

University Committee on International Affairs (UCIA)
February 27, 2023
All Zoom Meeting
Minutes

Attendance: Farida Jalalzai (presiding), Tom Archibald, Don Back, Brian Bond, Amanda Broome, Jennifer Clevenger, Juan Espinoza, Kathy Hager, Khaled Hassouna, Don Hempson, Iuliia Hoban, Theresa Johansson, Rich Mathieson, Jamie McGrath, 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

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, January 23, 2023:** The minutes from the January 23, 2023 meeting had been previously distributed electronically, with the call for edits and approval. The minutes were approved electronically (**see attached**).
4. **International Activities Discussion:**
 - a. **International Education Week Committee Proposal:** At the January 23 UCIA meeting, a proposal from David Clubb was made asking for UCIA to assist in the planning of the annual event, International Education Week (IEW). A formal proposal was developed; and sent out to members electronically to be discussed. Discussion included the overall capacity that faculty and staff have across the University to take on the planning of IEW. Discussion also included calling on other faculty and staff across the University that may not be members of UCIA. Theresa Johansson indicated that the Global Education Office (GEO) would be involved in the planning of this event. Iuliia Hoban stated that the hope is to involve more members of colleges and faculty. Some members raised the suggestion that they would feel more comfortable if the proposal did not indicate that UCIA would have sole responsibility of IEW, but have close coordination with Cranwell and GEO and perhaps involve more Associate Deans within the University Colleges. Discussion included working with other departments across campus that might have the depth of resources. The next steps are to update the proposal and get it out to members for electronic voting.
 - b. **Global at Home Central Website:** Theresa spoke previously about a central website to include Virginia Tech's global activities. Discussion included who will build the website; who will maintain the website and where will it reside. Some members indicated they had discussions with their colleagues and some received positive feedback in knowing what other colleagues across the University are participating in. Some of the core questions need to be explored further; with both internal and external focuses and how the database would work. Some members were very interested in this project; and others indicated that this project has been previously discussed as well as other websites implemented. Some members indicated that it is hard to get faculty members to share the level of detail that would be helpful for the project. Other members indicated if the information gathered could include Country; Partner Institution/Name; and faculty name that would be enough information for users to contact the faculty member.

Rich Mathieson spoke about creating an International Newsletter to include announcements and employment opportunities. Mallory Miller indicated next month she would be presenting on global rankings and sustainable development goals to also include activity metrics; and a dashboard/rankings page. The suggestion was made to keep this topic on the agenda to continue discussions.

- c. **University Global Strategy Working Group:** Don Hempson spoke about the University Global Strategy Working Group. The working group was established at the request of President Sands and Provost Clarke to develop a white paper to move forward with the University Global Strategy. Members of the working group include Tom Archibald, Juan Espinoza, Guru Ghosh (co-chair), Don Hempson, Dan Sui (co-chair), Aimée Surprenant, John Torget and Robert Weiss. The white paper will be developed to outline the University Global Strategic Plan; to include the UN Sustainable Development Goals; what the University priorities are; and what global research and scholarship should look like as well as global faculty development. Global research; globalizing the curriculum; global experience; global experiential learning; global strategic service; student advising; engagement and outreach are some of the aspects to be included in the strategic plan. Currently there are various offices across the University that the working group is talking with to include Department Heads; Council of College Deans; Academic Affairs Council; Northern Virginia Steering Committee; Beyond Boundaries; Research Division; International Undergraduate and Graduate groups associated with Cranwell; the Commission on Outreach and International Affairs and UCIA. The request from UCIA as well as other groups is to give consideration of what can drive and elevate strategic themes for a University Strategic Plan. Any questions, comments and/or feedback can be sent directly to Don Hempson. We will keep this topic on the Agenda for the next UCIA meeting.

5. Updates

- a. Working Group updates: In the interest of time, working group updates are deferred to March.
- b. Alumni Awards for International Education, Outreach and Research: Jennifer Nardine indicated the selection committee has completed the process; announced the winners-indicated that the members keep the winners confidential. The notification letters have been signed and sent out; the committee thanked Kim Rhodes for her support of the awards process.

6. **Member Announcements/Comments:** The call for announcements/comments was made. Don Hempson announced that International Support Services was currently facing resource constraints and asked for patience while the department works through restructuring to expand services and enhancements to processes. If members could communicate back to their units of the current developments. Theresa confirmed full enrollment of the July workshop for Study Abroad. Iuliia spoke about the Migrant and Displacement Studies will be selecting a displaced scholar from Ukraine to come to campus fall of 2024.

7. **Announcement of Next Meeting:** A reminder that the next meeting will be held on **Monday, March 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.**

8. **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.*

- March 27, 2023
- April 24, 2023
- **NO MAY MEETING**

Respectfully submitted
Kimberly Rhodes, Recording Secretary

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

ATTACHMENT A

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.

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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