To the Faculty Legislature, Santa Barbara Division:

The purpose of the Committee on International Education (CIE) is to provide advice and consent on all matters of international education and exchange, including practice that impacts exchange students and scholars (Bylaw 100).

The committee held ten regularly scheduled meetings (from 12:15 to 2:00 pm) during the academic year and consulted with relevant campus administrators regarding issues within its purview. General issues and concerns are summarized below.

I. POLICY REVIEWS

i. Academic Personnel Manual (APM) 133, 210, 220, and 760
CIE reviewed the proposed revisions to the Academic Personnel Manual (APM) in Sections 133, 210, 220, and 760; dated May 23, 2014. CIE chose not to comment on the changes in Sections 133, 220, and 760, but did have a discussion about APM 210-1-d. CIE supported a definition of diversity that includes international and global aspects, and believed that our students’ education is greatly enhanced by exposure to international programs, foreign cultures and study fields, and the presence of foreign students on campus. CIE agreed that faculty efforts to enhance the internationalization of the campus should be encouraged and recognized during the academic personnel process, and therefore specifically mentioned in the APM sections addressing diversity work such as 210-1-d.

ii. Senate Bylaw 128.D.2 (Vice Chairs)-Proposed Amendments
The committee members were in general spirits of support for the proposed amendments. However, the committee would like to see more clarification of the selection criteria written in the document, as members agree that the vice chair should be someone who is familiar with local business.

iii. Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence-Proposed Revised Presidential Policy-Systemwide Review
Committee members unanimously supported the proposed revisions and praised the intended provisions of Spanish and Chinese versions of the policy. Some members suggested that translators be provided, such as required by all courts in California, for needy international students.

iv. University Committee on International Education-Proposed Amendments to Senate Bylaw 182
CIE enthusiastically supported the revisions to the policy and would like clarification of whether the proposed amendments would apply to UCIE only or if it would also apply to divisional CIE. As a note, the Justification for Revisions states that UCSB’s CIE advises the Associate Vice Chancellor on International Affairs. This is an error as the position does not exist at UCSB; the error has been reported back to update the information.
II. INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

i. Eindhoven University of Technology
Although the committee had several suggested edits to the MOU, it was a rather straightforward document and CIE unanimously endorsed it with the understanding that CIE would have the opportunity to review future agreements.

ii. Ernst Moritz Arndt University
CIE members agreed that the research collaboration is likely to be beneficial to the campus and no objections or reservations were expressed. An email vote of the full committee was secured to finalize the review.

iii. Niels Bohr Institute
Overall the committee was very supportive of what it considered a valuable initiative and offered endorsement of the agreement with the understanding that the wording in section IV be edited to avoid ambiguity about unpaid campus-based fees.

iv. South China University of Technology (SCUT)
CIE unanimously endorsed the agreement with a few suggested grammar edits. While the proposed agreement with SCUT was referred to as a “Collaboration Agreement,” the committee’s opinion was that the agreement should be designated as a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

III. TASK FORCE ON GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

CIE reviewed the work of the Task Force on Global Engagement, including the draft campus guidelines for international agreements and proposed templates for such agreements. The committee recommended that the guidelines provide more explicit information regarding the role and purview of the reviewing groups. The committee also suggested that the following materials be included in future proposals:

i. The campus profile sheet with some basic information about the affiliating institution;
ii. One letter of endorsement (from the Dean and/or department chair) indicating support for the agreement and highlighting the institution’s academic stature; and
iii. A tracking sheet or cover letter which notes any changes in wording from the standard templates.

IV. SURVEY OF INTERNATIONAL UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

The Committee on International Education (CIE) discussed the biennial surveys of international undergraduate students, which were administered in 2011 and 2013 by the Social Science Survey Center (SSSC). Since the SSSC is no longer active, CIE sought support from the Institutional Research, Planning, & Assessment (IRPA) unit of the Budget & Planning office, and worked together to update the questionnaire. IRPA administered the survey, collected the data, and provided a briefing report between spring and summer of 2015.
The committee also sought support from the Executive Vice Chancellor, David Marshall, and $1,400 was approved for the following:

- Refreshments for the survey launch party;
- Refreshments for the follow-up session;
- Incentives for survey participation—two Apple iPad minis for random drawings; and
- Transcription service by graduate students to assist with recording and transcribing comments and opinions expressed during the launch and follow-up sessions.

**Timeline and Response Rate**
The online survey was conducted in May, originally open for two weeks; the deadline was extended for one additional week in an effort to increase the response rate. IRPA sent a total of five emails during the period to invite and encourage participation. Along with CIEs’ diligent engagement with international student organizations, 230 respondents submitted complete questionnaires at the end of the extended three-week survey period, for a response rate of 21.72%. According to IRPA, although the response rate is lower than the goal of 25%, it is typical of surveys fielded in spring quarter, and the total number of completed questionnaires doubled from the 2013 survey.

**Overall Experience**
Survey results (per June 4 data) show that international undergraduate students are somewhat satisfied to very satisfied with their academic and social experiences at UCSB (91.15% and 74.09% respectively), while writing in English and making friends with domestic students being somewhat difficulty to very difficult (21.30% and 25.11% respectively).

The IRPA briefing report (provided on August 26) pointed out that only 7.3% of the survey respondents attended the English Conversation Program hosted by the Office of International Students & Scholars (OISS) and many international students only speak their home language outside of class.

**Key Concerns**
Key concerns identified in past surveys were related to housing, availability of classes, and matters associated with social and cultural adaptation (possibly related to language proficiency and housing arrangements). Due to the timing of the survey concluding near the end of the spring quarter, this year’s committee was not able to thoroughly review the questionnaire results. The discussion will resume next academic year.

**V. SUPPORT FOR THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS & SCHOLARS (OISS)**

In consultation with Mary Jacob, Acting Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, the committee learned a brief history of OISS funding. In the 1980s, OISS was funded with an annual budget of $15,000, which was later increased to support the hiring of two new staff members. In 2008, Mary Jacob (then Director of OISS) brought to the attention of the Rate and Recharge Committee that the OISS workload had increased due to increased enrollment of non-resident and international students, and a new rate-and-recharge was proposed. David Marshall, then Dean of Humanities and fine Arts Division, participated in the discussion. Gene Lucas, former Executive Vice Chancellor, subsequently agreed to allocate $50,000 per year to fund OISS.
With the significant increased enrollment of international students in recent years, there has been no additional funding from outside of the Student Affairs Division to support the associated workload, and Student Affairs resources have been shifted from other offices to provide some new funding to OISS. Acting VCSA Mary Jacob and the EVC David Marshall met in early March to discuss the intention of submitting a new rate-and-recharge proposal.

VI. CARRY-OVER ISSUES

i. **In-Language Option for the International Students Survey**
   With 837 of the international undergraduate students originating from China this year, the committee discussed the necessity of providing a Chinese version of the survey. Some committee members were in favor of a bilingual survey to stimulate open-ended responses. Others brought up the importance of the Senate remaining a neutral position, and offering translation for one specific language over another may be mistaken as showing preference for a certain group of international students, which may skew the survey outcome. With respect to time, resources, and the intention of including all international undergraduate students, the translation discussion was tabled for the next CIE survey.

   The language needs were subsequently readdressed by the chair based on the feedback from two bilingual graduate students that were recruited to assist during the launch party and follow-up session.

ii. **Language Proficiency and Test Scores**
   There has been discussion and concern of the discrepancy between some students’ writing performance on placement tests and application essays, and their performance in class after they arrive at UCSB. It was suggested that the committee discuss this matter with the Director of Admissions in an effort to minimize the gaps in performance and expectation.

iii. **Campus Resources for International Students**
   There is interest amongst some committee members to gather information about all the campus resources available to international students.

iv. **Training for Teaching Assistants (TAs) and Staff**
   At the end of the spring quarter the topic of TA training for international graduate students was introduced to CIE. The committee also discussed concerns surrounding domestic TAs’ understanding and awareness of cultural differences, as well as campus staff. Instructional Development expressed that they can offer strategy and training for faculty, instructors, and/or students. Due to timing the committee was not able to discuss the topic in depth. The topic will resume with the new committee in the upcoming academic year.
VII. MEMBERS

Paul Atzberger
Heather Blurton
Judith Green
Maria Iglesias-Rodriguez
Nuha Khoury
Eric Matthys
Ryan Oprea
Luke Roberts
Todd Squires
Rene Weber
Juan Campo, EAP Campus Director (Ex-Officio)
Jason Hopkins, Representative, Graduate Students Association
Marsha Bankston, Associate Registrar (Consultant)
Simran Singh, OISS Director (Consultant)

Pei-te Lien, Chair