Minutes

University of Wyoming International Board of Advisors

Spring 2017 Meeting

Friday-Saturday, February 10-11, 2017
College of Business Board Room, 307

Members Present on Friday, February 10, 2017:

1. Nathan Nicholas – IBOA Chair
2. Ashley Willms – IBOA Vice Chair
3. Lucie Osborn – IBOA Secretary
4. Johnnie Burton
5. Celeste Colgan
6. Oliver Walter
7. Brian Deurloo
8. Megan Degenfelder
9. Paul Bergman
10. Chumba Limo
11. Cameron Nazminia
12. Mary Katherine Scott – IPO Director
13. Jill Johnson – ISSO Director
14. Kint Alexander – Dean of Law; IESC Chair
15. Michael Pishko – Dean of Engineering and Applied Sciences
16. Temple Stoellinger – Faculty Rep, Professor in Haub School ENR
17. Michael Rotellini – ASUW President

Others Present:

1. Shawn Bunning
2. Punit Soni – special guest speaker, UW graduate and entrepreneur
3. Craig Russow – UW Foundation (Engineering)
4. Jeff Marsh – UW Trustee
5. Dilnoza Khasilova and Ola Raddaoui – IPO graduate student assistants

Members Not Present:

1. Bo Bergstrom – IBOA Treasurer
2. Liz Cheney
3. Candace Garman
4. Dave Bostrom
5. Travis Koch
6. Tom Lubnau
7. Michelle Sullivan
PRE-MEETING LUNCH WITH PUNIT SONI:

General discussion:

Punit asked about UW’s international ambitions and current connections, activities.

He said: “We have the ability to do insanely ambitious things; but it matters whether we have examples around us to show us it is possible.” He believes UW students are as good as any anywhere. UW needs to invest in showing its students examples of accomplishing ambitious things.

He gave as an illustrative example the IIT (Indian Institute of Technology) in Kharagpur, West Bengal. This is the hometown and the homeschool of the CEO of Google (Sundar Pichai) and five other billion+ dollar companies in the IT sector. Kharagpur is a very isolated town in a rural area of India, but the IIT there is a creative breeding ground of billion dollar company entrepreneurs and Punit thinks it is mainly because they already have amazing examples from there to point the way and inspire them. He thinks UW should study their experience to see how to build it here. That IIT has only a third or so of the resources UW has.

How Punit came to UW:

1. Punit was looking for a place with fewer people – he had studied previously in a city of 17 million
2. He corresponded with a UW professor in electrical engineering who had similar research project interests
3. UW offered him a full assistantship that included a tuition waiver, stipend, and health insurance, so his ecosystemic concerns were taken care of.

Punit’s suggestions to UW for recruiting students:

1. Need to subtly market the UW brand to a greater extent
2. Need to identify 20-30 specific universities in key regions and recruit from them into UW’s graduate programs
3. Need to set the admission bar high – make sure UW is recruiting the best and brightest from around the world and then give them the resources they need to stay and be successful

Punit said that building a self-sustainable entrepreneurial ecosystem requires a great university and access to venture capital to help new companies take root locally. UW needs to figure out systems where companies can collaborate with the university. Punit’s new start-up is small, only four people at present. He has committed to take one UW student intern this year and then he can showcase that intern to other companies around him to demonstrate the quality of UW students. If we start building that pipeline to companies, they may be interested in hiring UW students and letting them set up offices here to work from Laramie. The local costs of an office in Laramie are much better than in Silicon Valley and tech can be built anywhere. If you can get six or seven companies to do this, they you have the start of a sustainable ecosystem for tech businesses. UW should identify major tech trends at the forefront of
the field and then highlight what UW is doing in these areas. Use this to help recruit new companies. UW needs to encourage both the institution and its students/faculty to reach out to graduates soon and often after they start their careers. Wharton contacts him almost every month at least once; but in 17 years he has only had one UW student who has emailed him with a request for help. We need to build a culture of networking and encourage it. UW needs to give more ways for graduates (including international graduates) to organically connect with the university and its initiatives.

Other pre-meeting lunch event discussion:

Introduction of ASUW President, Michael Rotellini, who gave a brief overview of major issues that ASUW has been working on this year and will continue to work on.

Temple Stoellinger, at the invitation of IBOA Chair, Nate Nicholas, gave a brief report on faculty activities abroad (see handout provided in IBOA meeting folder). She also highlighted additional information provided by Jean Garrison on the Center for Global Studies’ funded research and outreach projects. Temple noted that her report only includes information from those faculty who responded to her, but this is by no means exhaustive. There are other faculty working internationally also that are not represented here if they did not share that information.

Nate noted there is still a need for additional financial resources to support faculty research and engagement abroad. Mary Katherine shared information on IPO’s faculty travel grants and the numbers supported by that allocation of $30,000 annually (capped at $2,000 per individual award).

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Nathan Nicholas called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm, and asked for a call of the roll. Shawn Bunning called the roll. Seventeen members were present, nine absent.

Approval of Fall 2016 IBOA Meeting Minutes:

Johnnie Burton moved and Ashley Willms seconded the motion to accept the fall 2016 meeting minutes as read. All approved.

Celeste Colgan then pointed out the need to add Lucie to page 17 (last sentence) and Jill Johnson noted that she was not present on Friday. These two changes have now been made to the fall 2016 minutes.

Celeste moved and Ashley seconded that minutes be accepted as corrected. All in favor. Motion passed. DECISION MADE.

Executive Committee Reports:

Education and Professional Development Committee – Chair, Nate Nicholas:
Nate gave an overview of the committee’s discussion with Tata Motors to develop an internship opportunity for UW students. Travis Koch has also been assisting in discussions with a Brazilian company for a similar internship opportunity.

Awards and Banquet Committee – Megan Degenfelder:
Megan Degenfelder gave an overview of the evening’s banquet. Opened the table for discussion of how to get more students nominated.

Michael Pishko asked how nominations occur. Jill answered that anyone on campus can nominate a student via letter of support, but students cannot self-nominate. Mary Katherine Scott noted that the suggestion has been offered previously that students be allowed to self-nominate, so that may be something to consider again.

Chumba Limo asked how the word is spread around campus about the awards. Mary Katherine noted that IPO sends out information to deans and departments.

Michael Rotellini volunteered ASUW’s help in spreading the word via social media and email.

Nate Nicholas said that one idea that is being considered for next year is turning the awards banquet into a fund-raiser event as well. This will be discussed further on Saturday. Use your networks to get the word out about these awards.

Jill Johnson noted that Chumba Limo was nominated by her student organization. Chumba suggested that student organizations be approached about these awards so that they are aware of them. She had not heard of the award before she was nominated. Chumba is willing to help meet with RSOs to get this information out.

Jill and Mary Katherine noted that there is a new RSO (Recognized Student Organization) for returned study abroad students just now getting up and running. Nate said this all goes to building the reputation of International Programs across campus, and something like the Tata Scholars program can help with this too.

Ashley Willms said the Board should find ways to get students to be aware of these awards and then the students will go to their professors to ask them for help in securing nominations.

Outreach and Membership Committee – Lucie Osborn:
Lucie Osborn thanked Nate Nicholas for membership suggestions and noted there are new board members coming on. She observed that with changes at UW including the reorganization of international units, there is still uncertainty with regard to these how structural changes may necessitate changes to IBOA by-laws. This may be more evident by the time of the next IBOA meeting.

Budget and Fundraising Committee – Nate Nicholas (in place of Bo Bergstrom):
Nate Nicholas noted that this would have been Bo Bergstrom’s last meeting, but he could not be here today, so the treasurer’s report was not yet available for distribution.
**Presentation by Provost, Dr. Kate Miller – “Vision for Internationalization at the University of Wyoming”:**

Mary Katherine Scott introduced UW Provost, Kate Miller, at 2:00 pm.

Dr. Miller noted that she has been deeply invested in international work. She is a geophysicist and “the thing about rocks is that it is much easier to go to them”. She has taken students abroad on several occasions for field research. Her son is working on a PhD in international relations at UC Davis and has spent a year in Kosovo and in Germany. She has facilitated creating a dual degree program with a partner university in China.

International activities at UW are very strong, with over 400 students studying abroad last year and over 800 international students studying here. She expects this to grow with the IBOA’s help. UW is engaging in strategic planning right now and hopes to have a first draft out in March. It is very clear that international experiences are going to emerge as a strong priority. As UW emerges as a world-class university, getting out there in the world is critical. Engagement with the world is also critical to being a successful graduate of UW. The university’s strategic plan will likely include private fundraising but also institutional investments in international experiences to advance our mission. Part of UWS structural reorganization is to bring all our international units into one structure under Academic Affairs. That office will be run by a director that will be charged with enhancing international opportunities for faculty and students across the university. There is still a lot of uncertainty at UW in how budgets and structures will look, but she is confident that we will come out successfully on the other side with a much stronger structure that will raise our capacity to do this international work that we all find so important.

Since she is still new to Wyoming, Provost Miller is open to hearing IBOA’s ideas and suggestions in how best to implement international activities.

**Discussion:**

Johnnie Burton asked Dr. Miller under whose authority within the new international unit structure she sees the IBOA Board continuing. Dr. Miller said there will be a permanent director that will continue to work with IBOA in the new structure.

Celeste Colgan asked what form internationalization will take in the strategic plan. Will there be specific goals? Or just language supporting internationalization in a very broad way? Dr. Miller said there will be themes, goals, and metrics for assessing progress toward goals in a measurable way. UW is now in the process of laying out themes and goals; metrics will come a little later. Departments are due to have their plans submitted next fall and will have their plans connected with the institutional plan.

Lucie Osborn asked if Dr. Miller has reviewed IBOA’s by-laws and if these will need to change with the new structure that is coming. Dr. Miller said that having the by-laws would be very helpful.

Klint Alexander said that he is also a member of the strategic planning committee and that it would be helpful for him to know more about the history of the IBOA and its mission.
Johnnie Burton shared that the IBOA started in 1999-2000 and that State Senator Tom Stroock was instrumental in getting the IBOA set up and going. The IBOA has evolved greatly since then. Originally it seemed to have a strong focus on languages and cultures. Today it is doing a lot of other things too.

Brian Deurloo noted that there are now about 160 kids in Casper learning Mandarin Chinese in dual language immersion with the vanguard in 4th grade. In about 10 years there are going to be about 100 kids a year graduating who will be fluent in Mandarin and if UW does not have a plan to incorporate them at UW they will choose to go out of state. There are other students around the state in Spanish dual language immersion programs. UW needs to prepare now to accommodate them.

Cameron Nazminia said that one of the other things IBOA has been working on is coming up with a white paper laying out the goal of 10% of UW students having an international experience and the steps needed to accomplish this.

Dr. Miller suggested that the IBOA keep the communication lines open while UW is in this time of transition. The IBOA’s ideas and capacities for helping are important to share. There is a dedicated email for suggestions: UP4@uwyo.edu and also a WyoGroup set up to collect ideas and input.

Nate Nicholas noted that there seems to be a need for a centralized leadership position to drive internationalization at UW university-wide. The new director also needs to have the role of chief protocol officer to help UW in engaging with international visitors and organizations.

Dr. Miller said there always needs to be a balance between what we help with centrally and what individual departments want to do. We are always welcome to ideas about how to do this best.

Nate noted that in many other countries, like China, universities are closely connected with government and if UW wants to connect effectively with institutions in cultures like that, it would be very helpful to have a chief protocol officer to help guide that level of interaction.

Presentation by IPO Immigration Coordinator, Carrie Hesco – “UW’s New Financial System and Impacts on IPO and IBOA Budget Planning, Fundraising, and Initiatives”:

Mary Katherine Scott introduced Carrie Hesco, IPO’s Faculty Immigration Coordinator, to present on UW’s new financial system and impacts on IPO and IBOA budget planning, fundraising, and initiatives.

(See handout in board packet). Carrie Hesco guided the Board through WyoWeb and the WyoCloud financial system (accessed from WyoWeb).

Carrie highlighted the section on budgetary control. Currently, UW units get an update report once a month on the balance of their accounts but cannot see that information in real-time as the accounts are being used. With the new system, units will have real-time access similar to online banking to see the current balance of their accounts when needed.

Currently, UW units also get allocated a set amount for their budgets and this allocation stays the same whether or not it is spent out. At the end of the biennium, if we have not spent it, it gets swept back to the general fund. Now, though, administrators will be able to look down the accounts and see whether there is money that is not actively being spent. In the case of IPO, we have two funds that are filled by student fees – the study abroad account that brings in about $75,000 per year and the sponsored
student account that brings in about $95,000 per year. We spend these out on student expenses, but we also use excess amounts as a contingency fund for our office. Now, we will not be able to use these accounts as contingency funds since the accounts will now come in centrally and be allocated back to us as the administration deems necessary. We will get the money if we can show we need it, but will not have monies for unanticipated contingency needs, of which there are several in any given year. We will now need to have much greater advance planning for how we need to use our accounts to justify getting these funds to us.

The up side is that several procedures will be much more user friendly and better tracked and accounted for – for example, travel expense procedures.

Discussion:

Oliver Walter asked about giving gifts to a department, if these funds would be swept by the administration also. Carrie noted that any revenues coming in – fees or gifts – would be offset by reductions in state funding lines for those accounts. But if the funds come into Foundation accounts, these funds should be sacrosanct. Michael Pishko noted, though, that if Foundation account funds build up too much without being spent out, the Foundation will check to see why these are not being used.

Carrie noted that there will be a one-year transition period during which account funds will be looked into quarterly and swept if not spent, but after this one-year period, departments will have to plan a detailed budget to account in advance for the funds they are requesting. These budgets can include requests for contingency funds, but they must be well-justified based on reasonably anticipated needs and will be subject to approval from the central administration.

The positive thing is that we will now be able to show the legislature that yes, you are giving us this chunk of money, but we are contributing this amount of money for necessary expenses from these fee/revenue sources and this is how it is being used.

BREA

Presentation by English Language Center Director, Riki Suess – “ELC Updates: Growth and Vision”:

Mary Katherine introduced Riki Suess, Director of English Language Center (ELC).

Riki Suess highlighted successes and benchmarks achieved by the ELC (see handout in Board packet), which include:

• Approval for issuing Intensive English I-20s for IEP visas
• Included on the Univ. I-17
• HCL accreditation inclusion
• Listed in prominent IEP directories (BBR, NAFSA, IIE)
• Increased word of mouth advertising from current or past students and friends
• First class of full-time IEP was Fall 2016
• 1st IEP grads entered UW this spring 2017
ELC students are currently coming from ten different countries, including Taiwan, the People’s Republic of China, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Vietnam, India, Argentina, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Libya.

ELC is also hosting summer English study tours, with the first one held this past summer for Japanese students from Tohoku University’s Engineering College. UW will be hosting study abroad advisors from this program in March and will build on this program. ELC will recruit more programs of this kind and will utilize UW campus resources more in the summer time (dorms, cafeterias, etc.) Individual students are able to be merged in with these groups as well. These kinds of partnerships are a beautiful built-in recruiting tool – the Tohoku students were given tours of UW’s engineering programs and facilities.

ELC is also offering TEFL workshops for Americans interested in teaching English overseas. In Fall 2016 ELC held weekend workshops focusing on different aspects of teaching English abroad. These workshops will eventually be expanded into a full TEFL certificate. ELC is seeking support to get this going.

Currently ELC is not receiving state dollars (other than initial start-up funds), so offering entrepreneurial services is important. ELC offers private tutoring, canvas catalog for customized English language training, summer only IEP for international English teachers, and visiting scholar interviews as well as conversation and culture classes.

Moving forward, ELC’s main issue is seeing how we integrate into the new international unit, particularly how we will work together for a unified approach to recruiting. We also want to lower the sticker shock on the Confidential Financial Statements required for visa applications and will pursue part-time and summer only IEP students on tourist visas. Also working toward better access to campus services to expand all aspects of ELC programming.

**Discussion:**

Nate Nicholas asked about English classes for citizens of countries that qualify for visa waivers. Riki noted that ELC is on top of this and has also been working with institutions in Shanghai that have inquired about bringing groups of high school students for summer English preparation. Nate said there might be monies from the Wyoming Tourism Board to help market these services or programs.

Nate also asked if the program is fully self-sufficient now. Riki replied that ELC’s break-even point is 22 students per semester of full-time IEP. Right now ELC is at 12 full-time IEP students.

Paul Bergman noted CU’s example of starting with English language programs to build their international student enrollments. They started with fewer than 1000 and now have over 4000 international students at the Boulder campus alone and have kicked ESL back to the junior colleges to help prepare students for enrollment at CU Boulder.

**Faculty Presentation by Dr. Jake Goheen, Associate Professor of Zoology & Physiology – 2017 Faculty Internationalization Award Recipient:**

Mary Katherine Scott introduced Dr. Jake Goheen of the Zoology and Physiology Department, who gave a presentation on his work entitled “Wildlife Conservation Alongside Pastoralism in Kenya”.
The majority of Dr. Goheen’s work is in Kenya working with Kenyan students as well as Western undergraduates who come along (both from UW and other institutions). Over the past 6-7 years around 50-60 undergraduates from UW have gone with him to Kenya. He highlighted two Kenyan PhD students he has brought to UW. Abdullahi Hussein Ali (Ijara and Fafi Districts, Eastern Kenya). Abdullahi is working on conservation of the world’s rarest antelope species – the hirola antelope (or four-eyed antelope). Only around 400 are left in the wild and live in an area where the Al Shabaab militant group is active.

The other Kenyan PhD student Dr. Goheen highlighted is Caroline Ng’weno. She works in a more central region of Kenya. In Kenya, livestock and wildlife are often co-located and are seen together in the same grazing areas. The attitude of most Kenyan ranchers is very progressive – “if a Kenyan loses a cow or goat to a lion or leopard, they don’t go out and kill all the lions or leopards; they think ‘I should have been taking better care of my cows and goats’” Jake said.

**Student Presentations – 2017 International Excellence Awardees and Nominee:**

Carlos “Uriel” Garcia Santiago – graduate awardee, MS student in Mental Health Counseling – from Tierra del Mole, Oaxaco, Mexico:

Uriel gave a presentation entitled “Serving from the Hearth”, a description of a UW program to Bolivia he coordinated in 2016. Uriel works as a graduate assistant in the UW SLCE (Service Learning and Community Engagement) office, which plans and leads several service learning projects abroad each year. He led a group of UW students on a 10-day service project building an elementary school in Cochabamba, Bolivia. One of the goals was to have UW students compare Wyoming culture with the local Bolivian culture.

Christal Grace Rohan – undergraduate nominee, Sophomore double major in Spanish and International Studies – originally from the Philippines – Sarangani, Mindano – but grew up in Evanston:

Christal participated in the CIEE (Council on International Education Exchange) Leadership academy in Spain and Morocco (2014). She studied Spanish at the Universidad de Sevilla y Proyecto Búho. During the 2016 spring break she went with Amizade (friendship in Brazilian Portuguese) to Jamaica and volunteered in a public elementary school. She will be going this summer (2017) to Thailand and Laos through GIVE international (Growth International Volunteer Excursions) and will be working on a clean water project and building dormitories out of recycled water bottles. She will also go back to her hometown in the Philippines this summer after the trip to Thailand and Laos and will do a park renovation project with donations she collects. She has not been to the Philippines for 10 years. She intends to host a community pot-luck while she is there.

Gabriel Seltzing – undergraduate awardee, Junior in International Studies with minors in French and the Honors Porgram – from Laramie, Wyoming:
In 2014, Gabe volunteered in Haiti in the post-earthquake setting just before coming to UW. He worked at a women’s health clinic and worked with children during the day also. He brought back from this a partnership with UW’s International Studies Student Club and they now send groups down to Haiti for language exchange, volunteering in an English language school. The club now also has a goal to bring Haitian English teachers from that school to UW for training and Gabe is in charge of this effort.

He went to Morocco to teach English for a month, during which time he also studied Arabic and French. On this trip he spent three nights in the desert with Buddhist monks from Brazil. He later went with Amizade on a service learning trip in Latin America.

This past summer Gabe went to the Middle East and spent some time in Egypt, Mount Sinai, Israel, Palestine, Jordan, and Syria. On this trip he studied Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Bahai, and Zoroastrianism. Last year he also went to Strasbourg, France. While in France he worked with a Syrian refugee resettlement program learning how to help integrate new arrivals into French society, which he considers a critical strategy for counterterrorism. He also went to Norway and the UK and interned at the “Education for Peace in Iraq Center”.

Gabe wants to take the Foreign Service Exam and work on human rights advocacy, or he may go to law school or work for Red Cross.

The meeting adjourned for the day at 5:00 pm with the evening’s award banquet to follow.

**SATURDAY, FEB. 11, 2017**

**MEMBERS PRESENT ON Saturday, February 11, 2017:**

1. Nathan Nicholas – IBOA Chair
2. Ashley Willms – IBOA Vice Chair
3. Lucie Osborn – IBOA Secretary
4. Johnnie Burton
5. Celeste Colgan
6. Candace Garman
7. Oliver Walter
8. Sue Wilson
9. Brian Deurloo
10. Megan Degenfelder
11. Paul Bergman
12. Cameron Nazminia
13. Chumba Limo
14. Mary Katherine Scott – IPO Director
15. Jill Johnson – ISSO Director
16. Kint Alexander – Dean of Law; IESC Chair
17. Michael Rotellini – ASUW President

Others Present:

1. Shawn Bunning
2. Allyson Hagey – Acting Dean of the Outreach School
3. Katrina McGee – UW Foundation
4. Carrie Hesco – IPO Faculty Immigration Coordinator
5. Suzie Pritchett – College of Law and International Human Rights Clinic

Members Not Present:

1. Bo Bergstrom – IBOA Treasurer
2. Liz Cheney
3. Dave Bostrom
4. Travis Koch
5. Tom Lubnau
6. Michelle Sullivan
7. Ann Tollefson
8. Michael Pishko – Dean of Engineering and Applied Science
9. Temple Stoelinger – Faculty Rep, Professor in Haub School ENR

Call to Order:

Chair Nate Nicholas called the meeting to order at 8:12 am and asked for a call of the roll. Shawn Bunning took a roll call of members present (see above).

ISSO Director’s Report – Jill Johnson:

Jill Johnson began her ISSO director’s report with a summary of international enrollment figures and recruitment efforts. The 15-day enrollment numbers were to be released some days after this meeting, so the figures she presented were from the fall 2016 semester. There were a total of 810 international students that term, with 403 undergraduates, 400 graduate students, and 7 professional program students. Of these, the largest numbers come from China (100+), India (74), Canada (61), Saudi Arabia (59), and Nepal (30).

Recruitment efforts combine two approaches – “armchair” efforts, and “airline” efforts. Armchair recruiting efforts include responding quickly to inquiries, advertising in specific publications, networking with the US government’s Education USA program, preparing information packets for people traveling from UW to take with them, encouraging successful freshmen to refer another student, working with the Alumni Association to identify international alumni that can help with recruitment, and helping to promote the Intensive English Program (IEP) at the UW English Language Center. Airline recruiting efforts include participating in annual overseas recruitment tours, visiting Wyoming and regional community colleges, developing partnerships with community colleges in recruiting efforts, developing agreements with American degree programs in Malaysia and now also in Indonesia, and visiting regional
intensive English programs. In the fall 2016 semester, UW’s international recruiter traveled to India and to Latin America as well as domestically. For the spring 2017 semester he will travel to China, Vietnam, and Malaysia, as well as domestically.

ISSO provides services to both international students and scholars. Support for the more than 100 international scholars and their dependents at UW include working with academic departments to provide immigration documents, providing one-on-one orientations, assisting with needs of dependents, and making sure they all have insurance that meets J-1 visa minimum requirements. Support for international students includes creating I-20 and DS-2019 documents for student visas; providing counseling on employment regulations and support for CPT, OPT, and Economic Hardship applications; monitoring and reporting student enrollment, address, and employment information; conducting multiple workshops for OPT (Optional Practical Training); organizing trips to Cheyenne for Social Security Office visits; coordinating with the tax compliance officer on workshops and support; delivering three academic support sessions each semester; guiding and supporting international groups in their events (about 8 each semester); and hosting the multicultural graduation program with the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA).

Recent challenges and successes include a reduction in scholarship dollars through UW’s budget cuts coupled with the introduction of proposed program fees and tuition increases. Several international students face increased difficulty to pay due either to currency devaluations or regulations limiting currency transfer to the US. There is also concern among international students and scholars regarding the new US administration’s executive orders. ISSO faces reduced staffing through the departure of its front-line staff and immigration support person as well as the upcoming retirement of a long-time employee who handles international admission processing. One notable success is the redesignation of UW’s J-1 visa program by the US Department of State.

Discussion:

Ollie Walter asked how many students UW has from countries on the list of seven the administration halted travel from, to which Jill answered there are about 44 students with those nationalities. At least two of those students have been directly affected by the travel ban.

Megan Degenfelder and Nate Nicholas asked questions related to UW’s international student recruitment goals and target regions. Jill said the aspiration is to raise UW’s international student population to 1000 by 2020, with a diverse population coming from several different places. UW takes a hard look at trends of where students are coming into the US from and where we anticipate future students will come from. There is also more fiscal pressure at UW now than previously, which adds to the importance of recruiting from diverse sources.

Brian Deurloo asked what plan UW has within its recruiting efforts for dealing with the potential concerns of prospective international students over the present administration and its recent executive orders. Jill said that these things certainly present a challenge to recruitment, and that UW is interested in assessing the environment once Ryan, the international recruiter, travels to Asia in March.

Megan Degenfelder asked what percentage of international students are recruited via direct recruiting vs. just finding UW on their own. Jill replied that undergraduate students are the most impacted by
ISSO’s direct recruiting efforts since that is the population ISSO focuses on. Academic departments usually recruit their own graduate students.

Ollie Walter noted that in his work with international students taking the American and Wyoming Government class (POLS 1000) for international students, he has heard from several Saudi and Kuwaiti students that have transferred from Idaho and Oklahoma, and they have said how much they appreciate UW and Laramie since they don’t get the negative comments here that they have elsewhere. Jill observed that Idaho in particular has had several issues in their relationship with the Saudi students.

Rep. Sue Wilson suggested that since ISSO takes students to the Social Security office in the Jonah building, there would be an opportunity to organize a more extensive visit with the legislature and governor’s office to help increase visibility of UW’s international students.

**ASUW REPORT – Michael Rotellini:**

ASUW has done a great job in promoting exchanges with Shanghai. This year we received a delegation of 11 to visit UW. 3 students that ASUW showed around campus and similar courses to those they take in China, how ASUW works, and presentations on UW structure and campus life. They showed a presentation on Chinese university contexts. Learned much about each other. The next ASUW admin. Is looking forward to sending the next UW delegation to Shanghai. Our ultimate goal is to have what we have learned trickle down to the rest of the student body.

ASUW strives to promote communication. ASUW has tried this year to help alleviate stress and anxiety among different campus constituencies that have resulted from the incoming federal administration. We have been working with President Nichols in the wake of the executive order on entry/refugees to help alleviate the concerns of those affected and to let people know that we have a welcoming community. We work to advocate for what we believe in and to create a better campus climate so that students can study without external concerns and pressures.

ASUW will be organizing elections soon and will be conducting outreach to RSOs to get the word out to students. We want to get more organizations on campus to be as successful as our Greek Life organizations and help raise the level of student investment in the campus community and in student government in particular.

**IPO Director’s Report – Mary Katherine Scott:**

Mary Katherine Scott’s director report for the International Programs Office (IPO) was titled “Internationalization at UW: Preparing UW Graduates for the diverse and complex challenges of Tomorrow” (See presentation slides in the Board packet).

Mary Katherine focused her report around IBOA’s goals and initiatives and also highlighted other things IPO is doing.

The new IPO Vision Statement replaces one developed during the 2013 ACE Internationalization Lab study. The new Vision Statement reads:
"The U. of Wyoming is a globally-engaged campus dedicated to international and cross-cultural learning experiences that drive the innovative ideas of the future."

Along with the new Vision Statement, IPO also has a reworked Mission Statement, which reads:

“The University of Wyoming supports world-class international teaching, research, creative activity, community outreach and global partnerships. We believe that international experiences produce the innovation and ideas that will advance a generation. We are dedicated to experiential and cross-cultural learning for the diverse audiences we serve, both at home and abroad. Most importantly, we foster an inclusive environment that empowers the development of the knowledge and skills needed to lead and excel in a globally interconnected world.”

IPO’s goals and current initiatives, in collaboration with the IBOA, include the following:

- 25% by 2025
- Internationalizing UW’s curriculum
- International internships
- Advancement and support
- Community outreach

Internationalizing the curriculum is a broad goal that the new international office will be working on – trying to infuse international perspectives across the curriculum in all that we do. The “Global Certificate” that Anne Alexander has been working on will also be part of this effort. International internships are the new trend in study abroad and need greater attention. All these goals need to be supported through advancement and fundraising. Community outreach is a goal that this Board can help directly with through helping us get our message out across the state and beyond. IPO appreciates help in setting up speaking engagements and events in local communities.

Mary Katherine noted that UW sends about 400 students abroad each year, and approximately 70% of these receive some level of financial support through IPO. Study abroad is much more than just the traditional semester- and year-long programs; it also includes faculty-led short courses, service learning trips, research, and internships. Currently, about 3% of UW students study abroad.

Mary Katherine discussed the value of international experiences, stating that they help students gain global perspectives, critical thinking skills and creativity, leading to higher levels of problem solving ability, thus making them valuable future employees. Offering international experiences helps with recruitment and retention of the best students to serve the state. She shared that the economic impact of Wyoming’s international students $22 million US dollars, of which international students at UW contribute $18.1 million and those at Northwest College in Powell contribute $1.1 million.

On the topic of how IBOA members can become more involved in IPO’s work toward these goals, Mary Katherine said that fundraising, friend-raising, general awareness raising and helping IPO to network with others who want to support these initiatives is always welcome. Mary Katherine will send the electronic copy of summary documents that explain these initiatives and goals. IPO’s social media is also a resource for Board members to use for information sharing.

Discussion:
Cameron Nazminia and Johnnie Burton noted that one of the significant challenges to assisting with friend-raising and fundraising is the confusion that appears to persist about which unit at UW is responsible for which international services and activities. They noted that some units have a wider presence in the state’s communities than others and have their own fundraising efforts that contribute to the confusion. Mary Katherine responded that it is important not to think of UW units as being in competition, but rather to effectively communicate all that UW is doing on an international front.

Ashley Willms noted that it is also important not to limit the scope of UW’s friend-raising to just the geographical boundaries of the state of Wyoming. As one of only two members of the Board who live outside Wyoming, she emphasized the importance of reaching out to friends and supporters of UW wherever they may currently be located.

Mary Katherine highlighted the importance of IPO’s fundraising by noting that IPO has very little money available for discretionary spending to support opportunities for UW faculty and students. IPO has about $6,000, which depletes very quickly. Some academic and research units have access to excellence funds that can go much further.

Brian Deurloo observed that there are three possible pathways forward for UW in managing its international messaging:

1. Merge through structural changes
2. Coordinate efforts across units
3. Or compete

International Education Steering Committee (IESC) Chair Report – Klint Alexander:

Klint Alexander introduced himself as the new chair of the IESC and the relatively new (1 year) Dean of Law. He came to UW from Vanderbilt and has long history of engaging internationally in higher education.

Klint stated that IESC is a coordinating body that meets once a month with the directors of UW’s international units. He highlighted his college’s involvement in international issues by noting that in the College of Law there is an international human rights center that comes alongside people around the world to give legal assistance, and also an immigration law clinic that represents international students and others, including refugees, up and down the Front Range. Many former UW law students are working in the energy sector and the college continues to maintain communication with those students. He said that the IESC exists not to add more bureaucracy, but to assist and streamline coordination of UW’s international efforts.

Outreach School Dean’s Report – Allyson Hagey, Interim Dean:

Allyson Hagey introduced herself as the interim Dean of Outreach. She observed that this is not an enviable position since her main goal is to organize herself out of existence. She discussed how the Outreach School’s changes will affect IPO. When the President and Provost got here, they saw an Outreach School that was very different from what they had known before at other institutions. They
were familiar with Outreach credit programs, but not with a unit that includes public media, international programs, and other services. Outreach is the largest grossing unit on campus except for Athletics. Outreach has been using its tuition dollars to reinvest in Outreach activities, but not as much comes back to the academic departments. Allyson said that this Board is going to want to watch changes and make sure that some level of reinvestment in effective and entrepreneurial efforts to extend UW’s academic reach around the world remains at UW. She thinks that it will, but emphasized the need to support that outcome. Distance and professional education also needs to remain, but be closer to the colleges and also to Casper and other regional centers around the state so that they can serve as regional hubs.

Allyson stated that through UW’s centers around the state ISSO’s international recruiters will be getting help in connecting with international students at Wyoming community colleges and high schools. She said she is a little less excited about the budget cut bill that came out the week before this meeting. Changes at UW will be directing money from the Outreach School back to departments and colleges so they can use it as they see fit to meet outreach needs. Allyson noted that Jefferson Edgens, the director of UW-Casper, started the same day as President Nichols. He came from Georgia, is in Rotary, and is a great partnership builder. She said good times are in store for UW-Casper under his leadership.

BREAK

NEW BUSINESS:

Fundraising Committee Report – Mary Katherine Scott in place of Bo Bergstrom:

Mary Katherine Scott presented the report for the fundraising committee in lieu of Bo Bergstrom, who could not be present for this meeting. She was able to have a conversation with him in advance and other members of the committee were also invited to contribute to the report, if needed. Mary Katherine noted four specific ideas discussed by the fundraising committee:

- Speakers series
- Clearer description of funding needs on IPO website
- Alumni trips
- 25 x 2025

MKS showed an example book on Alumni Trips. She met with Keener Frye, Director of the Alumni Association, and asked about sending an IBOA Board member along on these trips. If the Board can recruit the minimum number of participants (15-20) for one of these trips, the Alumni Association would give a free slot to an IBOA member to go along as a tour guide. The Association is working with the Go Next travel company to organize these trips. Many Katherine noted that the Board would not need to play the role of the travel agents, just help with recruiting and then come along for the trip to tell people why internationalization is important at UW. The trips are not restricted to just alumni, they can also include friends of UW. She suggested Board members look over the trip options and add themselves to the list of places they know well and would want to serve as guide in.
Mary Katherine gave the Board a walk-through of the IPO website and the links into the donations and gift section for supporting IPO’s work (a transcript of what Mary Katherine shared is in the Board packet). She noted that there is now a link on the IPO main page labelled “Give to International Programs”. Clicking that link brings up options to support scholarships, curriculum internationalization, faculty and staff internationalization, the IBOA (listing its goals and initiatives), and the general fund. Under each link there is a description of what the goal is and what activities the funding will support and the description page has a link to give the gift at the bottom of the page. Mary Katherine shared that the IBOA Endowment fund is currently at a balance of $20,471.66, and, thanks to gifts already designated by Board members, is on track to reach the minimum level of $25,000 needed soon.

Discussion:

Chumba Limo suggested making a numbered list of the steps for making a contribution rather than presenting that information in paragraph form. Lucie Osborn said that she likes the site, but said that her first gut reaction is there are “too many words”. She suggested making it as succinct as possible. Rep. Sue Wilson suggested including versions in Chinese and Arabic too, nothing that parents or alumni in other countries may want to contribute too.

On the topic of a speaker series, the suggestion was made to make the event on the level of the Gorbachev visit. When Buchanan came on as president, he supported the Gorbachev visit as a way to mark his inaugural year as president. The Board could approach President Nichols with the same idea, but needs first to figure out who to invite as speaker.

25 x 2025 Initiative – Cameron Nazminia:

Cameron Nazminia discussed the Board’s “25 by 2025 Initiative”, noting that the goal is to reach 25% of students having international experiences by 2025. He said the discussion at present centers on defining what “international experience” includes – is it study abroad, other international travel (service trips, internships), or other intercultural experiences domestically? What level of funding is required to support reaching this goal? Significant costs may mean we should aim for a different goal – maybe 10% by 2025. He introduced Katrina McGee from the UW Foundation and invited her to help guide the discussion on this topic.

Mary Katherine Scott noted that Katrina had spoken previously with the 25 x 2025 committee and had helped to guide their thinking on this goal. Some of the items the committee had discussed were the need to have an action plan to bring when approaching potential donors and to get their feedback while developing the initiative. This should include baseline information and a concise description of what is envisioned as the goal, coupled with an action plan for how to attain it. Katrina said that donors will ask where the progress of the initiative is at when they are approached – 10%, 15%, or some other level – in order to assess how others are responding. Katrina noted that the Foundation has resource materials that can help guide the Board in developing this plan, and said they are happy to help with everything from general fund level fundraising ($25 - $2500) all the way through major corporate gifts. She further stated that the initiative can target current use donations as well as longer-term endowment donations. Raising money from private foundations is one way to go about it, which is Katrina’s specialty. But raising funds from individuals is a good route too. She observed that one problem is the fact that the
internationalization goals are broad and serve everyone rather than having a specific constituency, so it may be difficult figuring out who to court. There is a need to build out a pool for Board members to be able to call on. Katrina’s suggestions for topics to reflect on for the time being include:

- Definitions are very important.
- What steps will you take to reach goals?
- How will you measure success?

Katrina said a Board like this one can send out Facebook messages to friends to advertise GoFundMe campaigns or Kickstarter funds. She shared the following examples: “$100 will sponsor a student to get a passport, $500 will buy a one-way plane ticket, $5,000 will get you here, $100,000 will get you here, etc.” She highlighted the need to connect the gift level with what the gift will specifically do to help meet larger goals.

Discussion:

Mary Katherine suggested doing a Kickstarter campaign to launch the 25x25 initiative, and then use the Kickstarter funds to help plan and hold larger fundraising events.

Chumba Limo said the 3% figure often quoted for UW just represents outbound study abroad, but does not include the many other things that contribute to internationalization on campus. She suggested working with Jill Johnson and others to get a broader picture of international experiences students are having now in order to have a clear baseline. Then decide how we move toward our goal. There is a need to choose appropriate and consistent metrics.

Mary Katherine confirmed that the 3% figure only includes those who register through IPO for study abroad (faculty-led, traditional, short-term), but does not include all the international service trips organized through SLCE or others independently funded through departments or CGS that do not register with IPO. She noted that Jean Garrison will now be referring CGS funded students to IPO for registering and insurance coverage, so that will change.

The following outline was discussed about the 25 x 2025 Initiative Mission and Vision:

- IBOA initiative to promote internationalization on campus
- Goal is to have 25% of every graduating class attain a certain level of international experience by the year 2025
- What does international experience entail?
  - International travel
  - Engagement with activities that promote internationalization on campus
  - Incorporating international exposure in the curriculum

Big Picture of How we Achieve 25 x 2025:

- Financial incentives
  - Raise funds via grants and if possible work with UW Foundation to identify private donors/family foundations who would be willing to match any moneys raised (Katrina)
    - U-fund me:
      - Could use raised funds to match any moneys raised to incentivize
Katrina McGee observed that it is also important to identify the blockages that prevent individual students from going abroad or having international experiences. Is it lack of time, money, other things? What are the hurdles? And, if given the resources, how could IPO help students resolve these issues? She suggested that ASUW might help with uncovering and elucidating this information.

Lucie Osborn said it is also important to communicate to students how an international experience will benefit them personally, and in what manner.

Nate Nicholas asserted that an effort should be made to carefully define and measure how domestic experiences count as an international experience. He wondered how these might rise to the level of an international experience. Rep. Sue Wilson agreed and added that it is important to understand what we want from experiences. In addition, there needs to be a discussion of how to share the benefit of UW’s domestic international programming with other Wyoming communities beyond Laramie. We need to address how we reach the state constituencies too.

Megan Degenfelder and Brian Deurloo cautioned that the inclusion of domestic international experiences may be broadening the goal too far for the moment, and that it would be better to focus on the more easily quantifiable metric of how many students are studying abroad. This keeps the goal clearly defined and easily measured. The Board can also support domestic experiences without including them in this specific goal. Nate agreed, and asked the committee to make a recommendation for the Board to consider. Cameron Nazminia said the committee will do this.

Discussion turned to the possibility of making study abroad the default for a UW degree program rather than the exception, which could be accomplished by requiring an international experience. Katrina McGee noted, however, that it would not be good to add requirements that may not be easily repaid once students finish degrees and find work. Ashley Willms noted that several countries have gap years built in for students to spend time abroad either prior to or just after college. Megan Degenfelder suggested ASUW include questions pertaining to student perceptions of study abroad to student questionnaires. Brian Deurloo suggested having a marketing campaign with the slogan “What’s the rush? You can work till you die”, to let students know that now is their time to see the world. Nate Nicholas added that the university should do a better job of making sure courses are always available every semester so that taking a semester abroad doesn’t delay graduation by as much.

Mary Katherine Scott said that many of these suggestions are things that UW can do now. She observed that freshmen are able to go abroad too, but cannot be eligible for IPO scholarships since they must have earned enough UW credits and have a certain GPA benchmark. She noted that she and Anne Alexander are working on first year seminars and that a new group just started talking about a first-year seminar in July that would take place somewhere overseas and then would start their first year at UW the following fall semester. This would be between high school and the start of college. The plan would create a cohort joined to one section of a first year seminar. The discussion at present is focusing on students who may not have funds to go abroad – first generation students, low income students, or other populations underrepresented in study abroad. The group’s idea is to fundraise and target students at risk and take them abroad on a transformative experience before they even start UW classes. This could also be a recruiting tool to get them to decide to come to UW. The people who have been at the table discussing this are all on board.
**International Internships – Nate Nicholas:**

Nate Nicholas discussed the topic of international internship opportunities, noting that work is continuing with Tata International to set up a Tata Scholars program taking interns from UW to India. He said that once oil prices stabilize this will take off, and it is looking like it could start in 2018.

Paul Bergman stated that he has been meeting with the Wyoming Business Council to identify who is active internationally. In 2015 there were 418 companies exporting, but in 2016 the number decreased to 360. The governor is planning a couple of international trade mission trips to boost this. Paul said he takes issue with the idea that you have to wait for oil prices to recover before setting up international internships. He noted that most internships are unpaid and are organized through universities. Interns gain experience and work skills, but companies don’t have to commit much in the way of resources.

Paul shared data with the Board indicating that the economic impact to the state of international trade is currently $1.2 billion, resulting from Wyoming exports, jobs, and foreign investment. Wyoming’s top five export markets are Brazil, Canada, Indonesia, Japan, and Australia (in order). Jobs supported by exports have grown even though the number of companies engaging in exports has dropped. Foreign owned companies also provide employment for Wyoming citizens, with the top three countries whose companies create jobs here being the UK (1600 jobs), Japan (700 jobs), and France (610 jobs). Export activity in Wyoming is important to the state and can continue to improve.

**Discussion:**

Rep. Sue Wilson noted that an alliance of manufacturers around the state recently has indicated there is a little upturn in the economy. Paul Bergman added that this alliance is a reference to a recent grant project funded through the small business administration.

Ollie Walter asked which foreign owned companies are providing the jobs mentioned in Wyoming, to which the reply was Japanese companies like Honda and the French owned mine, Martin Marietta.

Mary Katherine Scott asked if the Board will need to provide companies such as Tata International with a job description that UW students could fill as interns, and Nate replied that it would be better to start with an internship program description since the job descriptions will change from company to company.

**BREAK**

**Vote on Treasurer Position:**

Chair Nate Nicholas invited nominations for the position of Treasurer.

Cameron Nazminia nominated Candace Garman for Treasurer since she has former work experience with IPO and university budgets. Lucie Osborn seconded.

Celeste moved that nominations be closed, Ashley seconded. All in favor. **DECISION MADE.**
**2018 Gala Planning and Discussion:**

Nate Nicholas said that one of the ideas that has come up in recent years is that of elevating the level of the awards banquet to garner more attention – something on the level of the UW Art Gala. This might attract more people to the event. Some concerns have been voiced about the Art Gala, suggesting that it is just a mechanism to shift funds from one account to another since UW departments often buy tables at the gala for their employees/patrons. He asked if the Board were to plan a gala, should it be a ticketed event, and if so how much should tickets cost? Should it include a silent auction at the event and, if so, how would that be organized?

Ashley Willms expressed her strong feeling that the awards banquet should not be turned into a fundraising opportunity. The purpose of the awards banquet is to celebrate the accomplishments of the awardees and they would be alienated if it were combined with a fundraiser since the focus would become the fundraising. It would be better to have a separate event for fundraising.

Megan Degenfelder acknowledged that concern, but suggested there might be a way to make it work by providing free tickets for awardees and their guests. She, however, voiced concern that two separate large events each year might be too much for the Board to take on. Mary Katherine Scott said that under the new office structure there will likely be a business manager who can plan and organize these kinds of events to ease the burden for the director and the Board. She also suggested another approach could be to seek sponsorships for the awards banquet.

Michael Rotellini encouraged the Board to consider which audience it intends to reach through the event. Is the purpose primarily to connect with donors or to reach more students and get them excited about the awards?

Cameron Nazminia noted that with its typical audience size of 75 to 100 the awards event could be organized as a luncheon. Megan Degenfelder then suggested that both events could be held in temporal conjunction, with the awardees recognized at a smaller luncheon earlier in the day where the focus is on them and donors are excited about what they are doing and want to support it, followed by a dinner with a prominent speaker later in the evening.

Brian Deurloo suggested a portion of the revenues from the gala could go back to the students, perhaps to support their next trip. He also asked about the publicity mechanism for the awardees and how it can be tailored to inspire future nominees. Mary Katherine Scott said that the institutional marketing office writes features on each of them for their home newspapers and the campus community.

Johnnie Burton suggested that if the awards event becomes a luncheon, it should be held on a Saturday since people will be working during the week and unable to come. Lucie Osborn suggested holding both events as a Friday-Saturday event combo. Chair Nate Nicholas asked the Board to bring suggestions to the next meeting and to help identify potential keynote speakers.

Paul Bergman suggested holding a transition event rather than trying to do the gala for the next banquet. He also suggested finding a corporate sponsor. Two potential sponsors suggested were the Tata Corporation and BP.
Nate Nicholas proposed calling the event “The Ambassadors’ Ball”, and suggested inviting the Chinese ambassador who already comes to UW around one per year along with other ambassadors. Rep. Sue Wilson observed that the Taiwanese trade representative could be invited as well.

Nate Nicholas noted that the Board needs to find ways to get students interested in being nominated for the awards. Jill Johnson said that this year’s nominations were likely fewer in part because of the fog on campus with administrative and structural transitions occurring. That will clear once the transitions are completed. She said that previous winners and/or nominees could give presentations on campus in the fall to generate awareness before the nominations are due. Lucie Osborn further suggested featuring past winners at a football game.

Nate Nicholas reaffirmed the Board’s interest in keeping the focus of the event on the student awardees, but also said that fundraising will be ineffective if there is not also a focus on students who are recipients and why the funds are needed, what they support. He offered to get support from Well Dog for a silent auction and noted the company’s partnership with Qantas Airlines, which might also be willing to contribute. Invited ambassadors or consulates might agree to contribute too. Brian Deurloo suggested students could bring back things from their travels to include in the silent auction.

Nate Nicholas called for the formation of a committee to handle this planning. This would be a subset of the fundraising committee now chaired by Candace Garman. It will be called the 2018 Gala Ball Organizing Committee and will include Mary Katherine Scott, Lucie Osborn, and Megan Degenfelder.

Lucie Osborn said that she and Celeste Colgan are already on fundraising committee, so if Celeste is included too, this could just be an expanded fundraising committee instead of a subset. Mary Katherine Scott noted that the fundraising committee’s membership includes herself, Candace Garman, Celeste Colgan, Lucie Osborn, Tom Lunbau, and Megan Degenfelder, each of whom will be assigned planning tasks for the Gala Ball Organizing Committee effort.

Chair Nate Nicholas asked the Board for suggestions on who to invite as the keynote speaker. Suggestions proffered included Henry Kissinger, Charlie Rose, Dick Cheney, the Walton family, Harrison Ford, Ted Turner, Alan Simpson, Governor Sullivan, and Greg Hill (from Hess Oil).

There was general discussion concerning the price range of potential speakers, to which Mary Katherine Scott added that the President’s office can likely help in the negotiations and bring a hefty speaking fee down to as little as $8,000 to $10,000.

Lucie Osborn suggested separating the two types of events – awards banquet and gala fundraising event – by semesters, with the awards banquet in the spring and the fundraising event in the fall. Nate Nicholas noted that if this were done, the award recipients from the previous spring could be highlighted again at the gala event in the fall. Rep. Sue Wilson suggested that past award recipients could be invited to the fall gala to highlight what they have done since receiving their awards.

Mary Katherine Scott asked what kind of action steps are needed to make sure the right kind of event is planned. Nate Nicholas replied that the format and the sponsors need to be determined, speakers identified, and timing decided. He again asked the committee to make recommendations and bring them to the next meeting.
Mary Katherine Scott suggested the important speaker event become the fundraiser in the fall that helps fund the spring event, with corporate sponsorship to make the awards event bigger. She called attention to the list of potential speakers included in the right-hand side of the Board packet, since these are people who could be considered and are already interested in UW.

Celeste Colgan asked Candace Garman if she would be chairing the committee in this event planning work, to which Candace replied she was not sure and would get back to her later. Chumba Limo expressed concern that an event or two of this size is a considerable amount of work if a business manager position is not currently available in IPO to assist. Mary Katherine Scott agreed, but said the merger could begin within the next one to six months. She noted that the Art Board plans its gala with a staff of 12 and 20 years of experience in doing it. IPO will need a transition period to learn the ropes.

Nate Nicholas instructed the committee to prepare recommendations and said that there could be a summer meeting for committee work to assist in that planning.

LUNCH BREAK

WORKING LUNCH DISCUSSION: New Business and Executive Order on Immigration Procedures

Ahsley Willms led off the discussion over lunch on the executive order and its impact on UW’s immigration procedures. She noted that this was in no way a political discussion, but anything that impacts our international students and scholars will be something this Board should be prepared to weigh in on. She introduced the people invited to join in on the discussion – Carrie Hesco (IPO faculty immigration coordinator), Jill Johnson (ISSO director), and Suzie Pritchett (College of Law international human rights clinic)

Jill Johnson provided a summary of the impacts UW has already seen. The Monday after the executive order came out, students came to ISSO to discuss its effects. UW’s Libyan students were less vocal and willing to get involved, but the Persian students have been much more vocal and active. Students do often do research abroad during summers, so that is impacted. One student had a spouse abroad during the travel ban imposed by the executive order who could not get here, but was finally able to get here just yesterday (February 10th).

Suzie Pritchett spoke about the College of Law’s International Human Rights Clinic, which is currently representing 13 students seeking asylum and many are from countries that are on the banned list. She has been talking with them about how this could affect them in their process even if they are currently here. One concern is that President Trump may intend to rewrite the order and make it more specific and exact, so she is waiting to see what that may include and what impact it may have. She noted one student who was living in Texas and was coming to UW, but happened to be traveling abroad when the executive order went into effect. Clinic staff worked with him to delay his travel and assess what to do. Suzie was able to report that he has now been able to arrive (he is from Iran and has been applying for asylum). He was subjected to much more thorough questioning (very different in kind) than international students usually face. The questioning was very unsettling because he is seeking asylum and was asked about sensitive information that could affect his family still in Iran if it were to get out.
His phone was taken from him for a couple of hours while he was detained. There is also a UW graduate successfully working for a major oil and gas company who is required to travel for work. He is now afraid to travel outside the US for fear of not getting back in.

Carrie Hesco discussed the impacts on UW’s international faculty and other employees. She noted that Dr. Mohammed Piri, who runs a very important oil and gas research lab on campus, is from Iran originally, and most of his lab workers are from Iran and Iraq. When the high bay research facility opens, he is looking to expand this up to around 100 people. This may not be able to happen if the order is in effect. President Nichols got severe backlash from her relatively benign statement to the campus community saying we are offering assistance to our students – people thought she was Anti-Trump and asked for her resignation. People do not understand the potential financial impact this ban could have on Wyoming if we cannot keep the research labs open. Some of our academic programs (e.g. Accounting, Petroleum Engineering) are almost entirely dependent on international faculty and students for different reasons and these could close if students either cannot get here or choose not to come because of their negative perceptions.

Suzie Pritchett observed that this also impacts the US’ ability to compete for international students with other countries – such as Canada, Australia, and the UK – who are seeking to surpass the US as the premier destination for international students. This executive order plays right into their hands and disadvantages us in attracting students.

Carrie Hesco added that the concern is more broad based than this specific executive order because there are other actions that appear to be on the horizon in Washington that could have a considerable impact on UWs ability to attract international employees and students. The prevailing wages changes that are proposed for the H1-B visas – raising the prevailing wage – would devastate many research enterprises on campus because UW would not be able to afford bringing in these researchers, many of whom have major grants or support grant-funded projects.

Ashley Willms noted that it is important to focus on the financial impact to UW and Wyoming since losing $22 million to the state is not insignificant. It is best to frame concerns in economic and human terms and stay away from the political issues.

Ollie Walter suggested the Board draft a letter in support of President Nichols’ statement of support for UW international students and scholars. Brian Deurloo emphasized that the letter should be kept apolitical. Ashley Willms said the letter needs to be signed by everyone on the Board to show numbers in support.

Carrie Hesco will post the letter to UW’s executive order information page for international students, which is also publically available.

Johnnie Burton asked for the Board members to be able to comment on the draft of the letter before it is finished and sent.

**OTHER NEW BUSINESS:**

Chair Nate Nicholas asked if there is a need for a summer meeting, to which Mary Katherine Scott answered in the affirmative and said it could be kept to a one-day meeting without presenters.
Lucie Osborn suggested Saturday, June 24th as the meeting date, to be held in Cheyenne (location TBD). DECISION BY CONSENSUS

Chair Nate Nicholas asked the Board to set the date for the next fall meeting as well, but Mary Katherine Scott suggested waiting to see what the schedule of the intended speaker might allow. Nate set a deadline of the end of April for setting the date of the fall meeting and possible keynote speaker (for either late 2017 or sometime in 2018), depending on availability and feasibility). DECISION MADE

Chair Nate Nicholas asked the Board to prepare a program description and a list of companies to approach about possible international internships, as well as a blurb on the administrative resources needed to get it done.

Nate also asked if the Board would like to hold a fundraising event on the evening of June 24th in conjunction with the summer meeting in Cheyenne and suggested the Cheyenne Rotary Club could be contacted for help in setting something up.

Letter to President Nichols on Languages:

Brian Deurloo noted that the Board has been talking for about a year on drafting a letter to President Nichols to let her know about the need to accommodate rising dual-language immersion students in the state with language programs at UW. He said that he and Mary Katherine Scott had penned a suggested draft I and would like the Board to review it. Mary Katherine showed the sample letter on the screen and read the draft aloud.

Brian noted that the gist of the letter is that in 10 years time students with advanced proficiency in Spanish and Mandarin will be graduating from Wyoming high schools and entering college. If UW is not ready to serve them, they will go out of state. There are anticipated to be around 100 or more graduates a year and there is a need to plan now to be ready them.

Mary Katherine will send the draft to all IBOA members for review and comment.

Meeting adjourned at 1:23 pm.

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS MADE BY FORMAL VOTE:

1. Fall 2016 IBOA Meeting Minutes approved as amended – unanimous consent (1. Celeste Colgan, 2. Ashley Willms)
2. Candace Garman selected as IBOA Treasurer – unanimous consent (1. Celeste Colgan, 2. Ashley Willms)
3. The 2018 Gala Ball Organizing Committee (AKA the Finance Committee) will make recommendations and submit them to the Board – appointed by the Chair
4. A Summer meeting will be held in Cheyenne (location TBD) on Saturday, June 24th – decision by consensus.
5. The date for a Fall meeting and possible speaker event will be determined by the end of April 2017 – decision by executive prerogative.