

**International Education Meeting**  
**02/06/2025 Minutes**

**I. Meeting Called to order at 12:01 PM**

**II. Roll Call**

- 1) Donna Woodford-Gormley, Chair
- 2) Jacob Avery
- 3) Taik Kim
- 4) Caroline Montoya, PDSO – ex officio
- 5) Emmanuel Nkwenti, Secretary

**III Approval of Agenda**

The Chair called the meeting to order and asked for a review of the agenda. Jacob made a motion to approve, seconded by Taik. The motion carried unanimously.

**IV Approval of 10/17/2024 Minutes**

Jacob was absent for medical reasons. Request to fix error in the spelling of “Benito”, not “Bemito.” With these corrections, Taik made a motion to approve, seconded by Jacob. The motion carried.

**V Approval of 11/14/24 Minutes**

Jacob made a motion to approve, seconded by Emmanuel. Taik abstained. The motion carried.

**VI Report from the Chair**

- Dates for the next meetings were discussed. Taik was unavailable on 3/6 and suggested 2/27. It was decided that a listening session should be scheduled for after midterms in order to allow for time to plan the meeting and invite students.
- We are still short of one member (an at large member) and the Senate is still working to fill the vacancy.
- Tina is still on leave and Caroline (who is here today) is filling in while also directing Student Support Services
- International students have expressed a lot of concern over Tina’s absence.
- Regarding the IEC Listening Session with International Students, should the President be invited? If so, when? The Chair will write to the President to ascertain his availability.

**VI Report from PDSO – Caroline Montoya**

- Tina is retiring at the end of this month. Caroline is serving as the PDSO. No additional DSO can be hired while Tina is officially employed by the university.
- She is presently working on OPT’s, SEVIS Reporting, Insurance for international students and Graduation Letters for international Students
- We gained 6 international students this Spring. There are a total of 75 International students.
- Regarding Sevis & other international student questions/issues that we do not readily have answers to, a suggestion was made that Caroline contact the UNM International students’ office for assistance. She said that she already does, and that Michael & Mariah of that Office are not always

available. Caroline says that she gets better solutions by going directly to the ICE website.

- All Sevis reporting for this semester has been completed.
- 30 I20's have been issued for the Fall. Caroline works out of Felix Martinez Building, not out the International Education Office
- Caroline does not have any information on Off-Campus Student housing. Only Tina does.
- She has voiced concerns about Meal plans hoping that the present provider should address it.
- Caroline has to approve all hiring for international students.
- All Federal Guidelines have been met for either regular international students or for OPT's
- Regarding a question on how the IEC can support, Caroline responded with a request that we should all be patient as she works through all of these. She noted that she had only been trained to issue I 20's.
- The Chair offered the services of the IEC wherever possible.

## **VII NEW Business**

- Regarding student concerns, the President will be invited to an agreed upon meeting.
- There was a question regarding International Student Scholarships. Caroline said that Lara and Benito are in the process of reworking it so that many UG International students can qualify for it. This time around, 6 International students benefited from it.
- Taik asked about the enrollment of international students by Schools. Caroline did not have that information handy but will try to get it to the Committee. Taik said the reason for the question is because there are additional scholarships available to Education Students, particularly those in the STEM fields.
- Caroline will send this information directly to Taik.
- The Next meeting will be on February 27<sup>th</sup>

At 1:02 PM, Taik made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Emmanuel. At 1:03PM, the meeting adjourned.