

UCIA Meeting
Monday, February 29, 2016
1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
International Affairs Offices, Conference Room A

Present:

Jackie Bixler, Chair, *Foreign Languages and Literatures*
David Clubb, *Director, Cranwell International Center*
Van Crowder, *Director, Office of International Research, Education, and Development*
Guru Ghosh, *Vice President for Outreach and International Affairs*
Monika Gibson, *Director of Student Services, Graduate School*
Sonia Hirt, *Associate Dean, College of Architecture and Urban Studies*
Theresa Johansson, *Director, Global Education Office*
Reed Kennedy, *Director of International Programs, Pamplin College of Business*
Stephanie Lang, *Director of Academic Programs, College of Natural Resources and the Environment*
Vicki Langford, *Registrar's Office*
Karl Markgraf, *Associate Vice President for International Affairs*
Steve Milley, *Assistant Director for International Affairs, Office of the Registrar*
Susan Neu, *Assistant Director for Special Programs, Language and Culture Institute*
Jerzy Nowak, *International Programs, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences*
Diane Roberson, *Financial Aid Advisor, University Scholarships and Financial Aid*
Jesse Thomas, *Financial Aid Advisor, University Scholarships and Financial Aid*
Nicole Sanderlin, *Director of International Programs, College of Engineering*
Gerhardt Schurig, *VMRCVM and International Programs Strategist, OIA*
Debra Stoudt, *Associate Dean for Academic Policies and Procedures, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences*
Eric Vance, *Faculty Senate; Assistant Research Professor and Director of LISA (Laboratory for Interdisciplinary Statistical Analysis)*
Larry Vaughan, *Office of International Research, Education, and Development (OIRE)*
Latanya Walker, *Director of Alumni Relations for Diversity, Inclusion, and Community Engagement*
Samantha Winn, *University Libraries*

Guests:

Andrea Brunais, *Communications Director, Outreach and International Affairs*
Kate Preston Keeney, *Project Director, Office of the Senior Fellow for Resource Development*
Olusanya Olubusoye, *University of Ibadan, Nigeria*

1. Welcome, introductions, and approval of January minutes

Chair Nicole Sanderlin called the meeting to order and asked participants to introduce themselves. A motion to accept the minutes of the January meet was made by Karl Markgraf and seconded by Jackie Bixler.

2. Beyond Boundaries

Kate Preston Keeney and Van Crowder led a presentation on this initiative which seeks to envision the Virginia Tech of the future, specifically in the year 2047 for its 175th anniversary, as a “Global Land Grant University.” Adapting an intentional global outlook is a natural fit for Virginia Tech, since land grant universities have long sought to put practical knowledge in the hands of the people while challenging the perception of higher education as the privilege of the elite. Additionally, much of the international work being done, such as LISA 2020 and OIRE’s USAID-funded projects, already meet this criteria. One notable point made is that

technology not be used not as a driver but rather a leveraged to maintain a human-centered approach. The project aims to create “VT-shaped students”; that is, students with depth of knowledge, broad interdisciplinary experience, and purpose-driven engagement. Retired vice president for University Relations Larry Hinker is assisting with the project. Council members stressed the importance of getting feedback and input from international partners as well since they have different perspectives on these matters. Information will be presented to the Board of Visitors in March, and a release to the greater community in April.

3. Constituent reports

a. Graduate School

Monika Gibson reported that advertisement has closed for the immigration advisor position in the National Capital Region and the search committee is moving forward with interviews next week. Immigration advisor Tina Lapel is working on the Open Doors report for the Institute for International Education to submit by the next week’s deadline.

b. OIRED

Van Crowder reported that they are still waiting for notification of the award for a project proposal in Ghana. They are also hoping that the work in Senegal can be extended through the InnovATE project.

c. Cranwell International Center

David Clubb announced that immigration and support services specialist Ella Connolly will be leaving, so Cranwell will also be conducting searches. They will be sponsoring an International Student Achievement ceremony on Wednesday, May 11 from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. with a reception to follow. Cranwell is initiating partnership opportunities with the Corps of Cadets and the Rice Center for Leader Development as well as VT Engage, and is implementing an international student speakers’ bureau concept called “International VOICES: Valuable Opportunities for International Community Engagement and Service.”

David added that he has worked through the issues with the batch software and now have approval to move forward with that; he will be working with Procurement to purchase the software and anticipates it will be in place by Spring 2017. He also remarked that Virginia Tech’s Office of Human Resources now has a recruiter, Jeff Cumberland, who can assist with personnel searches.

d. Language and Culture Institute

Susan Neu announced that this year’s cohort of Humphrey Fellows are arriving March 26, with the Mandela Fellows arriving on June 16. The LCI is looking for peer collaborators for the Mandela Fellows, specifically mentors in their own age range (25 – 35). Monika Gibson offered to assist with this. These participants have been identified as leaders and future heads of state. Karl Markgraf added that he would also like to meet with them.

e. Global Education Office

Theresa Johansson reported that the Global Travel Oversight Committee (GTOC) has made significant progress towards revising and standardizing university policies related to international travel. Hokie Sentinel, the info-gathering tool, has been approved and should hopefully roll out in March. Theresa added that overall study abroad numbers are down; since participation in exchange programs are relatively strong, the decrease appears to be in faculty-led programs. An offer has been made to a candidate for the strategic partnerships and affiliations assistant director. Theresa concluded by stating that assistant director for public relations Rommelyn Conde will be on maternity leave; all Fulbright notifications should be forwarded to Betty Watts. Outcomes of the curriculum globalization grants will also be posted online.

f. Outreach and International Affairs

Guru Ghosh commented on the Beyond Boundaries, remarking that if the initiative is about dreaming then it should be much bolder and evocative of Virginia Tech's ability to lead. He noted that enrollment in foreign language programs is down, despite this being the generation of deep globalization and interconnectedness, and the vision must include talking with our partners and obtaining new sources of funding. Dr. Ghosh observed that organizations such as Gates Foundation underwrites research projects such as climate change, and the theme of this year's German Ministry of Education discussion series centers on the private sector and their role." Dr. Ghosh expressed concerns that other countries could surpass us and encouraged council members to think about how we stand apart and what makes us different and competitive. He also urged council members to make comments on the online forum section of the website.

4. Alumni Awards for International Excellence

Larry Vaughan announced that the committee had made their decisions and is in the process of notifying applicants. Most nominations were in education category, with outreach and research categories receiving few applicants; however, the candidates were all deserving and it was difficult to reach consensus. The committee plans to follow up to discuss ways to better manage the awards process and will consider meeting with the new associate vice president for advancement. Dr. Vaughan thanked the review committee members for their work.

5. UCIA Membership Addendum Follow up

As required by the UCIA by-laws, David Clubb brought up for the third and final time the topic of adding a council representative from the Corp of Cadets to the UCIA membership. The motion was seconded by Theresa Johansson and approved unanimously. This will now be taken to COIA for voting.

6. Study Virginia

David Clubb introduced this a Virginia International Educators initiative to form a 501 (c) (6) organization to promote Virginia as an attractive destination for study abroad while also serving as an economic stimulus. There is a \$250 membership fee. Juan Espinoza from the Office of the Registrar and Nicole Sanderlin are also involved with this project.

7. Fulbright Update

The Fulbright scholar competition opened on February 1, and the competition for students will open on March 31. Ian Leuschner and Betty Watts are available to give presentations for departments. Faculty are also urged to encourage students to apply and to consider hosting visiting scholars.

8. Other items

- Larry Vaughan reported that scammers have been targeting international students and scholars regarding fraudulent notifications from the IRS, but there have also been legitimate notifications that need to be heeded. These are based on a misinterpretation of an immigration status and university personnel are working with VT's international tax specialist Janet Kunz to ensure paperwork is properly filed.
- International Week is March 21 – 25. Announcements and requests for events have gone out through the UCIA, among other channels. David Clubb will share the list of events and activities when it has been finalized.
- Guru Ghosh recommended that Nicole invite Matt Winston, the Senior Associate Vice President for alumni relations, to attend a UCIA meeting and discuss the global alumni network
- There were no other items to discuss and the meeting was adjourned at 2:55.

Schedule of meetings for 2015-2016 academic year (all meetings to take place from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m., Conference Room A, International Affairs Offices):

March 28

April 25

May 9

- Cranwell partnership with VTCC and the Major General W. Thomas Rice Center for Leader Development
- Cranwell partnership with VT Engage
- International VOICES: Valuable Opportunities for International Community Engagement and Service
 - International student “speakers bureau” concept
- Cranwell staffing
 - Assistant Director for Immigration & Support Services search update
 - Ella Connolly’s resignation (one of two Immigration & Support Services Specialist positions within Cranwell)

a. **OIA**

Guru Ghosh