

UCIA Meeting
Monday, February 13, 2017
10:30 a.m. – noon
International Affairs Offices, Conference Room A

Kathryn Albright, *Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, College of Architecture and Urban Studies*
Jacqueline Bixler, *Department Chair, Foreign Languages and Literatures*
Van Crowder, *Executive Director, Office of International Research, Education, and Development*
Svetlana Filiatreau, *Director of International Programs, Pamplin College of Business*
Rachel Fitzgerald, *Assistant Director, Global Education Office*
Monika Gibson, *Director of Student Services, Graduate School*
Stephanie Hart, *Director, Advising Center, College of Natural Resources and the Environment*
Elaine Humphrey, *Director, Rice Center for Leader Development, Corps of Cadets*
Ian Leuschner, *Director, International Support Services*
Gary Long, *Associate Dean for Curriculum and Instruction, College of Science*
Glenda Scales, *Associate Dean, Global Engagement and Chief Technology Officer, College of Engineering*
Debra Stoudt, *Associate Dean for Academic Policies and Procedures, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences*
Judy Taylor, *Office of the Provost, Staff Senate*
Thomas Thompson, *Associate Dean and Director of International Programs, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences*
Latanya Walker, *Director of Alumni Relations for Diversity, Inclusion, and Community Engagement*

Guests:

Andrea Brunais, *Communications Director, Outreach and International Affairs*

1. Welcome, introductions, and approval of January minutes

Ian Leuschner called the meeting to order and asked all participants to introduce themselves. A motion to accept the minutes of the January meeting was made by Monika Gibson, seconded by Elaine Humphrey, and approved unanimously.

2. Constituent reports

a. OIRED

Van Crowder announced that the office has made several new hires. Dana Cruikshank will be the director of communications and they are finalizing the hiring details for a web and graphic designer; they are now fully staffed. The office is pursuing several funding opportunities, including one in Cambodia through the Livestock Innovation Lab at the University of Florida. They are writing another Cambodia-based proposal on animal-to-human disease transmission in partnership with the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine and One Health. Each of these grants would be worth about \$1 million. The office is targeting projects in countries such as Cambodia, Senegal, and Tanzania where they already have a presence and would prefer to continue working. They were notified that they did not receive an award with the Horticulture Innovation Lab to work in Cambodia but it was nevertheless a positive learning experience to work on the proposal. The \$25 - \$30 million RFP for STEM teachers in Egypt is still viable. OIRED is collaborating with the Institute of International Education, which would serve as the prime; it is difficult for universities to make inroads if they do not have a presence in the country. OIRED personnel are organizing a scoping trip to prepare for the RFP.

b. Global Education Office

Rachel Fitzgerald announced that the GEO is also fully staffed now with the new advisor on board. Laura Castle will oversee presentations, advising, and the peer advisors. Recruitment for summer programs is ongoing, with about 239 students ready and another 184 pending various steps in the process. The office is striving to improve relationships with International Student Exchange Programs (ISEP), a consortium of 250 universities worldwide that can expand exchange opportunities for students. VT now has 15 students participating in programs through this company, which is a substantial increase from previous years. The Partnership Incentive Based Budget (PIBB) budget model is still being discussed; Theresa Johansson, Karl Markgraf, and Guru Ghosh met with Ken Smith, vice provost for resource management and institutional effectiveness, to voice their concerns, and Jackie Bixler met with Jack Finney, vice provost for faculty affairs. UCIA members are encouraged to share their perspectives and Glenda Scale and Svetlana Filiatreau volunteered to draft a letter to share the collective voice even though the UCIA is not part of the governance process.

c. International Support Services

Ian Leuschner reported that his office has been busy since President Trump issued the executive order banning travel from seven predominantly Muslim countries. A new executive order may be issued to challenge the ban in place on the existing one. A website has been created--<http://www.vt.edu/immigration.html>—and questions and concerns can be sent to vtimmigration@vt.edu so personnel can respond and update as needed. One of the biggest repercussions has been the suspension of the visa interview waiver program, which was implemented at the discretion of consulates. This will affect students from India and China because of the large number of students from those countries. Monika Gibson and David Clubb work to get documents sent to those students as quickly as possible but there are still inevitable delays. The visa waiver program is still in effect, allowing most citizens from some countries to travel to the US without a visa, but those individuals will have to apply for a visa if they have traveled to certain countries such as those affected by the travel ban. Monika Gibson expressed her appreciation for the work that the international offices have put into this effort.

Ian added that they are proceeding with the application for renovations to the Shandong University facilities, but there have been delays due to the Lunar New Year festivities. Once the architects and engineers return to work, the plans will go forward to the Ministry of Education for review and approval. They are beginning to recruit faculty to teach there for the Fall 2018 semester.

d. Graduate School

Monika Gibson announced that the Graduate School is bound by the Council of Graduate Schools to keep the deadline of April 15 for acceptance of assistantship offers. Early acceptance is fine.

3. Other items

- Andrea Brunais announced that the Steger Center is launching a new website soon. She will share the link with committee members and asked that if they notice any outdated information or broken links from the old site to kindly bring it to her attention.
- Thomas Thompson, the new Associate Dean and Director of International Programs at CALS, introduced himself to the group; this is a new full-time position as of November 1 and replaces Jerzy Nowak's part-time position.

There were no other items to discuss and the meeting was adjourned at 10:56 .M.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 13.