

**Draft Minutes from the
University Council for International Affairs (UCIA)**

March 16th, 2005
325 Burruss Hall
10:00 – 11:30 AM

Present:

Andrew Becker, Chair of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures,
Associate Professor of Latin, Ancient Greek, and Classical Studies
Kim Beisecker, Director, Cranwell International Center
Cynthia Bonner, Lecturer Admin, VP Student Affairs
Ron Daniel, Academic Director, Center for European Studies & Architecture
Jack Davis, Chair of UCIA, College of Architecture and Urban Studies
S. K. De Datta, Associate Provost for International Affairs and Director of OIRED
John Dooley, Vice Provost for Outreach and International Affairs
Gene Egger, Director Special Programs, College of Architecture
Rachel Elswick, Scholarship and Financial Aid
Tamara Kennelly, Library Systems
Chad Miller, Econ. Dev. Specialist/International Programs
Tarun Sen, Associate Dean, College of Business
Judy Snoke, English Language Institute, Continuing Education
Kathleen Stadler-Thompson, Education Abroad, OIRED

Welcome and Introductions

Action Items

I. Approval of minutes

Minutes from February 9th, 2005 were distributed electronically and changes can be sent to Hope.

Information Items

I. Brief review of past year and projected accomplishments for next year – Jack Davis

The International Strategic Direction Team's Strategic Plan was a significant accomplishment. We should review it each term to see how we are doing.

We are also working on website revisions. We are aiming for more clarity; we will continue to work on the website.

With regards to risk management we have taken on hard questions and have been able to resolve many. We also talked about disbursements of funds.

We need to generate new concerns to address for next fall's agenda. One primary issue to discuss is promotion and tenure. We have representatives from each college so this should be a central issue to talk about – it needs greater recognition.

We introduced a second award this year to increase international visibility. We should bring the promotion and tenure discussion to the sub-committee working on this issue.

We are looking at bringing more international centers to the table – we have CESA – additional ones: Caribbean and Asian centers. We should pursue and discuss networking these potential centers.

Egger suggested anyone available should visit the presentation from the Architecture Program in the lobby of Cowgill – open to everyone.

II. Update on China initiative – John Dooley

The ISDT Strategic Plan talks about developing regional centers – not so much places as regional strategies. As we have in Switzerland with CESA we are looking at three to four other areas to explore for regional centers:

1. Asia
2. Caribbean
3. Latin America
4. Africa

Right now we have activity in all four areas:

Asia: Several faculty are working in Japan, China, Korea – we are pulling together a group for East Asia. The East Asia Strategic group met a month ago and discussed opportunities in areas people may not be aware of. We are looking at coordinating and program expansion.

In February VA Tech hosted the Apollo group from China – Mike Kelly, Sharron Quisenberry, Jim McKenna and John Dooley are all slated to go to China later this month to meet with the group that visited from Hangzhou, China. We are looking to develop a business plan to support this venture long-term – looking at what is in our best interest.

Mexico: We began last year to develop a Latin American hub – driven by student affairs and Lanny Cross. Our relationship with Monterrey Tech is the major signature program for our Latin American group. We are looking at all kinds of exchanges – looking at ways to develop a more robust relationship and partnership with them for regional centers. Virginia Tech and Monterrey Tech are trying to leverage our resources for a Latin American Education and research Center.

Caribbean/Punta Cana: There has been a lot of activity under the leadership of Dean Sutphin – he will still be involved but the initiative will be university-led now. Our strategy is to produce a think-piece for Ted Kheel. Each person on the sub-committee is writing a blurb on a certain topic: health, nutrition, so on. We have a working draft that is being circulated and we are finishing up with input. Our next step is to submit to Ted Kheel and then work on an implementation plan. We will not have real estate – i.e. this is a center, not a physical place – but VA Tech will hopefully be the umbrella agency for coordination.

Discussion on concerns from the Foreign Language Department – they are asked to do more without the resources to back up additional needs. The university is aware of the fact that the department needs more resources – Dooley continues to push the issue with administration.

III. BOV International Affairs Briefing notebook review – John Dooley, Nicole Sanderlin

Nicole Sanderlin – introduction – she is working for Dooley’s office to develop a briefing notebook for the international initiatives of VA Tech for the Board of Visitors.

The Board of Visitors is taking an extensive look at the University’s international programs. The BOV is going on a three day retreat – they will look at the ISDT Strategic Plan, we are soliciting input from them.

Sanderlin would like input from each college on any international initiatives or activities they are involved with. Within each college she is focusing on: Research, Education, Communication and International Support Services. Any input for the notebook for the BOV should be submitted to Nicole by May 1.

IV. Select International Award Review Committee – Jack Davis

Davis gave nominators one month to get nomination packets in for committee evaluation.

Discussion on whether or not to re-advertise and extend the deadline to April 1st. If, by deadline there are not at least ten nominations, the deadline will be extended and the award re-advertised.

Volunteers for the selection committee:

Gene Egger

Kathy Stadler-Thompson

Kim Beisecker

Tarun Sen

Daniel reminds everyone of the Faculty/Staff exemplary international award. The announcement went out on the DDD – it is a very important award that highlights the diversity of faculty and staff.

Discussion on how best to publicize awards. The DDD is not always as effective as it should be – putting these announcements on the website (vt.edu) is a better way to publicize. In regards to the DDD, it is this committee duty to disseminate information they receive from the DDD.

V. Miscellaneous

Stadler-Thompson – handed out pamphlets to give to Study Abroad representatives. Pamphlets explain some logistics representatives should know. Education Abroad is also trying to facilitate communication between people who are in the trenches dealing with money and the controller's office. There is a need to talk through the issues and changes with the individuals actually processing the new forms etc.

April 8th is the kick-off for International Week. April 9th is the Street Fair.

Hokies United has so far collected close to \$40,000 for the Tsunami victims.

Daniel passed out handout for “Integrations: Liberal Learning in a Diverse World”, the 2005 AGLS and AIS Joint National Conference.

Davis adjourned meeting at 11:25 AM