students who study abroad, but we need funding to be able to do this
  - Study Abroad is a feel-good mission that donors are interested in and we are going to be working with donors on how they can support us

#### **CELP:**

- TOKAI University Program
  - 9 Japanese students (6 females, 3 males)
  - The Tokai students went to Mount Kato last Friday
  - Photos of the CELP social events and Homestay family photos will be shared at our farewell ceremony and with PJ at KIC to post through our social media channel
  - Have had an opportunity to support these students; starting to open up and communicate with other students
- Following spring break, we are starting a joint program between CELP and AH&N
  - Two-week program beginning in March
  - Dan Benson will be taking photos and posting on Mankato Free Press
  - Hoping this program continues for years to come
  - Japanese Partners may also come during these two weeks to better understand what Nursing means in America
  - Will be experiencing simulation labs and visiting Mayo Clinic
  - Hosted by homestay families and will be able to connect with our general community
- Working on transitioning to CRM; new way to communicate with admitted students, send admission letters, etc.
  - Element 451- New tool to give us expanded capacity, analytical abilities, better communication and operationalizing our processes
  - Meeting regularly to get this up and running

#### **CGE:**

- We have a lot of exchange students this semester that have gotten along well with domestic and international students
  - 15 students formed MNU United that is a soccer group
- Taken on bringing exchange students into their own section of KSP 106 which includes U.S. Culture and MNSU to help them form a good understanding of what it's like here and get to know each other

- Have started setting up mixers and events for these students attend
- 60 students have been attending these events
- University Sponsored Education Abroad & Away Programs Policy (currently in review)
  - Change the structure for how the campus looks at risk management; safety, security, etc. on how our students are traveling
  - There will be additional checks and documentation for these students that are traveling
  - Working on an online form process with IT to have an archive on student travel; this will help to manage forms and have a running backlog of travel
- Ability for students to participate in programming if they are in different levels of academic standing; this has been on a case-by-case standing or what the activity is on whether students can participate or not
  - We are trying to figure out if they are on probation, if they can travel once they are off probation or while they are still on probation and what that looks like
  - Trying to better understand the steps regarding academic conduct
- Gilman Funding
  - We have received notice that Gilman is going to be froze; doesn't affect current students that have it
    - We have one student who received Gilman funding

**KIC:**

- Enrollment is up 2.8% this year
- Going to work with Grad admissions and grad programs to raise admission
- Large number of pending applications; staffing challenges in admissions
- Numbers for incoming transfer students is looking good at this time; KIC has been intentional in identifying a staff member (Kristin Odland) for incoming transfer students
- Implemented TerraDotta a year ago and it has been a game changer for compliance; all students are registered in students
  - Last year at this time we were in the high 100's of how many needed to register and had concerns of being in compliance
  - Freeing up time to focus on advising
- I-17 is a document for identifying programs for international students and providing I-20s
- Updates to majors and programs
  - Working on adding St. Paul College to our list on being able to work with
- 90 applications are sitting in the que for the Gladys Olson Scholarship; we are expecting to award 13 scholarships at \$3500 piece; review begins on Monday
- Will be doing a thorough review of our degree-seeking students
- Piloting KSP- This would take place the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> semester to keep them connected with the KIC
- Have seen crisis cases this semester that have been challenging; need to create a flow-chart and protocol on how to handle these situations and at what point
  - Taking a lot of staff time, need to do a better job on organizing our response and efforts to look unified as a university
- On February 15<sup>th</sup> we had the Central and South Asia Night led by Paulina Camacho and Kristin Odland

- Removed the cooking part of the experience; Sodexo brought the food vs the students which led to reduced stress for the students
- Going to be working with the media to highlight these events to get more interaction; spending more money on marketing is essential in this effort

**Getting Involved:**

- Launching a new Global Ed Affinity Group as a way to get people involved and to be champions of Global Ed
- Two meetings will be held in Spring
- Watch for invitation and more info coming soon

**Next Steps:**

- Global Ed has been working on updating the Strategic Plan, please read the documents that were sent out via email by Will and provide feedback on our updated draft of the Strategic Plan
- After Spring Break, we will be sharing the new Strategic Plan with the campus
  - We will be inviting people to share their feedback and sharing the document with Cabinet in the coming months

**Next Meeting:**

- Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup> from 11-12:30pm