

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

April 29, 2004
325 Burruss Hall
10:30 – 12:00 PM

Present:

Carlene Arthur, College of Engineering
George Crofts, Associate Dean, College of Science
Jack Davis, Chair of UCIA, College of Architecture and Urban Studies
S. K. De Datta, Associate Provost for International Affairs and Director of OIRED
Gene Egger, Director Special Programs, College of Architecture
LuAnn Gaskill, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts & Human Sciences
Monika Gibson, Director of Student Services, Graduate School
Kate Edwards for Dan O'Brien, Education Abroad, OIRED
Tarun Sen, Associate Dean, College of Business
Carrie Miller, for Barry Simmons, Director, Scholarship and Financial Aid
Judy Snoke, English Language Institute Outreach and International Affairs
Nammalwar Sriranganathan, College of Veterinary Medicine
John Crunkilton, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Rien Visser, College of Natural Resources
Debbie Day, Alumni Relations
John Dooley, Vice Provost for Outreach and International Affairs
Tamara Kennelly, Library Systems

Members not present:

Kim Beisecker, Director, Cranwell International Center
Mike Bertelsen, Associate Dean College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
David Brugh, Development
Ron Daniel, Academic Director, Center for European Studies & Architecture
Dixon Hanna, Associate Provost
Mark McNamee, Provost
Steven Milley, Undergraduate Admissions
David Ostroth, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs
John Randolph, Director, School of Public and International Affairs
Robert Schubert, Director, School of Public and International Affairs

Welcome and Introductions.

Davis announces that this will be the last meeting of the year. Committee will reconvene in September.

Action Items

I. Approval of minutes

A motion to accept minutes from last month's meeting, March 24th, 2004 was made and seconded and the minutes were approved.

II. Report and endorsement for Alumni Award for Excellence in Int'l Affairs recipient – Jack Davis

There was almost unanimous support for Joe Scarpaci from the sub-committee. Davis asked for endorsement from the committee. The award will not be announced until the fall semester.

Motion to accept Joseph Scarpaci as winner of The Alumni Award for Excellence in International Education was made and seconded and was approved.

Previous recipients of the “Alumni Award for Excellence in International Affairs”:

Davis brought up the fact that there were only four nominations this year for the award. It was suggested that it could be because certain people get nominated every year but do not win the award, this year people were less inclined to re-nominate colleagues.

Question – Are all the awards centralized on one website? That way people would know about all University awards – in one place. It should be on the Provost's website but Dooley said he would check in to it.

Day gives update on award(s) status – both awards have been approved by the Alumni Award Association Board. That means another \$2000 stipend for the new award next year. Davis asks that Day thank the board on UCIA's behalf.

Davis explains handout titled “Studying in Safety.” This article should be shared with all study abroad participants. It was suggested that the faculty traveling with students should carry a cell phone that works in each given area of study.

Dooley comments that safety issues should be re-enforced halfway through study abroad experience to avoid a dangerous complacency. Edwards commented that the study abroad office does send reminder emails throughout trips abroad. Davis will send pdf version of article to Hope to distribute electronically to committee.

III. Mission/Vision statement from sub-committee (ISDT)

Davis asks for reaction/discussion from people who have read the statements.

De Datta gives a background explanation on how the ISDT group came up with these two statements. Language was a very important issue – it was discussed within both break-out groups. There are four areas the sub-groups are working on: Undergraduate education, Graduate education, Research and International Support Services. We want the whole University community to take ownership of these mission/vision statements. We'd like input to take to the committee. Send us an email if it is something not covered today.

Dooley explains how this relates to the core curriculum discussion. The core has a part in changing but we shouldn't stop there – these statements give us a value system to look upon. Area 7 is one of the places to look but this is one issue among many. Another issue is the fact that this committee needs to make sure what ISDT puts forth is implemented – resulting in a response.

Comment – that the last sentence should not read “In these ways, Virginia Tech is a global university” but rather something to suggest this is a goal, not an achievement already reached.

Comment – the staff at the University needs international support as well. If we are introducing more and more international components to life at Virginia Tech, we need the staff informed and internationally aware as well.

De Datta asks that these comments be emailed to him to bring forward to the ISDT group.

Information Items

I. Update on last Commission on Outreach and International Affairs meeting – S. K. De Datta

The second reading from Davis on UCIA bylaws motion approved unanimously. The second reading on Research Abroad motion was approved. The fact that UCIA is working on a risk management plan and the two awards for next year were approved were the four main issues talked about at the meeting.

II. Update on Asian Venture Partners – Korea research initiatives – S. K. De Datta and Jack Davis

Davis explained the AVP background. It is a venture capital group in northern Virginia and Seoul, Korea that wants to work with Virginia Tech on certain initiatives.

In September a group of 12 architecture students will go to INHA University in Incheon, Korea. It is an annual international architecture workshop – students work together on a group project. This year they are planning a new town in the free economic zone. They will be there for 3 weeks. AVP is arranging the partial financing.

Background on meeting – they'd like to engage with our Aerospace Engineering for their helicopter project. It is a multi-billion dollar engagement and their highest priority right now. Also they'd like to work with us on possible programs in Hospitality and Tourism Management – Brian Mihalik is planning a trip to Korea to check out potential programs.

Sringanathan comments that the helicopter project will compete with American exports – how are we addressing this issue?

The project will go forward whether or not we participate – this way we are generating jobs in the US. It is the best way to deal with an increasingly global economy. Dooley comments that we need to be very smart where we invest our resources. We need to not look at endeavors as win/lose but how we can connect domestic endeavors with global ones. We're ultimately better off being a part of the process. This is the sort of thing that needs to be dealt with one deal at a time – examined individually.

III. Draft document for Emergency Evacuation procedure – S. K. De Datta

Where does the financial burden fall in time of crises? This document gives one focal point. The Office of the Associate Provost is where the initial call will come in. The call can then go to John Dooley, Dan O'Brien or S. K. De Datta. The faculty leader can use an AMEX card or wire transfer from Virginia Tech. Our office (Office of the Associate Provost) will front the money. This way parents will be assured that their kids are taken care of in times of crisis. It is our expectation our University system will reimburse the cost of evacuation under extreme emergency.

Edward comments – this addresses faculty-led programs. What happens when a student needs to be evacuated and is on an individual program?

De Datta asks that Edwards sends a note and he will discuss this with Dooley and O'Brien. Also, Edwards and O'Brien will discuss missing points in regards to emergency procedures.

Short discussion on political evacuation insurance. This will be looked into by committee members.

IV. ACC International Initiative – John Dooley

The President of the ACC wants an academic initiative comparable to the sports initiatives. This will be an international programs initiative. We had a meeting to talk about a collaborative relationship for this initiative. Our priorities for this initiative are:

1. Expansion of education abroad. We are looking at ways to send students to other parts of the world and the resources to do so. Virginia Tech is putting these ideas together.

2. Institutional capacity building – ways to work together on program assistance. “What is the value of an education abroad experience?” We are looking to come up with that answer. Secondly, “How do we evaluate international vendors relating to ACC standards?”

3. Faculty/staff development – strategies to develop faculty/staff relating to abilities to enhance internationalization.

4. Images and Marketing – Instituting messages talking about a “Global Institution” to heighten awareness of why we should be concerned with globalization. For instance an ACC faculty award. Also, some percentage of the money that goes to sports to come to academic initiatives. Dooley will chair the fourth point, “Images and Marketing” group.

Davis adjourns meeting at 11:55 AM.

UCIA will re-convene in September with a new slate of opportunities.