

University Committee on International Affairs (UCIA)
February 26, 2024
526 Princes Fork Road/Zoom
Minutes

Attendance: Jennifer Nardine (Presiding), Tom Archibald, Amanda Broome, Robert Emmett, Rachel Fitzgerald, Guru Ghosh, Kathy Hager, Khaled Hassouna, Farida Jalalzai, Theresa Johansson, Kimberly Rhodes, Jeffrey Van Doren

Zoom Attendance: Brian Bond, Jennifer Clevenger, Charles Lowery, Elsie Paredes, Cassidy Rist, Nicole Sanderlin, Lauren Surface, John Talerico, Judy Taylor, Jen Tkacz, Janell Watson

Jennifer Nardine welcomed the group and called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. Visual attendance was taken; quorum was established.

1. **Agenda Approval:** Jennifer N. asked for a motion to approve the Agenda; motion was made; there were no edits and no opposition to the Agenda as presented; the Agenda was approved.
2. **Announcement of Approval of Minutes, January 22, 2024:** The minutes from the January 22, 2024 meeting had been previously distributed electronically, and were approved electronically (**ATTACHMENT A**).
3. **Alumni Awards for International Education, Outreach and Research:** Tom Archibald announced that the committee for the Alumni Awards for International Education, Outreach and Research reviewed the three applications that were submitted for the Research award; there were no applications specifically submitted for the Education and the Outreach awards. The question was raised if one of the applications submitted for the Research Award, which also had an Outreach component, could be a fit for the Outreach Award. The response was as long as all committee members are in agreement, it would be appropriate to award as described.
4. **Updates:**
 - a. **International Education Week:** Robert Emmett discussed the need to begin planning for International Education Week to include selection of volunteers as well as a Chair. Elsie Paredes, Lauren Surface, Amanda Broome, Jeff Van Doren, Farida Jalalzai, Jennifer Nardine and Charles Lowery volunteered to assist in the planning. November dates will need to be set.
 - b. **Internationalization at Home Working Group Update:** Rachel Fitzgerald discussed the continued work on the global learning badge and work on the Canvas site. Theresa Johansson announced the ending timeline of the Global Learning Grant; and discussed the COIL leadership institute in Florida late spring.
 - c. **Website:** Amanda Broome reported her connection with an International Working group including stakeholders from the Controller's Office, Research Compliance and Safety and the development of a global website. Discussions included engaging others across campus to engage in the planning and collaboration of multiple websites.
 - d. **Global Newsletter:** Amanda announced that the global newsletter should be going out shortly. All members on UCIA have been subscribed. As a reminder, the email address for articles is globalnews@vt.edu.
5. **Member Announcements/Comments:** The call for announcements/comments was made. Guru Ghosh spoke about getting Dean and VP support for International Education Week and to build on

the tripartite mission of education/learning, discovery/research and engagement/outreach. Guru also spoke about the Global Engagement Working Group and formation of Global Distinction. He thanked Tom Archibald, Juan Espinoza and Theresa Johansson for their work on the presentation to the Academic Affairs Council which highlighted Global Strategy in the context of mission, vision, research, education and international student enrollment; as well as recognized Janell Watson and her colleagues on the contribution of information for the Global Engagement Working Group white paper. The Global Engagement Working Group identified gaps and provided suggestions regarding comprehensive education using the American Council on Education (ACE) as a guideline. The draft report is with the Provost. The formation of the Global Distinction group is to achieve distinction for centers and serve as beacons to become a top Global 100 University. Guru also announced that areas across campus will need to give back resources to the University for reinvestments.

Farida announced a Workshop Day-Empowering Voices with the Embassy of Switzerland on March 16, 2024 (**ATTACHMENT B**). The seminar is open to the public, in which participants need to register; the workshop and networking is not open to the public.

International Student Career Week is this week and will have hybrid sessions, some of which are located in the library (https://international.vt.edu/student_experience/international-student-career-week.html).

Jeff Van Doren highlighted the progress his department, Global Strategic Services (GSS), has made with improving processes. The H-1B process is set to go live today; there is a new electronic posting for labor conditions to make it easier for departments to post with a QR code to be scanned as opposed to a physical posting; the new process for GSS to pay fees through P-cards which will expedite processing time used for check issuance and departments will process payments electronically to GSS; changes to the J-1 process; and systems updates for Sunapsis where department heads can approve a process.

Discussions also included the VT-TANUVAS partnership with the Vet School; including the need for additional faculty to take on the partnership where previous faculty are no longer at Virginia Tech.

6. **Announcement of Next Meeting:** A reminder that the next meeting will be held on **Monday, March 25, 2024, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. (Blacksburg Time)/3:00 p.m. (Swiss Time)**. **PLEASE NOTE:** This meeting will be both an in-person and Zoom (hybrid) meeting; for those that are local, please join us at 526 Prices Fork Road, Large Conference Room.
7. **Adjournment:** There being no further business and no objections, a motion to adjourn was made; seconded; all were in favor the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

2023-2024 Meeting Dates: *All meetings will take place from 10:00-11:00 a.m. (Blacksburg Time)/4:00-5:00 p.m. (Swiss Time). Those members unable to attend are encouraged to send a proxy/alternate to the meeting.*

- March 25, 2024 (*3:00-4:00 p.m. Switzerland)
- April 22, 2024
- **NO MAY MEETING**

Respectfully submitted

Kimberly Rhodes, Recording Secretary

University Committee on International Affairs (UCIA)
January 22, 2024
526 Prices Fork Road/Zoom
Minutes

Attendance: Jennifer Nardine (Presiding), Tom Archibald, Amanda Broome, Jennifer Clevenger, Rachel Fitzgerald, Kathy Hager, Khaled Hassouna, Farida Jalalzai, Theresa Johansson, Elsie Paredes, Kimberly Rhodes, Jeffrey Van Doren

Zoom Attendance: Brian Bond, Christi Lineberry, Charles Lowery, Kim McKinnie, Mallory Miller, Lauren Oliver, Cassidy Rist, Nicole Sanderlin, Sara Steinert Borella, Lauren Surface, Judy Taylor, Tom Thompson, Jen Tkacz, Janell Watson

Jennifer Nardine welcomed the group and called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. Visual attendance was taken; quorum was established.

1. **Agenda Approval:** Jennifer N. asked for a motion to approve the Agenda; motion was made and seconded; there were no edits and no opposition to the Agenda as presented; the Agenda was approved.
2. **Announcement of Approval of Minutes, November 27, 2023:** The minutes from the November 27, 2023 meeting had been previously distributed electronically, and were approved electronically (**ATTACHMENT A**).
3. **Alumni Awards for International Education, Outreach and Research:** Tom Archibald announced that the deadline for the Alumni Awards for International Education, Outreach and Research is 4:00 p.m. on January 31, 2024; and that there have been numerous announcements in the E-Daily News highlighting the submission of award packets. He asked that members continue to spread the word.
4. **Updates:**
 - a. **Internationalization at Home Working Group Update**
Rachel Fitzgerald announced that information outlining the global badge was going out to members for review and would like feedback by February 15th. The committee has not yet met this semester, but an update will be coming once the committee has met.
 - b. **Global Central Website:** Amanda Broome reported for Rich Mathieson regarding the website. The website has been approved; and is being created. Designs are to be proposed to UCIA for feedback.
 - c. **Global Newsletter:** Amanda announced that the global newsletter is almost ready and approvals need to be obtained. There will be a select group to review prior to launch, and the group will be notified this week. As a reminder, the email address for articles is globalnews@vt.edu.
5. **Member Announcements/Comments:** The call for announcements/comments was made.

Theresa Johansson announced that CETL, TLOS and GEO are moving toward collaborating with Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) Leadership Institute this semester. **Global Learning in the Classroom: Strategies and Support:** *Join the Global Education Office and the Center for Excellence for Teaching and Learning to learn more about developing undergraduate students' awareness of and engagement with global topics as well as fostering intercultural understanding in your classroom. Workshop facilitators and faculty panelists will share strategies and examples of course modifications, ranging from minor to comprehensive. Participants will also hear about resources and support, including Global Learning Grant and the Pathway to Study Abroad Grant programs, for incorporating global learning into your courses. Thursday, February 1, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.;* Tiffany Shoop, CETL; Theresa Johansson, GEO; Rachel Fitzgerald, GEO; **Graduate Life Center, TLOS Classroom;**
Registration Link: <https://profdev.tlos.vt.edu/browse/teachingandlearning/courses/cetl93-020124>.

Theresa also announced an award of \$60,000 to be used this semester for programs with a focus on new technology; and creation of meaningful, cultural experiences for those unable to leave campus. The focus is on folks allowing accessibility and social equity. A small portion can be used for scholarships; students will work with international partners in parallel and work on projects virtually.

Farida Jalalzai announced that last semester there were three (3) Israel/Palestine events held on campus. There will be another event, Pathways to Peace in the Israel-Palestine Conflict to be held on January 31st; at 5:00 p.m.; The website will have more information, and is open to those with a Virginia Tech email address only: <https://events.liberalarts.vt.edu/event/pathways-to-peace-in-the-israel-palestine-conflict/>.

Farida also announced the Living and Learning Abroad Photo Exhibit which will be held on February 7th at 5:00 p.m.; in Newman Library, second floor; <https://events.liberalarts.vt.edu/event/living-and-learning-abroad-photo-exhibit/>. This event, sponsored by CLAHS, University Libraries and the Global Education Office, with feature photos by participants that have traveled abroad sharing their experiences.

Jennifer Clevenger announced that Pamplin College of Business received a grant for the German Fulbright Institute.

Kimberly Rhodes read a summary regarding the Global Strategy Working group and Report, being prepared by Outreach and International Affairs. The document is a white paper for the President and Provost to showcase gaps in the University around funding, organizational structure, efficiencies and investments that will be needed to make Virginia Tech a University of Global relevance. The white paper will reflect suggested actionable items for the University to take. Data has been collected from the Foreign Language department, as well as other departments, centers, programs, institutes and discussions with University Students, Faculty, Staff and Governance Systems over the past year and a half.

The University has formed a Steering Committee on Global Distinction to advance, to the next level and to represent growth and metrics for aspirational peers. There has been a committee formed, in which Guru Ghosh is a member of, and updates will come to UCIA as appropriate. Jennifer N. asked if the white paper would be made public, Kimberly R. indicated the paper would go to the President and Provost and they would determine next steps.

Mallory Miller discussed that there will be a retreat January 29th with members to report back to constituents. The committee will develop short term goals as well as long-term goals; as well as putting forth the two (2) priorities of the President forth for the critical needs budget request: VT Advantage and VT Global Distinction.

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7. Adjournment: There being no further business and no objections, a motion to adjourn was made; seconded; all were in favor the meeting adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

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Respectfully submitted

Kimberly Rhodes, Recording Secretary

WORKSHOP DAY - EMPOWERING VOICES WITH THE EMBASSY OF SWITZERLAND - MARCH 16, 2024

JOIN US FOR A WORKSHOP DAY ON CIVIC
ENGAGEMENT AND WOMEN IN POLITICS

TIME: 10:00AM-3:00PM

LOCATION: NEWMAN LIBRARY

Program



10-11AM - Newman Library 101S

Seminar: Challenges in Achieving Gender Parity in Politics in Switzerland and the U.S. This seminar is open to the public.



For the lecture, scan this QR code to register.



12-2:00PM - Newman Library 207A

Civic Engagement Workshop*:

Turning passion into leadership.



For the workshop, scan this QR code to register (by March 10).



2:00-3:00PM - Newman Library 101S

Speed Networking: Networking with students and women leaders from the public and private sectors.

For the networking, register & participate in one of the events above.



LIBERAL ARTS AND HUMAN SCIENCES
POLITICAL SCIENCE
VIRGINIA TECH



COLLEGE OF
LIBERAL ARTS AND
HUMAN SCIENCES
VIRGINIA TECH



WOMEN'S CENTER
VIRGINIA TECH

*Workshop participants will receive a certification.

This program is offered by the Embassy of Switzerland, in partnership with the Political Science Department, the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, the Center for European and Transatlantic Studies, and the Women's Center at Virginia Tech. The workshop is facilitated by the nonprofit organization Running Start.