RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CREATION OF A CONSOLIDATED LANGUAGE RESOURCE CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

WHEREAS, The only non-academic language resources are either volunteer-based (resulting in erratic availability of tutors, the ACC being an example) or are informal (Conversation Partner Programs);

WHEREAS, International students are required to test into a certain level of the IEP, under which if they do not do well they are required to enroll into a two credit hour class which does not count towards their final credit hours;

WHEREAS, IU has a considerable roster of language based resources, parts of which can be integrated into one consolidated language resource center, such as: the ACC, the WTS, the IEP, and the LLC that will replace the Global Village LLC at Foster;

WHEREAS, the alienation and culture shock that international students experience may exacerbate already present mental health issues that they may be facing, and the only counseling help available to them in other languages is through the CHG;

WHEREAS, There have been several precedents in other universities that have proven successful in providing aid to international students in the areas of counseling and language resources, such as Writing Lab- American University (Washington DC) as well as International Student Counseling Center- SUNY, as well as the Asian Language Learning Program at IU itself;

WHEREAS, the creation of such a center at IU would provide opportunities to domestic students to serve as tutors and gain vital experience, while also opening a new pathway for the integration of international students on campus;

WHEREAS, creating a centralized Language and Counseling Center with both walk-in as well as arranged appointments with student peer mentors from language programs will not only help international students, it will create an excellent resume-building opportunity for students in Language programs, while also giving them a chance to practice with a native speaker;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, we call upon IUSA to initiate dialogue with the IU Language Department, OIS, ACC, CHG and WTS and other aforementioned departments to call upon them to help create a consolidated language and counseling center to serve as a resource for international students: this being necessary in order to create a better support base for international students who constitute a considerable part of the IU student population.