Members Present: Brian Ernsting, Bev Fowler, Phil Gerhart, Rachel Hansen, Earl Kirk, Wes Milner, Alicia Neaves, Roger Pieroni, Bill Stroube,

Members Present via Teleconferencing: Roger Beck and Gordon Kingsley

Members Not Present Due to Schedule Conflicts: Yasser Alhenawi, Kara Pike, and Jon Truitt

The International Working Group met at 2:00 am on Wednesday 17 November in Graves 240. Wes Milner began the meeting with follow-up reports from queries raised at our last session. He shared news on ISEP and with the help of Brian Ernsting is gathering data on tuition discount rates for international students and other student cohorts, including athletes. Finally, he reported that Mary Kay Purcell will be with us on 23 November to discuss intensive English at UE and its potential to enhance student recruitment and retention.

A portion of today’s session focused on foreign language instruction at UE and various suggestions for how it might be enhanced or expanded strategically to strengthen current student abilities and to recruit additional students.

The working group is trying to transition from a discussion about the details of what we do and could do internationally to sketch out the “big picture” or the view from 30,000 feet, as one member said. Potential strategic goals are emerging: first, enhancing the role of international in the UE curriculum (including particular stress on foreign languages and international studies, general education, etc.); second, enhancing the presence of UE in the larger world (study abroad, broad-based exchange relationships that afford opportunities for students and faculty in a variety of endeavors, an on-going physical presence in Asia, etc.); third, developing an organizational or administrative structure for international matters that supports this core goal and clarifies responsibility and support for international matters; fourth, enhancing the presence of international students on our campus.

The group agreed to the suggestion to authorize all members to post materials to the share point and will identify materials to be posted.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 23 November at 9:00 a.m. Central Time in Graves Hall 240. Members are encouraged to think about the goals we will recommend to the steering committee and to begin drafting wording for rationales to support these goals.