

Corrected 10/17/03

Minutes
University Council for International Programs
April 16, 2003
2:30 – 4:00 p.m., 325 Burruss

Present:

Carlene Arthur for Pamela Kurstedt, Assistant Dean, College of Engineering, NoVA Center
Kim Beisecker, Director, Cranwell International Center
Jack Davis, Professor, Architecture
S. K. De Datta, Dir., OIRED and Assoc. Dean, CALS
Monika Gibson, Graduate School
Daniel O'Brien, Assistant Director for Education Abroad, OIRED
Debbie Shelton, Alumni Relations
Judith Shrum, Chair, Foreign Languages and Literatures and Interim Chair of UCIP
Barry Simmons, Director, Scholarships and Fin. Aid
Judy Snoke, English Language Institute, Cont. Ed.
Nammalwar Sriranganathan, College of Vet Med
Rien Visser, Forestry Dept., College of Natural Resources

Absent:

David Alexander, Chair, Ed. Leadership & Policy Studies
Doug Borer, Chair, International Studies
Landrum Cross, Vice President for Student Affairs
Meredith Gavilan, Study Abroad Coordinator, OIRED
Tom Hammett, College of Natural Resources
Dixon Hanna, Associate Provost
Clark Jones, Vice Provost for University Outreach & International Affairs
Mark McNamee, Provost
Steven Milley, Undergraduate Admissions
Linda Richardson, Library Systems
Gerhardt Schurig, Biomed Sciences & Pathobiology
Robert Sumichrast, Assoc. Dean, College of Business

Welcome and Introductions

Old Business

Approval of minutes from meeting on February 18, 2003
The February minutes were approved with no changes.

OIRED grant awards

Shrum – OIRED recently awarded some one-time grants. Twenty-six proposals were submitted requesting a total of \$66 thousand dollars. The allotted amount for all the grants was \$25 thousand. After much deliberation, a committee consisting of eight members, chaired by Mike Bertelsen, was successful in awarding partial funding to most of the requests. An additional \$3 thousand was awarded as well. The following received awards:

Debra Callihan – Study in Freiburg, Germany	\$700
Tamin Younos – Water resources in Guyana	\$1,000
Arthur Buikema – Cultural & Ecological Studies of South Africa & North America	\$2,000
James Hicks – Electronic commerce in EU	\$1,000
Barbara Hoopes – Products and Processes in Scandinavia	\$2,000
Shannon Jarrott – Aging and Human Services in Sweden	\$1,000
Robert McDuffie – Gardens of Italy	\$1,300
Charles Modlin – Education Abroad England and Scotland	\$1,000
Terry Papillon – Study Abroad in Greece	\$1,000
Charles Taylor – London Semester	\$1,000
Richard Wokutch – Managerial challenges in Global Marketplace: Japan	\$1,000
Musa Zimunya – Medicine and Culture in Kenya	\$2,000
Tom Ewing – Global History	\$4,000
Nyusya Milman – America in Russian Popular Culture	\$2,000
Max Stephenson and Alnoor Ebrahim – Redesign of MA in Public and International Affairs	\$7,000

Report from the meeting of the Commission on Outreach (and International Affairs)

O'Brien – The Commission on Outreach has requested a name change to Commission on Outreach and International Affairs. The Commission itself has approved this change. The next step is approval from the Faculty Senate and then from University Council for final approval.

Status Report for Resolution for Administrative Responsibilities for Education Abroad Programming

O'Brien – The resolution is currently on track and the Board of Visitors will view it at the June meeting where it is slated for final approval. Upon anticipation of approval, the summer 2003 study abroad groups are being asked to comply.

Shrum – Handout #1 University Council for International Programs Resolution for Administrative Responsibilities for Research Abroad

A number of new changes have been added. The University Council had wanted this resolution to be approved by the end of this school year but it appears that additional concerns have been raised by members of UCIP and that further revisions are required.

De Datta – Expressed his concerns between study/travel abroad by students and by faculty. Asking faculty members doing research abroad to give a daily schedule is just too tedious. The checklist is too long and De Datta believes that faculty will not take the time to fill out. The suggestion was made to strengthen the current travel authorization form. Include items needed such as cell telephone number and/or contact number for an emergency situation.

Beisecker – Wanted to know if there will be a different set of guidelines for those that cross the border as to those staying inside the United States? Stated that there are many international locations much less dangerous than places in the states. Questioned why this issue is being looked at as an international issued and not a research issue. Would someone actually deny approval on a trip that they feel is dangerous?

Shrum – It has become an international issue as a result of 9/11/01. The University had no real reporting records to track down faculty members doing work abroad associated with the University. University policy states that if the State Department posts a warning, the University will not approve the trip. The approval is only connection between the employee and the University.

Davis – Noted that sometimes faculty receives approval before all details are in place. Therefore more information may be needed before departure. Does not recommend combining forms together. Stated that he has never seen the university approved Liability Waiver that is part of the Faculty Resource Guide produced by OIRED. The Commonwealth of Virginia does not recognize liability waivers in a lawsuit.

Gibson – Suggested that employees should keep their emergency contact information update in banner with the Personnel Office.

Shrum – Thanked the committee who worked on the current resolution. After some discussion, the conclusion was made that a smaller committee should look at the broader issues involved. Suggested members include Keith Moore, Tom Hammett, Rein Visser and Jack Davis.

Status report for Alumni Award for Excellence in International Programs Resolution on Research and Faculty Projects Abroad

Shrum – Nominations for the Alumni Award for Excellence were accepted through April 22. Not sure on the number submitted, but at least 3. The committee consists of Judith Shrum, Mike Bertelsen, Nammalwar Sriranganathan, Dan O'Brien, Monika Gibson, and Debbie Shelton. Both George Norton and Josiah Tlou, past winners, also agreed to serve. The hope is to select a winner by May 1. Some additional changes to the committee may be made at a later time.

Report on the search for Vice-Provost for Outreach and International Affairs

Shrum – The search committee has concluded its activity of interviewing the two candidates for Vice Provost for Outreach and International Affairs, John Dooley and Greg Boardman. The Provost will now make the decision.

New Business

Roundtable reporting

Simmons – A request has been made to increase next years budget for CESA and exchange programs. The amount requested was \$50 thousand.

Davis – President Steger and Robert Schubert, Associate Dean for Research in the College of Architecture and Urban Studies, will be traveling to Korea in May to complete a deal with the Asian Urban Design Institute (AUDI). Virginia Tech has been asked to formalize a document more than a MOU since large amounts of money could be exchanged through this agreement. Will be using AUDI to help do this.

Snoke – Just returned from her national professional society meeting in Baltimore where she learned that a number of major ESL programs and some smaller ones have been closed due to declining student enrollments. Told the group that 25% of the applications for F-1 Student Visas are being turned down. It now takes up to three months to process visas. ELI has opened a new editing and tutoring center, started a GRE preparation class and is going to try some summer programs for international children from the community.

Handout #2 – America's Towers of Exclusion – Overseas scholars face entry barriers and delays

O'Brien – SARS and the war in Iraq have cancelled three summer programs consisting of 45 students. There are currently 313 students planning to travel this summer on a study abroad program. This number is down slightly from last summer. Meredith Gavilan, the Study Abroad Coordinator for OIRED, will be leaving the University on May 25. She will be traveling to Thailand where she will teach English. She will be missed and everyone wishes her well. Thirteen applications for the Coordinators position have been forwarded from Personnel Services. Hope to interview and make a decision quickly.

Sriranganathan – Still working on getting a faculty member and a couple of students here from Egypt. The parents of the students have now expressed concerns about traveling to Virginia Tech.

Shelton – Handout #3 Hokies Abroad 2002-2003

Beisecker – International Week just ended and again was very successful. It was estimated that 5000-7000 participated. An international student was killed in a car accident recently. The memorial service is scheduled for April 17. ARAMCO only anticipates half of the number of sponsored students from that country to the United States. **Special** registration for international male students **from certain countries** is still a problem. Trips are continuing to Arlington. The INS system has been out of commission recently causing more back up. The Cranwell Center purchased new software this year to help enable international students file their taxes.

Arthur – Hassan Aref joined Engineering as the new Dean two weeks ago. Pamela Kurstedt will be retiring at the end of June. The entering freshman program has been canceled. The program needed 15 participants and only received seven applications. Of those seven, only five qualified.

De Datta – A proposal for research and development in Turkey was submitted. Competitors include Canada, UK and France. Two old newsletters have now been combined. The new newsletter has been named *Global University*.

Gibson – **Graduate** applications are not down at the moment. However, acceptances are.

Visser – Noted that in his department the number of international graduate students has dropped. A German PhD student was invited to Virginia Tech and while attending a sponsored seminar by the U S Embassy in Munich, was told he would not be able to receive his visa in a timely manner.

Shrum – Phi Beta Delta recently held its annual initiation ceremony. Nominations are being accepted for officers for next year.

Ron Daniels has assumed the Academic Director for CESA. Daniela Doninelli's position will be upgraded to Managing Director and new staff position will be added for financial and operations liaison. Approximately \$1 M from the foundation account will be used to complete needed renovations.

Clark Jones' retirement party will be May 21, 4-6 pm, at the Donaldson Brown Hotel and Conference Center.

Adjournment at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shannon Dove, Secretary to UCIP