ISAB Meeting Meetings

May 10, 2016

* Introduction of members of new ISAB board
* Purpose of restructuring ISAB
  + A way to track ISAB’s activities through the formation of more active committees
* Present and past committees
  + Career Advancement
    - Working with Career Advancement to explore ways to address problems faced by international students in career-related affairs
    - Used to work with Career Advancement through the intermediary of OIA, which minimised direct contact with Career Advancement and slowed progress
  + Outreach committee
  + Funding committee
    - Funded two events this year
    - Need to discuss what to do with the rest of money, as the money does not roll over to the next year

New ISAB structure

* Administration committee
  + In charge of running the meeting, taking attendance, and taking minutes
  + To implement a stricter attendance policy: no more than 2 excused absences, or no more than 1 unexcused absence
  + Election of administration committee to be held between this meeting and the next
* New committees, like a committee for LGBTQ affairs
  + Importance of intersectionality
  + Intention to be involved in international pre-orientation for college students
* Every member of the board has to be part of a committee
* How many ISAB members should be part of the administration committee?
  + Possibly 3 members, each in charge of one task: running the meeting, taking attendance, and taking minutes; but members of the committee can work with and support each other
  + Members of the administration committees can participate in other committees
* The flat structure of ISAB is to be maintained
  + Committees are not hierarchical; they’re more to ensure structure and to give it some form of legitimation to the people and organisations with whom we work, to ensure accountability of every committee member.
* Possibility of establishing links with Student Government?
  + There are many external boards on Student Government (eg. transportation), so we could liaise with SG to work with them in the future on problems that international students face
    - Miriam, a member of ISAB and of the Graduate Council, to propose this to SG
    - Andres and Chang Min to propose this to College Council
* Nomination process of Administration Committee over the next two weeks?
  + Problem: not everyone know each other
    - Possibility of assigning an interim board for the next few meetings, or to assign members on a rotation basis for the next meetings, until people get to know each other
  + Interim Administration Committee: Katherine, Jan, Luiza

Discussion of ISAB Policy Draft

* Attendance policy
  + Possibility of Skyping or phoning in to avoid an absence
  + How to we decide what is an excused absence and not?
    - At the discretion of the Administration Committee
* Attending various events as representatives of ISAB
  + Discussion over whether there should be a stipulated requirement
  + Possibility of holding ISAB office hours for an hour every week for which everyone must sign up for at least once a year
  + Importance of visibility and representation
* Communication within ISAB
  + List host
  + Facebook group that no one uses
* Possibility of forming a committee for something to replace Ice Cream Socials on Sundays?
  + A means to connect ISAB with the broader international student community
  + Possibly more impactful than tabling because it’s informal
  + Ice Cream Socials were cancelled about a year ago, because people stopped coming, and because there was a reorganisation within OIA
  + Right now, there are informal I-Monday sessions for international students to connect
    - A self-funded, student initiative
    - Sometimes themed according to nationalities/cultures, if a particular international student or group of international students take charge
  + A similar event held at Booth—Food Day
    - An event organised and prepared by groups of different nationalities and cultures
    - Open to everyone in Booth
    - A good opportunity to hear from international students
    - Possibility of exploring a similar event with the leftover money from ISAB
* Status of ISAB
  + A level of autonomy that RSOs do not, as we have access to the privileges that OIA has
  + To have a formal conversation with OIA, but we already have an International Student Association (ISA)
    - To explore future relations with ISA to explore more funding avenues
  + Britt to discuss with OIA and to come back to ISAB
    - This is a future function for the Administration Committee: to liaise with OIA

Remaining funds for ISAB

* Possibility of holding a medium-sized event, to address ISAB’s visibility problem
  + A food event, possibly on Week 9 or 10, to raise the visibility of ISAB
  + A Reading Period Study Break, possibly at Hutch or at the Reynolds Club
  + A Google Doc to be used to brainstorm ideas for what sort of food or how to organise the event
  + Britt to discuss the possibility of holding such an event
* Andrés to take charge of the upcoming Facebook page
* Benjamin suggests having Slack for different committees and to teach us how to use Slack during the next meeting
* Jenny to design posters for outreach for the event
* Katherine to look into locations for Reading Period Study Break
  + Student workers at OIA can assist