

Minutes for SLAAC, Meeting on Thursday September 25th, 2014

Present: Lynn Ishikawa, Aliza Frame, Loutfi Jirari, Cody Watson, Fadi Fawaz, Khadija Stewart, Dorian Shager, Kathryn Millis, Smita Rahman, Ellen Tender, Claire Halffield

All minutes were approved

- Loutfi and Aliza prepared information to share regarding the low enrollment of international students this academic year. They said that the reasons for this drop are:
 - o The percentage of Chinese students coming to DePauw has been dropping slowly in the past few years (since 2010).
 - o DePauw is trying to diversify its international student population by recruiting from countries other than China
 - o Change in recruiting, DPU is not giving as many scholarships and as much money as it used to before
 - o All the recruitment strategies were based on traveling. This strategy is not sustainable. DPU is now changing strategies and attempting to use other models including leveraging faculty and students effectively.
 - o Objective is to keep the international student population at about 10% of the total student population.
- The following are programs that Loutfi and Aliza's office are using in order to recruit more International students:
 - o Loutfi is ushering a new program: Faculty International Recruitment Program to facilitate faculty recruiting for DPU.
 - o Aliza is working on featuring International students on the web and using brochures, this includes blogs, profiles, etc... current students are doing the same as well. This is delivered using the ISS newsletter. Their office launched, last year in May, an Intercultural life newsletter. This allows ISS to feature current events, students, faculty, etc...
 - o They also started the International Liaison Program where prominent students in targeted countries gather information about recruitment experiences and communicate with prospective students for recruitment purposes.
- Additional discussion on this topic:
 - o Fadi talked about a program they had at Texas Tech where the International office used to recruit students and exchange students. This applied to athletics etc... which resulted in a very diverse international student body.
 - o Smita asked if the drop in the international student body was anticipated? And what the impact was on the student body?
 - o Loutfi answered that this drop was not anticipated due to the lack of a plan in place to keep the numbers stable.
 - o Smita asked if there was a direct effort to diversify, if the drop in the number of students from China was anticipated?
 - o Loutfi answered that it wasn't. The recruiter traveled to several countries. Loutfi thinks that DPU never had a pipeline, we need to

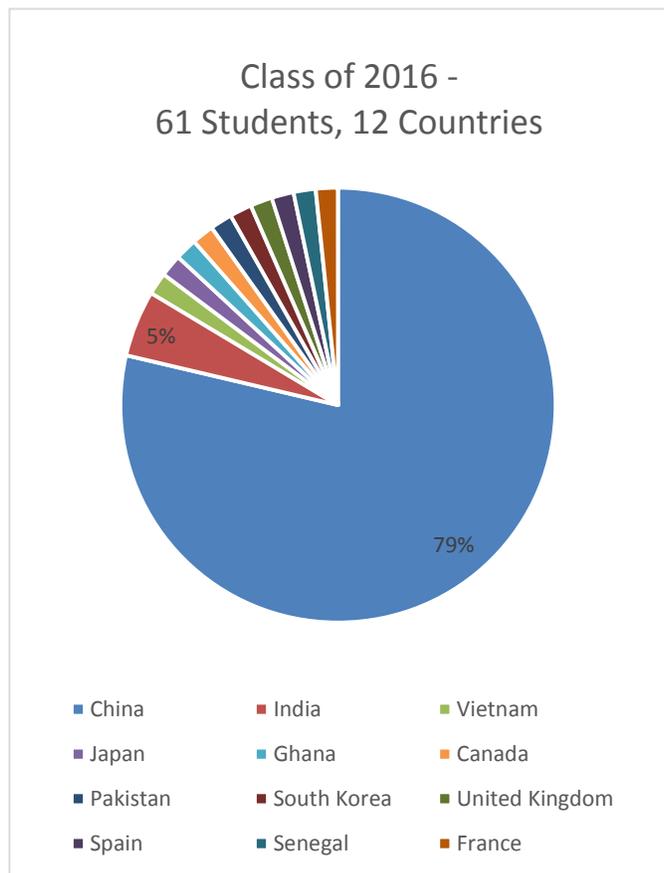
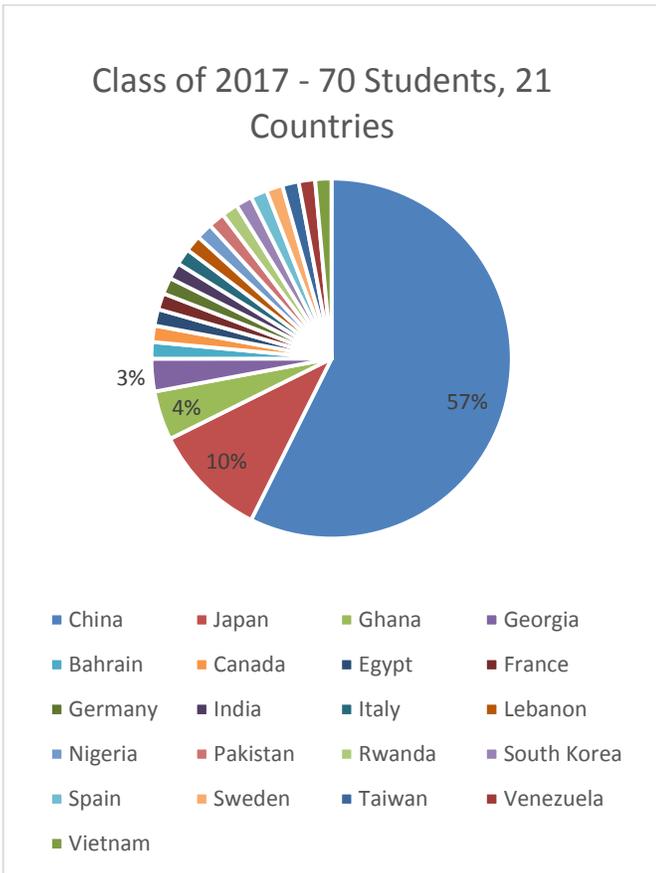
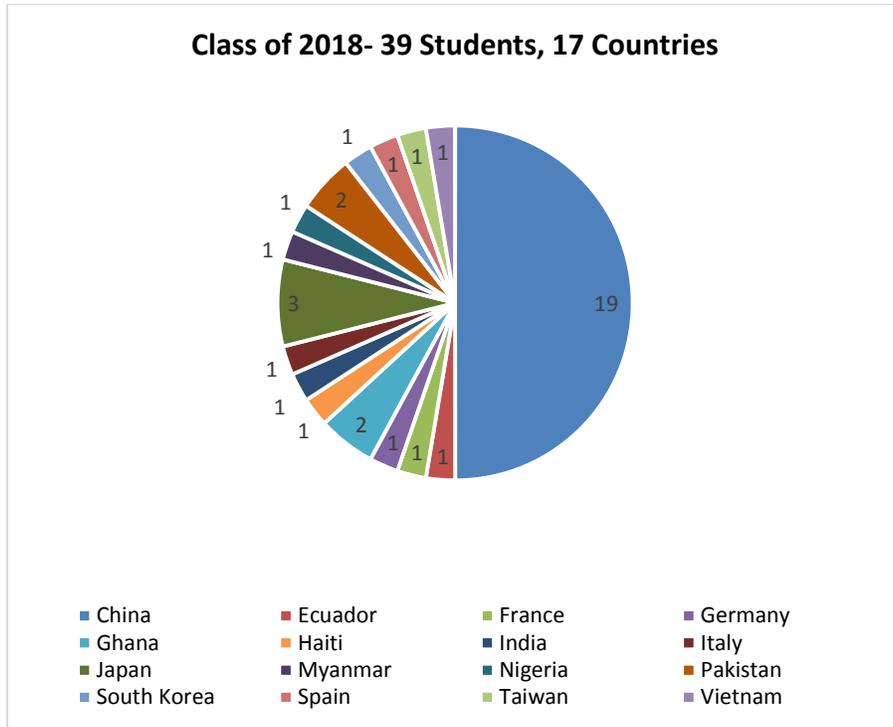
build relationships early on and talk to counselors often and talk to students early (sophomore, junior and senior year) in order to be effective

- Lynn asked if the campus climate issues from last year might have affected the drop in the incoming international student population.
 - Smita asked if this incoming class will be affected as far as student life and climate because the class is small.
 - Aliza answered that she didn't think so. International students are present in all of the FYS, residence halls, etc.... She emphasized that this class is particularly strong academically and in terms of their social skills and language. Aliza added that if this trend continues, she believes that it would affect campus climate.
 - Claire added that the campus climate has changed over the past few months, now students are more concerned with supporting others
 - Cody asked if the number of international student applications dropped last year
 - Loutfi answered that in general the GPA of the incoming class is higher than before. Loutfi added that his office plans on keeping the quality of students the same and attract more competent students.
 - Aliza added that now they are starting to implement plans that are based on real data and feedback from the ambassadors program.
 - Fadi added that his previous institution implemented several programs including a faculty exchange program and a requirement that all seniors must spend 3 weeks in China before they can graduate.
 - Lynn asked if the drop in Chinese students is a result of the financial aid package they offered. She asked if there were other factors.
 - Loutfi answered that it was mainly financial. He added that 20 students from China would have come to DPU if they were offered an additional \$5000
 - Kathryn asked if the concerns from last Spring impacted the drop in International students. If our peer institutions have seen similar drops
 - Loutfi answered that the other GLCA schools didn't experience as big of a drop as we have. Loutfi and Aliza met with the International students regularly last spring during the events and assured the committee that their concerns were completely different from the rest of the student population. They have not seen any red flags on social media (they now have a bigger presence with combined social media between the two offices).
- Report from Student Government by Cody: At their forum, they showed a video and had a conversation with the RAs and mentoring groups about how whether academic life's response to last Spring's events was appropriate
 - The feedback from the video was very positive and will go to the student body tomorrow. As of now, people are talking and having discussions and for

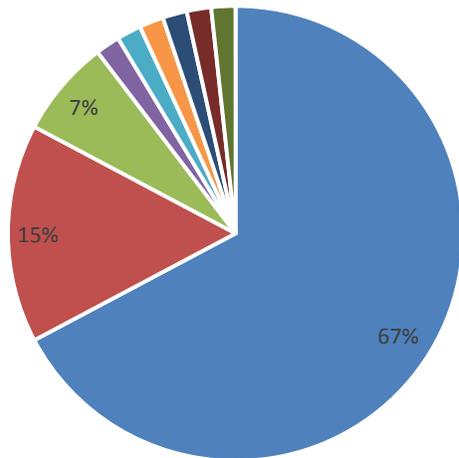
the most part, there are no current concerns from the student's side. In general positive feedback about the initiatives taken by DPU.

- Claire added that students used a lot of emotion last year but things are different this year
- Smita asked about where things will go next.
- Cody answered that students and administration liked the progress that was made. The big concerns that students had last Spring have all been touched on except for the "M" requirement. The leadership in student government and administration will keep talking about how to keep the conversation going.
- Ellen added that students are talking about the fact that the incoming class is not aware of what happened last year. She thinks that the fact that someone other than the mentor addressing these issues is helping.
- Claire added that the video was crucial in informing her about all the changes that happened on the administration and faculty side.
- Dorian added that last year, a series of small incidents aggravated the situation. It would be interesting to see if the same would happen this year.
- Aliza added that the programs that have been put in place have helped educate students about how to address challenges, be well intentioned, be inclusive, etc...
- Smita asked if there are other issues from the student body
- Cody answered that some of the issues are: upper class housing, availability of laundry service, WIFI, cleanliness, ...

DePauw University – International Student Demographics

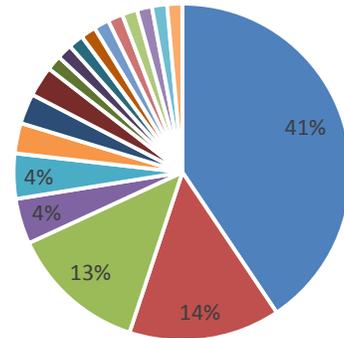


Class of 2015 - 58 Students, 9 Countries



- China ■ Vietnam ■ India
- Hong Kong ■ Nepal ■ South Korea
- Italy ■ El Salvador ■ Russia

Class of 2014 - 69 Students, 18 Countries



- China ■ Vietnam ■ India
- Japan ■ Ghana ■ Canada
- Bangladesh ■ Ecuador ■ Nigeria
- Mexico ■ Ukraine ■ Nepal
- Pakistan ■ Germany ■ Myanmar
- South Korea ■ Chile ■ Russia