

University Committee on International Affairs (UCIA)
Minutes
February 24, 2020, 10:30 AM
526 Prices Fork Road Blacksburg, Room 121 A

Attendance:

Members: Don Back, Latanya Walker, Svetlana Filiatreau, Ian Leuschner, Debra Stoudt, Bob Bodnar, Dave Trinkle, Don Hempson, Theresa Johansson, April Raphiou, Jenene Belcher, Nicole Sanderlin, Gene Ball, Keith Goyne

UCIA Agenda Items for the February 24, 2020 meeting

1. Introductions
Svetlana gave a general welcome to all. Individual introductions were made.
2. Brief unit updates from around the table regarding international activities
 - a. Theresa Johansson:
 - i. GEO is creating an Early Semester Abroad program for freshmen and sophomore students.
 - ii. GEO will be hiring a full time fiscal technician. This position will enable GEO to better serve its constituents across the university.
 - iii. VT has been awarded the US Department of Education grant to host a workshop on critical languages and Gillman scholarship programs. The workshop will take place in July 2020.
 - b. Don Back:
 - i. LCI hosted a successful visit of the educational attaché from the Embassy of Malaysia. LCI is working with Dr. Ralph Mueller to expand to Asia (including Malaysia) the efforts on establishing a lab in Brunei. LCI is also working with Malaysian government scholarship program to attract students to VT.
 - ii. LCI continues to work on EXPO 2020 with VT alumni in Middle East on hosting a number of events during EXPO 2020.
 - c. Svetlana:
 - i. Pamplin hoped to host a winter program (in partnership with CPE) for a group of Moscow State University undergraduate students. However, the group has not been able to secure visa appointments. The program has been moved to late April, but securing visa appointments at the US Embassy in Moscow remains a problem.
 - d. Don Hempson:
 - i. Outreach and International Affairs and the Pamplin College of Business are in the early stages of developing an integrated (3+1+1) partnership with India's Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS) in Mumbai, a Business and Technology focused institution. NMIMS delegation visited VT on

Feb 17-19 to engage in curricular mapping and develop a business plan that will be acceptable to both institutions.

ii. Don gave an update about other upcoming delegations.

3. University DataCommons project and dashboard for VT data on global engagement.

Nicole Sanderlin provided a brief summary of the work conducted by the UCIA's Global Data Working Group. She then introduced Abhay Joshi, Director for Academic Data Analysis and Visualization. Abhay Joshi shared with UCIA members details of the DataCommons project. He provided examples of how the international education dashboard that would be created within the project will enable VT international education community to track data on the eight (*) indicators identified by the Global Data working group.

4. Alumni Awards for Alumni Excellence (nomination packets are due March 2)

- a. Latanya Walker shared with UCIA the steps the subcommittee has taken to promote the awards and the process it would follow to complete selection of this year's awardees. UCIA members will re-circulate the announcement to ensure a good pool of qualified nominations.

5. International Education Conferences 2020 (AIEA, APAIE, NAFSA, Forum, WISE, APLU).

Members discussed the importance of exchanging information on the relevant conferences and any VT colleagues planning to participate in such professional events. Svetlana Filiatreau has volunteered to create a shared drive, where such exchange of information between UCIA members can take place.

6. VT visibility: external international education awards and VT nomination process.

Svetlana Filiatreau discussed the importance of utilizing external awards for raising VT's national and international visibility. Members listed a number of such possible awards and agreed that it would be important to establish an internal nomination process. Svetlana has volunteered to create a shared folder, where members can share information about the awards VT could consider submitting nominations and/ or applications.

Upcoming meetings:

March 23, 2020

April 27, 2020

May 25, 2020

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m..

Minutes prepared by Svetlana Filiatreau and Latanya Walker