

UCIA Meeting
Monday, February 24, 2014
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
International Affairs Office, Meeting Room A

AGENDA

Don Back, *Director, Language and Culture Institute*
Lynda Bailey, *Assistant Registrar for Transfer*
Mike Bertelsen, *Director, OIRE*
Jackie Bixler, *Chair, Foreign Languages and Literatures*
David Brady, *Director, Export Control and Secure Research Compliance*
Rommelyn Conde, *Assistant Director for Strategic Partnerships and Public Relations, International Education*
Tracey Drowne, *Academic Advisor and Programs Coordinator, CAUS*
Shannon Dove, *Administrative and Program Specialist, Education Abroad*
Rachel Fitzgerald, *Assistant Director for Program Management, Education Abroad*
Sarah Gugercin, *Research Associate, Department of Horticulture*
Matt Hammond, *Scholarships and Financial Aid*
Michael Herndon, *Director of Summer and Winter Programs*
Reed Kennedy, *Director of International Programs, Pamplin College of Business*
Stephanie Lang, *Academic Advising Coordinator, CNRE*
Ian Leuschner, *Director, International Support Services*
Jennifer Nardine, *University Libraries*
Thomas Ollendick, *Professor of Psychology, College of Science*
Belinda Pauley, *SEVIS Compliance Officer, Cranwell International Center*
Bill Pruitt, *Assistant Director for Student Services, Education Abroad*
Miriam Rich, *Communications Director, OIRE*
Ginny Ritenour, *Alumni Relations*
Nicole Sanderlin, *Director of International Programs, College of Engineering*
Gerhardt Schurig, *International Programs Strategist, Outreach and International Affairs*
Ken Smith, *Associate Provost for Resource Management and Planning*
Debra Stoudt, *Associate Dean for Academic Policies and Procedures, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences*
Elankumaran Subbiah, *Associate Professor, Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine*
Danny White, *Director, Student-Athlete Affairs*

Guest:

Bart Boodee, FBI

1. Welcome, introductions, and approval January meeting minutes

Elankumaran Subbiah called the meeting to order and asked participants and guests to introduce themselves. A motion to approve minutes of the January meeting was made by Jackie Bixler, seconded by Lynda Bailey, and approved unanimously.

2. Digital thievery and international piracy

In response to a request from Dr. Subbiah to discuss the topic of digital thievery, David Brady invited Bart Boodee, the local FBI liaison, to attend the meeting and give a presentation. Mr. Boodee is assigned to the Roanoke office and spends a significant amount of time protecting the university's assets from

international piracy. Accordingly, the field office serves as a resource to all VT faculty, staff and students who travel and conduct international research and, along with the OERSC, is able to provide detailed information about the personnel with whom one may be working. While aware of the value of international experiences and exchanges, the FBI office also must highlight the fact that there are foreign intelligence services, criminal enterprises, and corporations that want to steal information, technology, and resources. The three greatest perpetrators are Russia, China, and Iran; they manage to collect information not only through their large forces of officers operating here but also when U.S. citizens travel abroad. OERSC will be sponsoring a conference on this subject and related security issues on April 15. Mr. Boodee stated that any international traveler should expect to be hacked and that there are no protections or rules overseas. He mentioned that Chinese officials have presented visitors with cell phones to use during their stay which actually served as tracking and recording devices. Emails with attachments, including visa application forms, may contain tracking cookies which can transmit information back. Mr. Boodee cited the story of Glenn Shriver, a Richmond resident and international relations major, who was recruited by the Chinese to enter the U.S. Foreign Service and become an informant. Mr. Boodee showed two video clips pertaining to these topics and commended the efforts of the OERSC, which is very highly rated nationwide for its work. David Brady reminded the group that the office has loaner laptops and cell phones which can be used for overseas travel to mitigate the risk of compromise.

3. Constituent updates

a. International Education Policy committee

Ian Leuschner reported that the committee had been presented with a draft copy of findings and recommendations of the Presidential Memorandum 281 Task Force for review and discussion. The document is still under development at this time Ian shared the findings and recommendations with the UCIA. Work will continue on these concerns during the coming months. Ian also reported that the committee had had two documents (the voluntary health form and the credit policy) presented to the COIA to be moved forward in the governance process. The credit policy was approved but there was not a quorum present to approve the health waiver so the matter is being voted on electronically. Since this is a voluntary form it will not be added to the checklist, but information regarding the procedure will be sent out through the Education Abroad newsletter. All responses will be forwarded to the Office of Students with Disabilities for review and relevant information will then be shared with program leaders. This likely will not be ready for the summer semester.

b. Education Abroad

The Education Abroad team attended the meeting to introduce themselves and share their areas of expertise. Bill Pruitt, Assistant Director for Student Services, deals with financial aid and scholarships, to include Boren and Gilman scholarships. His advising region is Asia and Australia and he is also responsible for hiring and training the cadre of peer advisors. Bill noted that Rebecca Johnson, the new part-time advisor, was unable to attend the meeting. Prior to her arrival the advising was performed by the peer advisors and other office personnel. Additionally, Rebecca has assumed responsibility for classroom outreach sessions. Rachel Fitzgerald is the assistant director for program management, which encompasses tracking and enrollment of the +1200 participants per year, 76% of which attend faculty-led programs. She assists in advising the faculty leaders and creating timelines and program assessment guidelines. Rachel's advising areas are North, Central, and South America. She serves as a liaison for CLAHS and the College of Science, and organizes the events such as the brown bag lunches and risk management trainings. Currently Rachel is working on a revision of the faculty leader handbook. Rommelyn Conde is responsible for all communications and marketing, including events such as the expo, the fair, and the photo contest. She serves as the gatekeeper for the exchange programs which

includes tracking balances with partner institutions. Rommelyn publishes the monthly newsletter and advises for the region of Central and Eastern Europe, which includes the strategic partner institution Technical University of Darmstadt. Shannon Dove has been in the office for thirteen years and performs a variety of administrative duties, including coding, billing, and administration of the mini-grants program.

Rommelyn announced that the newsletter would be sent later this week, and will include information about the revised inbound process with the application and nomination, as well as the exchange fact sheet. Daniel Cordova will present on 'Destination Latin America' at this month's brown bag lunch on Friday, February 28. The will be details on the upcoming Title IX training and the pre-departure orientation in the newsletter as well. Anyone wishing to be added to the listserv should contact Rommelyn. (rconde@vt.edu)

c. OIRED

Mike Bertelsen announced that Larry Vaughan will be replacing Patrick Guilbaud as chief of party for the Senegal ERA program. The office recently received the RFA for USAID's Sustainable Intensification Feed the Future Lab, which is the follow-up to the Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resources Management (SANREM) program currently administered by OIRED. The new program will range from \$25 - \$50 million including associate awards and will focus on West, South, and East Africa and Asia. The office is expecting to soon receive a similar RFA for the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program.

d. Language and Culture Institute

Don Back reported that LCI personnel getting ready to return to Kurdistan to kick off the distance learning course on education leadership and curriculum development. The participants are coming from three different universities and include department heads, high-level administrators, and presidents. In late summer a group of 22 of these officials will travel to Blacksburg for a capstone experience. The Institute is also preparing for the arrival of the Humphrey Fellows on March 28, a nine-month Department of State program for international mid-level professionals. Their program begins with a 20-week long academic and intercultural training session at the LCI. Don thanked all the departments who assist them with this annual initiative and acknowledged the participation of several council members who have served as conversation partners for the Fellows. Fellows are chosen by the Department of State and generally come from non-traditional countries such as Burma; the selection process is still ongoing but there will be a total of 12 in this year's cohort. The Institute will also be hosting a group of 30 Fulbright scholars who are undergoing academic preparation for graduate school.

e. Cranwell International Center

Belinda Pauley announced that the undergraduate admissions office accepted 1000 new international students. Immigration documents are being mailed out with those letters of acceptance, with a completion date of March 1. The Center is purchasing tax software to assist in filing tax returns for all F & J visa holders, including students, scholars, and their family members. The spring social, 'Love Around the World,' will take place in the Old Dominion Ballroom on Friday, February 28, rescheduled from its original date of February 14. The Center will move to Harper Hall on May 19.

f. OESRC

David Brady reminded the group that distance learning courses are scrutinized by the Department of the Treasury and IP addresses from Sudan, Iran, and Cuba are being blocked. Should any new courses be offered, he asked that he be informed, noting that they would have to be reviewed with Legal Counsel as well.

g. International Support Services

Ian Leuschner reported that the office will be moving along with Guru Ghosh's office to the gateway center during the week of March 10. The search committee has come to a decision regarding the associate director position and is preparing an offer for the candidate.

i. Media updates

Miriam Rich announced that USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah will visit one of the IPM Innovation Lab project sites in Nepal on February 25. This is great publicity for the program.

Miriam then provided Twitter version updates of recent media work as follows:

VT program combats pest, saves livelihoods of papaya growers in India, benefit estimated to be \$1.34 billion over 5 years, published in respected journal.

(<http://www.vtnews.vt.edu/articles/2014/01/012214-outreach-oiredindiasaveddollars.html>)

Story on main page of VT website features work of gender advocate Maria Elisa Christie – gender matters.

(<http://www.vt.edu/spotlight/impact/2014-02-03-christie/gender.html>)

Entire issue of March newsletter Outbursts features work of gender specialist Maria Elisa Christie – youth inspired to study gender.

Video documents VT program combating destruction of tomato leafminer pest in Ethiopia; tomato farmers rejoice.

(<http://www.vtnews.vt.edu/articles/2014/02/020614-outreach-ethiopia.html>)

VT rises to #22 among large schools in Peace Corps' ranking of top volunteer-producing colleges. 39 alumni serve worldwide.

(<http://www.vtnews.vt.edu/articles/2014/02/021214-outreach-oiredpeacecorps.html>)

Congressman Griffith visits OIRED, learns about Tech's international work. "I get it," he says, "but how do I change public perception in 10-second soundbite?"

(Miriam elaborated on this last item; public perception is that 20% of the U.S. budget goes towards foreign aid but it is really less than 1%. Constituents support funding for Israel and South Sudan for religious reasons and the issue of freedom is their top priority.)

4. Per-credit tuition models

Michael Herndon from the Office of Summer Programs attended to discuss the various tuition models. The winter programs are a revenue-sharing model whereas summer programs are based on a performance model. The per-credit tuition model was implemented this winter for both in- and out-of-state students. 70% of the revenue generated went immediately to the departments, some of which received more than \$100,000. Summer funding is based on a 3-year average performance model and is not immediately available. A low-interest Brookings loan is available for students to help with expenses. Over 1400 students registered for winter programs including 115 for study abroad programs. Jackie Bixler commented that there is a need to distinguish between on and off campus programs as well as pay. There is currently no incentive to organize large groups for summer travel, but if that same group were taken in the winter they would generate revenue. At the moment there is no across-the-board policy but groups can work with Jack Finney's office (associate provost for faculty affairs) on this issue.

Dr. Herndon encouraged council members to contact him with their concerns. Dr. Subbiah invited him to attend the meetings on a regular basis.

5. Update on Latin America programs

Gerhardt Schurig reported that he is stepping into a new role as an international strategist with the goal of assisting Virginia Tech in benefiting from international programs ranging from increased student mobility to expanded research opportunities that provide greater visibility. Dr. Schurig will be working with a variety of strategies to bring the university to a different level regarding its international profile, to include a special focus on Latin America. Among the existing relationships that can be maintained are those with the Universidad Austral in Valdivia, Chile and the Universidad de San Francisco-Quito, a private university in Ecuador. These institutions offer different programs and activities so there is no overlap. There are many advantages to consider in Costa Rica and at some point it is hoped to resume work with Mexico. Dr. Schurig elaborated on the relationship with Chile and the reasons to consider continuing these programs, which began as a partnership/exchange program within Veterinary Medicine and experienced considerable growth before it was re-established as a center in 2009. The core goal was provide an opportunity for faculty to work together in unique conditions. Currently Austral pays for the first three years of a student's program with Virginia Tech paying for the final year, a low-risk investment strategy that creates a sense of partiality towards Virginia Tech and serves as a good model to increase the university's influence. This also assists in identifying students who will be good PhD candidates, maximizes use of scholarships and Chilean funding sources, and creates future faculty members who are highly hireable. The Center is a crucial point for coordination and continuity not only for these programs and processing student and faculty applications but also for activities such as organizing symposiums. Dr. Schurig reported that overall the model worked well and stressed the need for good partners. One of the plans for the future will involve partnering with the Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science (ICTAS) as a means of managing research opportunities in Patagonia. Dr. Schurig concluded his report by commenting that there is uniqueness in each region that should be considered in creating partnerships and programs throughout the area.

6. Additional items

- Debra Stoudt requested an update on the search for a new director for the Education Abroad office.

7. Schedule for meetings for 2013 – 2014 academic year

March 31, 2014

April 28, 2014

May

no meeting