

**International Education Meeting
11/16/2023 Minutes**

I. Meeting Called to order at 1:01 PM

II. Roll Call

- 1) Donna Woodford-Gormley, Chair
- 2) Jacob Avery
- 3) Taik Kim
- 4) Dolores Ortega
- 5) Debalina Maitra
- 6) Tina Clayton
- 7) Emmanuel Nkwenti

Debalina Maitra was not present. Bilgilsu will not be a member of the committee per Senate regulations although he is free to attend any of the meetings.

III Approval of Agenda

The agenda was reviewed. Dolores made a motion to approve, seconded by Jacob. The motion carried.

IV Approval of 10/19/2023 Minutes

Next, the minutes for 10/19/23 were reviewed. No corrections were noted. Jacob moved for approval seconded by Dolores. The motion was approved unanimously.

V International Education Center Director's Report (Tina)

- There are just over 100 International students on campus now. There are a few issues from OIER's classification to be sorted out by Benito.
- Tina attended a Chronicle for Higher Education Conference where according to WES, there was a 24% increase in international students nationwide which corresponds to the increase noted here at NMHU.
- Countries noted for the increase were Nigeria in the first place, followed by Cameroon, India, etc. Other countries experiencing international students' inflows included Canada, Australia, and New Zealand
- Dr. Kim chimed in to say that he just came from conferences in Asia where the trend seems to show that most students were coming from China, Korea and India.
- The Committee discussed this somewhat and agreed that it might depend on who collected the data.
- Tina said she was getting ready for end-of-semester activities which include working on transfers, OPT's, etc.
- She is still getting questions about WES Evaluations from students. It seems that the issue is that Admissions is waiting for official transcripts from applicants before sending them to WES.
- Responding to a question about recruiting, Tina stated that her office does not have a budget for recruiting since the recruitment of international students got

removed from her office. She also asserted that the best recruiting tool is word of mouth.

VI Old Business

- Donna indicated that the report to the Senate was sent. We were invited to come and present but the time was not convenient for any of us to appear. We therefore deferred the invitation to later this semester or to next semester.

VII New Business

- Regarding Meeting times, the Chair asked if Thursdays were still good for everyone? Most seem to not have a problem with it since other days were taken up by other committees.
- Suggestions for next semester were January 25th and February 15th at 1:00PM. Other dates will be chosen if needed.
- There will be a March 1st Report due to the Senate on the challenges faced by Tina and the International Education Center as well as issues facing international students. There was a suggestion to invite international students to our January meeting so as to integrate their concerns into our March 1st Report to the faculty Senate.
- Donna & Dolores agreed to do a Hybrid/Zoom meeting from Campus to accommodate the students who will be attending.
- There was also a suggestion to alert the students to meet prior to the meeting so as to organize their concerns to share with the committee in the interest of time.
- The Issue regarding an ADA International student, tabled from the prior meeting was discussed, with precautions taken to ensure that no rights were being violated.
- Emmanuel stated, as far as he knew, the issues were mainly mobility issues. Tina concurred and stated that reasonable accommodations had been provided to the student even though the student may be seeking alternative/better accommodations. It was brought to the attention of the committee that the student had gone to the Las Vegas based Community Services. Since he was an international student, he could not qualify for Medicare benefits.
- The Committee agreed that the student would be encouraged to meet with Dolores informally to ascertain needs before the committee could deliberate on this again.
- The issue regarding tuition reduction for international students was tabled until a future time.

At 2:00 PM, Jacob made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Taik. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned.