

University Committee on International Affairs (UCIA)
January 23, 2023
All Zoom Meeting
Minutes

Attendance: Farida Jalalzai (presiding), Tom Archibald, Don Back, Brian Bond, Amanda Broome, Jennifer Clevenger, David Clubb, Juan Espinoza, Kathy Hager, Khaled Hassouna, Don Hempson, Iuliia Hoban, Ran Jin, Theresa Johansson, Christie Lineberry, Kim McKinnie, Mallory Miller, Jennifer Nardine, Valerie Ragan, Kimberly Rhodes, Nicole Sanderlin, Sara Steinert Borella, Lauren Surface, John Talerico, Judy Taylor, Tom Thompson, Janell Watson

Guest Presenter: Karen Roberto

Farida Jalalzai welcomed the group and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

1. **Agenda Approval:** Farida asked for approval of the Agenda; there were no edits to the Agenda; the Agenda was approved as presented by unanimous consent.
2. **Membership Introductions (Name and area of representation):** Self-Introductions were made.
3. **Announcement of Approval of Minutes, November 28, 2022:** The minutes from the November 28, 2022 meeting had been previously distributed electronically, with the call for edits and approval. The minutes were approved electronically (**see attached**).
4. **Presentation: *Institute for Society, Culture and Environment: Enhancing Virginia Tech's Research Capacity in the Social Sciences*:** Karen Roberto gave a presentation (**see attached**). The Institute for Society, Culture and Environment (ISCE) was established over 15 years ago, and was the third institute named. There are several thematic areas where focus is devoted including global policies and practices; health and human development; risk and resilience; community and environments. Assisting faculty with concerns and where their passions lie is important as well as the support of programs and faculty.
5. **International Education Week (IEW) 2022 Update:** Iuliia Hoban gave an update on International Education Week (**see attached**). Surveys were distributed to attendees to gather success of events; as well as the different advertising reach. Discussion included bringing in different stakeholders and working with a badge program.
6. **International Education Week Planning Committee:** David Clubb thanked Iuliia and the planning committee for their work on International Education Week. He indicated there were many challenges including the events occurring in November around Thanksgiving the inability to hold events outdoors. David would like to propose a standing committee to annually take on the planning of this event to include Iuliia. He also outlined objectives to engage much earlier; add stakeholders to the planning committee and not limiting UCIA membership on the planning committee. He would like to have a leader from UCIA; and wondered who might serve on the committee. Jennifer Nardine offered that teaching faculty would be challenged given some of the parameters; and non-teaching faculty/staff would be able to work during the summer months. Don Hempson asked if there could be a proposal of what the commitment might entail and a general summary of tasks. David and Iuliia will get a DRAFT proposal together for future discussion; hope to have by mid-February; David will send to UCIA. Jennifer Nardine, Farida and Lauren Surface have volunteered to serve on the planning committee.

7. Updates

a. Working Group Updates

- i. MOU process/database working group: Don H. indicated the working group has taken a pause and hopes to get started back late spring and to have an updated around March.
- ii. Global Advancement and Alumni Engagement: There is only one working group member left; the suggestion was to seek those outside of UCIA to serve on the working group committee.
- iii. Internationalization at Home: Theresa Johansson indicated a survey on global work is currently under way, as well as assessment tools. Design and integration of global in courses workshop is upcoming; and a centralized webpage for all global efforts is being worked on. Discussion included digital badges and global medallions. Members were asked to inquire with their home colleges/units to see whether there would be support for a dedicated global.vt.edu page that brought together the global/international work we are doing and to report back at the February 27th meeting.

b. Alumni Awards for International Education, Outreach and Research: Jennifer Nardine discussed that the spreadsheet for rankings was uploaded and the committee may meet virtually. The deadline for packets is 4 p.m. on January 31, 2023 and should be sent to Kimberly Rhodes in PDF format: rhodesk@vt.edu; or 120 Gateway Center; Mail Code (0265); 902 Prices Fork Road.

8. Member Announcements/Comments: The call for announcements/comments was made. Theresa announced the continuation of the GEO-Passport project; and the workshop for building a study abroad course on July 10 at the Steger Center. Theo Figurasin has some great ideas for media and wants related ongoing activities that colleges are engaged in. If there is a faculty list serve that folks can feed stories on international programs, that would be helpful. Farida provided a link for International Initiatives Events: <https://liberalarts.vt.edu/international-initiatives/international-initiatives-events.html>. Don Back announced LCI relocation to the 5th floor of the building at Gilbert Street; and is offering space for UCIA meetings.

9. Announcement of Next Meeting: A reminder that the next meeting will be held on **Monday, February 27, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. (Blacksburg Time)/4:00 p.m. (Swiss Time).** **PLEASE NOTE:** **Until further notice, the meetings will be Zoom only.**

10. Adjournment: There being no further business and no objections, the meeting adjourned at 10:59 a.m.

2022-2023 Meeting Dates

All meetings will take place from 10:00-11:00 a.m. (Blacksburg Time). Those members unable to attend are encouraged to send a proxy/alternate to the meeting. We anticipate meetings to be in person at 526 Prices Fork Road as well as via Zoom for remote participants. A determination for Zoom Only meetings will be made based on community health guidelines prior to meetings. Zoom links will be made available for each meeting.

- February 27, 2023
- March 27, 2023

- April 24, 2023
- **NO MAY MEETING**

Respectfully submitted

Kimberly Rhodes,
Recording Secretary



Institute for Society, Culture, and
Environment: Enhancing Virginia Tech's
Research Capacity in the Social Sciences

KAREN A. ROBERTO, PHD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
UNIVERSITY DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR

ISCE: University Research Investment Institute



230 Grove Lane

Investment Institutes Support (FY22)



- 861 faculty received financial (e.g., seed grants) and technical support
- 4633 faculty utilized shared facilities maintained by the Institutes
- 2211 graduate students supported with funding and facilities
- 2312 undergraduate students engaged in experiential learning and research

ISCE Mission

To enhance Virginia Tech's capacity and status in the social sciences by

- catalyzing innovative, interdisciplinary, and translational research and scholarship
- addressing critical individual and social concerns
- impacting the lives of people and places locally, nationally and across the globe.



Overarching Goal

Leverage university funds
to **increase sponsored
research and scholarship**
with focus on issues of
importance in the social
sciences

Thematic Areas

GLOBAL POLICIES & PRACTICES

HEALTH & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

RISK & RESILIENCE

COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTS

Key Facts



Administration: Karen A. Roberto, Founding Director

- Yancey Crawford: Associate Director, Faculty Dev and Admin
- Isabel Bradburn: Associate Director, Strategic Initiatives
- Felicia Spencer: Communicator
- Shalini Misra: Administrative Fellow
- Cyndi Booth: Operations/Facility Coordinator
- Dustin Covey: IT Specialist

Investment of ~\$8M = Research Productivity (June 2022)

- 407 faculty members have received financial support
- 358+ faculty have received technical assistance
- 774 proposals submitted, totaling \$608.7 million
- 331 awards received, totaling \$88.4 million
- 36+ scholarly books and 365+ journal publications

Support Programs



ISCE Scholars Program

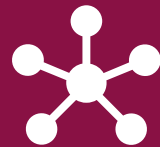
PREP Program



Restricted Microdata Research



Unsolicited Requests



Co-Sponsored Research

- Emerging Social Aspects of Global Change
- Securing Interactions between Humans and Machines

Scholars Program

- Research and scholarship stimulus grant program
- Provides faculty teams up to \$30,000 in support for developing interdisciplinary group proposals
- Projects are funded for one year



Other Programs of Support

- **Restricted Microdata Projects**
 - Virginia Tech has a data access agreement with the Georgetown University Research Data Center, a Federal Statistical Research Data Center (FSRDC). ISCE provides faculty awards up to \$5,000 to help cover the costs of implementing approved projects.
- **Unsolicited Requests**
 - ISCE accepts unsolicited proposals (\$3,500 - \$7,500) from full-time T&R and Research faculty anytime during the fiscal year for projects that require a rapid response to an event, small feasibility studies, and interdisciplinary team building
- **Partnerships/Co-Sponsored Events**
 - Research groups; Jointly funded projects; Speakers; Seminars; Conferences

23 New Support Programs in 2022-

PREP Program

Preparing your Research for an Extramural Proposal

Two-semester, structured program consists of didactic and interactive sessions

- Funding to support preliminary research activities (\$7,500)
- Mentoring to prepare a proposal
- Working sessions with cohort members
- Submitting a grant proposal as PI by August 2023

Securing Interactions between Humans and Machines

CCI, ISCE, Tech4Humanity

Projects that address technological challenges in securing an enhanced digital world experience

- Multidisciplinary team: Multiple PIs from the humanities, social sciences, or law, and STEM
- One year; \$60,000
- Attendance at the annual CCI Symposium and other CCI events
- Future funding and innovation

CENTERS

ISCE Centers

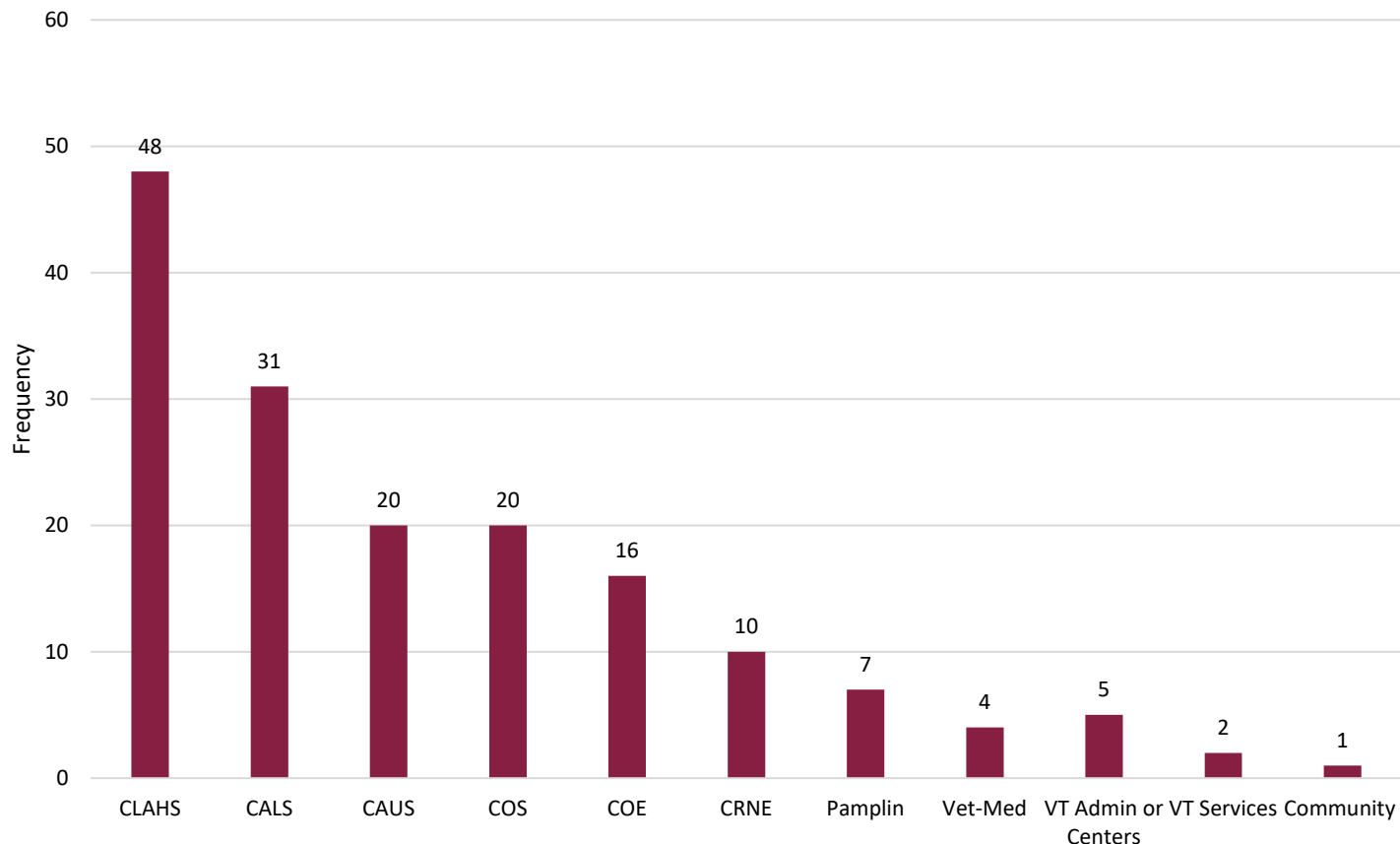
- Center for Communicating Science
- Center for Public Health Practice and Research
- Center for Rural Education

Associated Centers

- Center for Agricultural Trade
- Center for Biostatistics and Health Data Science
- Center for Gerontology
- Center for Refugee, Migrant, and Displacement Studies

+ Policy Network

Policy Affiliates Summer 2021, by College



ISCE's Role

- Institutional home
- Facilitate development
- Stakeholder committee
- Partner on initiatives

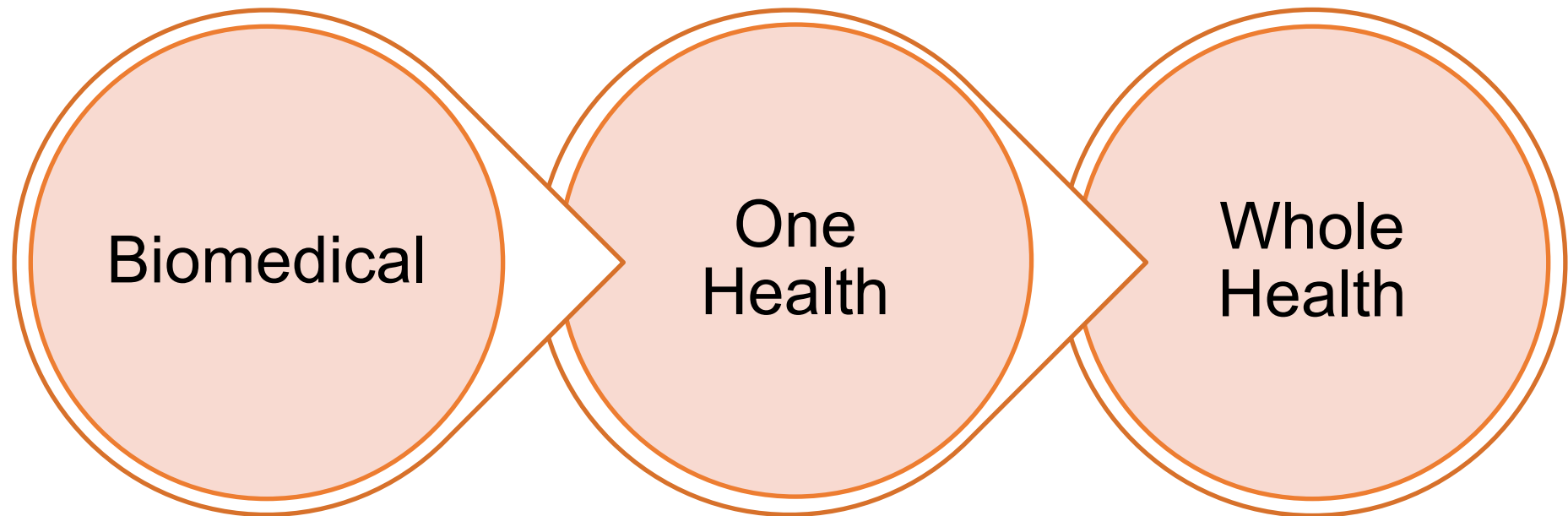
Opportunities

- Research Collaborations
- STEP Graduate Certificate
- Seminar Series
- Networking

New Initiative: Whole Health Research at Virginia Tech



Health Frontier: Leading the One Health Initiative to Achieve Whole Health



ISCE is not just about money...



Capacity Building Activities and Support Strategies

- ISCE News Flash
- Technical Assistance
- Affiliate Network/Connections
- Partnerships
 - FLSI, ICTAS, ICAT, GCC, CCI,
 - CLAHS, COS, Schools/Depts
- VT-FAST (Faculty Activity Support Team)
- External Consultants
- Seminars/Workshops
- Speakers/Webinars
- Mentoring
- Other...

ISCE: Interdisciplinary Research Impacting People & Places - Join us!



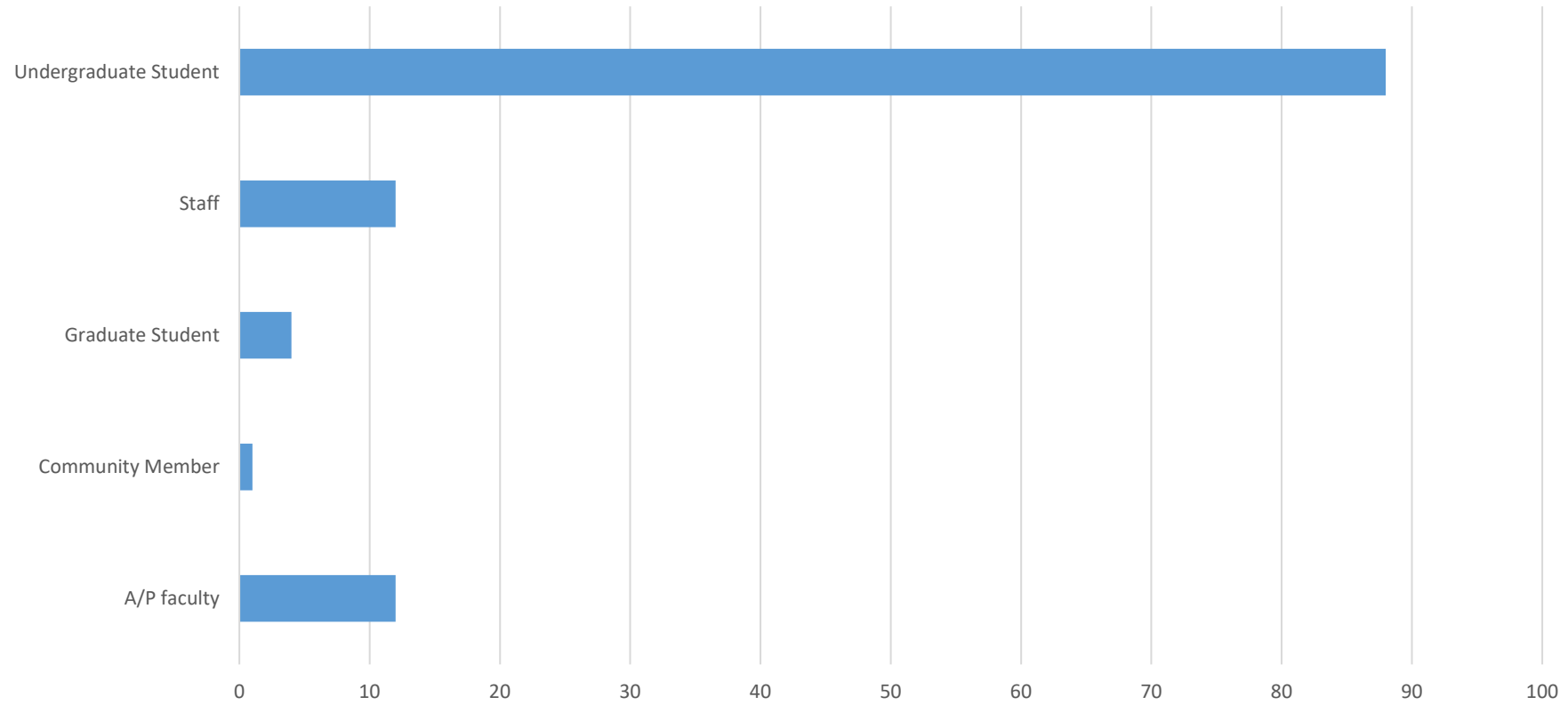
Thank you -
Questions

KROBERTO@VT.EDU

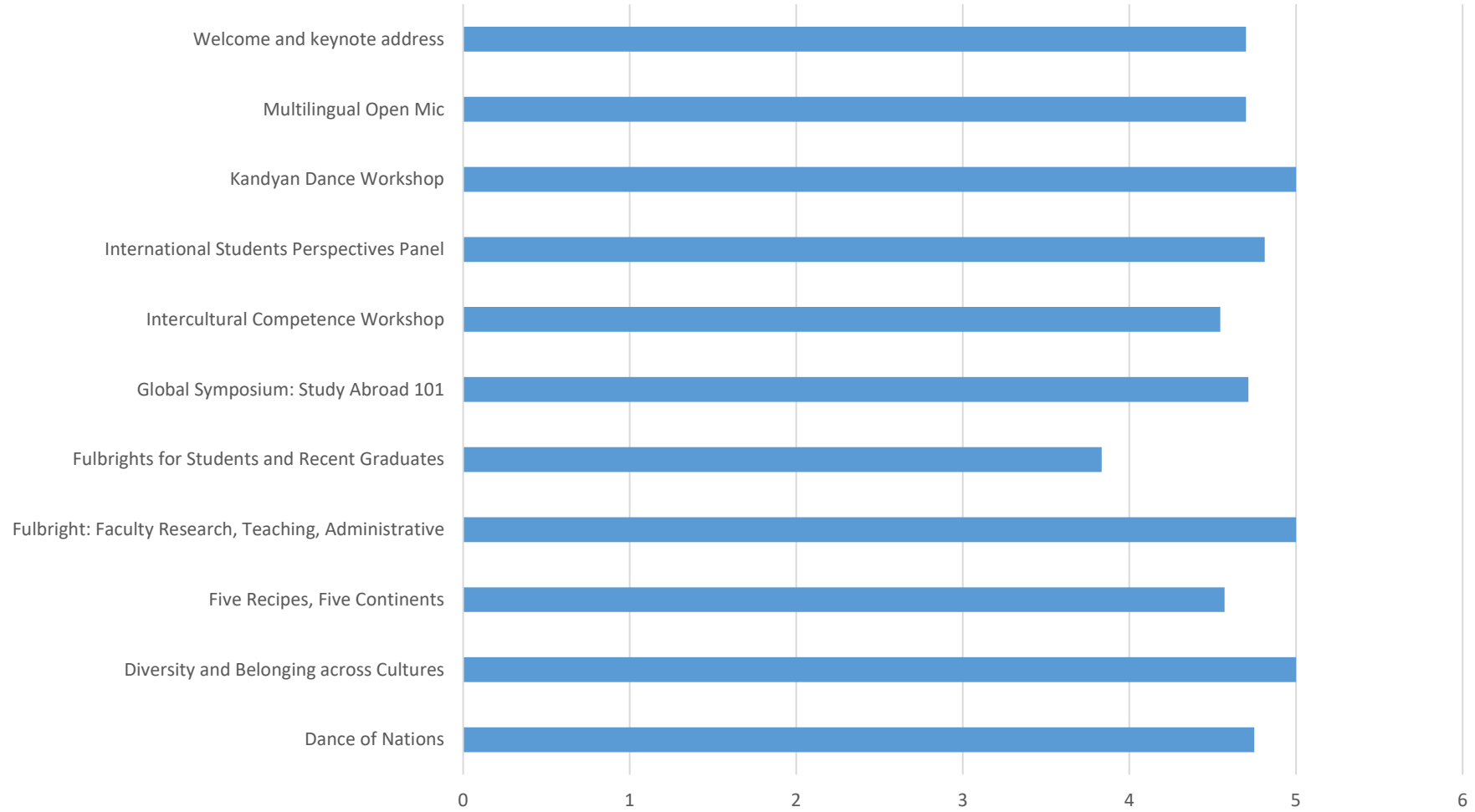
International Education Week 2022 Survey

UCIA Meeting, January 2023

Role at Virginia Tech



On a scale of 1-5 how successful was the program?



How did you hear about the event?

