

ISAB minutes – Tuesday, January 8, 2013

No Rajun Cajun! Meeting starts at 7:30.

1. Student Government Executive Cabinet to attend next month's ISAB meeting, to discuss SG and international students.

- Need questions for SG by January 23 (general topics as well as specific questions are ok)
- Can check SG website for details on SG Executive Cabinet

2. Winter quarter programming for OIA (read out by Jen)

- International Student Forum, Wednesday January 16, 12:00pm
- Jan 22: Coffee hour and workshop (football/Super Bowl theme, meet members of the UofC football team)

~ discussion on the relative merits and characteristics of American football vs soccer vs rugby
Tamara: worthwhile to understand football and baseball as elements of American culture

7:41 – Rajun Cajun arrives!

- Jan 30: Coffee hour social – typical party
- Jan 31: Visa challenge (alumni come to discuss OPT and visas, immigration attorney will be present)
- Feb 6: Ice skating social
- No date (2nd/3rd week of Feb): Valentine's Day themed social, workshop on health insurance
- No date (Feb): walk-in hours with OIA and Career Services
- No date (March): coffee hour workshop and social (St Pat's Day), workshop on taxes

3. Health and Wellness Opportunities

- Opportunity to train for Stressbusters on January 31st
- Opportunity to join committee for planning late night “dry” activities (to prevent alcohol abuse, injuries on campus) – application online

4. ISAB Proposal Fund recipients

- Copies of Lena and Deepa's proposal are distributed, reviewed
- For those wanting to submit again, next submission date is Feb 6th

5. International Student Forum Planning

- Notes/format for previous forum are distributed
- Tamara asked Lena to explain the goals/format of the forum (Lena describes it as a kind of town hall meeting)

Tamara: purpose of forum is to go beyond disseminating information – ie, also community building and confidence boosting

Lester: How to best get the conversation (in small groups) going?

Lena: 5 questions is actually too much given participants' eagerness to contribute and the time limit of 10-15 minutes for short group discussion. In fact, might be helpful to collect the written responses at the end to maximize feedback.

**Only noon session this quarter.

Akua: Shall we assign roles right now (re: who makes announcements, serves as facilitator etc)?

Questions to ask in small groups:

Akua: How many people stayed in Chicago for the winter holidays? How did it go?

Lily: There was an impromptu potluck in I-House for Christmas this year, which was helpful.

Stephanie: List several things OIA/ISAB could address better and have students rank them in order of importance to them.

Lester: Favourite Chicago neighbourhood?

Champ: Do you have a plan for how to deal with taxes?

Lester: What is the most frustrating paperwork you've had to deal with since coming here?

Lily, Lester, Lena, Sandra, Stephanie = facilitators

Deepa, Akua = announcements