

University Council Student Engagement and Success Committee

January 31, 2020

10:00 AM

Student Union 318

-Minutes-

Present: Jared Brown, John Messina, Steve Ash, Katie Cerrone, Greg Deringer

Absent with notice: Jennifer Manista, Renee Murry, Huey-Li Li, Sarah Psihountakis

Welcome/Introductions

- Introduction from Nicola Kille;
  - What is an international student?
    - F1 Visa non-immigrant by international center's definition
  - Recruitment and admissions is only undergraduates
  - Students can stay in country for 1-3 years after graduation on the Visa which they used to attend UA;
    - They are still tracked by UA
  - F's, J's, any Visa other than international scholars are Nicola's definition of international students
  - Faculty in ELI and international center report directly to Rex
  - How many international students do we have on campus?
    - F's and J's: 850 on visas from 75 countries
      - 320 UG the rest G, (Fall numbers)
  - What do we do to build community?
    - Try to build community between them before they arrive
      - Facebook groups
      - Communication from different entities of university
  - It may be beneficial to appoint a faculty advisor to lead an umbrella international student organization
  - The last food event was very successful
  - Needs/Ideal world
    - Need peer mentoring
    - There were 4 recruiters, now only 1
    - Pairing domestic and international students for bi-weekly meetings (matched based on interests) was proven to be a huge success
      - Will grow this semester, introduce more structure
    - Students want field trips
    - Nicola wants more events
  - International students with anxiety and depression are unable to find support through the international students

- Item of discussion: International sports
- Both domestic and international students are not growing up with email; texting services are showing lots of promise
- Akron has previously blocked us from using texting communication for advising