

Date	09/17/2020 (8:00 - 9:30pm)
Members Attended	8 out of 9
Desired outcomes	<p>Through participating in this meeting, Council members will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish two task forces to pursue the international students community's interest • Define task force members and the task force head • Create an initial draft to inquire relevant information for the taking next steps

Agenda Notes

About The Council

The International Student Advisory Council (ISAC) works to improve the experience of international students at NC State by providing informed feedback and recommendations to OIS and other campus units towards globally relevant programs, services and policies. Members of ISAC are a diverse group of international students representing a variety of colleges, educational levels and countries of origin. The council is composed of 10 members, with four positions being held by the Chair, Vice-Chair, Historian, and First Year Perspective member.

Throughout The Academic Year:

- The council meets monthly as a whole and on a separate schedule for the committee groups
- Councilmembers will attend at least once OIS event annually
- Helping to develop recommendations through an annual or semi-annual report and helping to facilitate an annual or semi-annual open forum for the international student body
- The council should be actively engaged in their roles as council members

Laying The Foundation

The International Student Advisory Council is tasked with advocating for the needs of international students here at NC State University. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, international students have been faced with new challenges in the pursuit of their academic goals. Below are a few of our focuses in supporting international students on campus.

Academics

- Students are struggling with the transition to the online format.
- Students are unaware of resources available on campus (the tax center/academic support).
- Time difference identified as a barrier for students abroad and in different time zones to submit assignments and attend in-person (virtual) lectures.

University Concerns

- Students are uncertain about continuing with the online format of the semester or whether or not the set-up will change.
- Employers on campus should send clear information emails to student employees regarding taxes and the need of a Social Security Number.

Suggestions

- Workshop for international students on campus in how to manage online/virtual learning. Information on how to stay engaged and manage classroom expectations. Ensure the workshop is recorded for students to access at a later date.

Office of International Services Updates

- OIS: As the advisory council to OIS, we want to make sure that the council is familiar with our office as well as that the council has regular opportunities to give feedback on what is happening currently in addition to long term projects and recommendations you're making.
- Website Update - OIS has transitioned to a new website layout and format. If you are having difficulty locating things or feedback for the website please feel free to provide this to OIS.
- Students have access to [virtual walk-in advising hours](#) as well as scheduling an appointment with advisors.
- [GlobalHome](#) is a new online platform where students can submit requests that they would typically have done through paper forms, update personal information, and track requests. The platform is currently being built out but students should expect a transition to this soon.
- Workshop Series - If you have ever attended a workshop through our office, we would appreciate any feedback or suggestions for new topics. As well as how to balance when we share out information to students for when it will be relevant.
 - Council Suggestions:
 - How To File Taxes or Submit Tax Documents for Employment
 - Social Security Number
 - Things To Consider:
 - Timing, Frequency, Delivery of the message to international students on campus

Committee/Task Force Formation

In order to best utilize council members time, for the 2020 - 2021 Academic Year the council will be divided into two broad committees:

1. **Connection and Communication:** How are international students connecting and building community with one another? How are international students connecting to resources available to them?
2. **International Inclusivity:** How are the unique needs and challenges that international students face being supported or acknowledged throughout campus?

Committees will submit a draft of questions to include in a campus survey by the next meeting in order to understand what international students' needs are and how we can best advocate for them.

Close-Out & Next Steps

- Committees to share their draft of questions with the council chair, vice-chair, and OIS staff members by October 8th, 2020
- October 2020 Meeting - October 15th