

UCIA Meeting

Monday, April 27, 2015

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

International Affairs Offices, Meeting Room A

Present:

Don Back, *Director, Language and Culture Institute*

Suzie Baker, *Interim Director, Cranwell International Center*

Jenene Belcher, *Transfer Evaluation Coordinator, Office of the Registrar*

Cynthia Bonner, *Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs*

David Brady, *Director, Export Control and Secure Research Compliance*

Rachel Fitzgerald, *Assistant Director for Program Management, Global Education Office*

Andrew Fortin, *Financial Aid Specialist, University Scholarships and Financial Aid*

Guru Ghosh, *Vice President for Outreach and International Affairs*

Monika Gibson, *Director of Student Services, Graduate School*

Sarah Gugercin, *Research Associate, Department of Horticulture*

Michael Herndon, *Director of Summer and Winter Programs*

Theresa Johansson, *Director, Global Education Office*

Reed Kennedy, *Director of International Programs, Pamplin College of Business*

Ian Leuschner, *Director, International Support Services*

Huiying "Maggie" Mao, *Graduate Student Assembly*

Keith Moore, *Interim Executive Director, OIRED*

Jennifer Nardine, *University Libraries*

Ginny Ritenour, *Alumni Chapter Coordinator, Virginia Tech Alumni Association*

Nicole Sanderlin, *Director of International Programs, College of Engineering*

Debra Stoudt, *Associate Dean for Academic Policies and Procedures, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences*

Elankumaran Subbiah, *Associate Professor, VMRCVM*

Judy Taylor, *Staff Senate; Office of the Provost*

Eric Vance, *Faculty Senate; Assistant Research Professor and Director of LISA (Laboratory for Interdisciplinary Statistical Analysis)*

Guests:

Hunter Gresham, *Chief of Staff, Division of Student Affairs*

Juan Camilo Molina Bolívar, *Equinoctial Technical University, Ecuador*

Khaing Thandar Nyunt, *Central Bank, Myanmar*

1. Welcome, introductions, and approval of March minutes

Don Back called the meeting to order and asked participants to introduce themselves. A motion to accept the minutes of the March meeting was made by Eric Vance and seconded by Jennifer Nardine.

2. Humphrey Fellows

Susan Neu gave a brief introduction to the Humphrey Fellows program, which is part of the Fulbright program. The Fellows are mid-career professionals and leaders in emerging countries who are selected to participate in non-degree seeking programs at US universities and begin their experience with enrollment in an intensive English language program at the VTLCI. Today's guests were Juan Camilo Molina Bolivar from Ecuador, who will study public policy and civil society at the University of Minnesota, and Khaing Thandar Nyunt from Myanmar, who will study finance and banking at Boston University.

3. Alumni Award presentation

Kathleen Alexander, winner of the 2015 Alumni Award for Excellence in International Research, gave a presentation on her research in Botswana and thanked the Council for the award.

4. Holiday Inn update

Shivon Dosky, owner of the Holiday Inn property, updated the group on plans for the site. The current building will be torn down and replaced with a Hyatt hotel as well as an extended stay Residence Inn, a CVS, and several other retail/service venues. Demolition will begin in May 2015, with the retail portions of the new development scheduled to open in April 2016. All visitors will have access to internet and wireless since studies indicate guests consider lack of internet access to be a greater convenience than lack of water. The extended stay hotel will have 126 rooms with kitchen facilities; Mr. Dosky noted that 50% of their business is for stays of a week or longer. Staff will be trained to provide information on area attractions. Costs will vary by season but will include breakfast and free dinner four nights a week, which offsets the per diem costs. A traffic study was conducted and another stoplight will be installed to accommodate the additional use; Mr. Dosky added that the retail and the hotel have different peak business hours which will offset each other.

5. Constituent updates

a. International Education Policy committee

Ian Leuschner reported that introducing a new faculty compensation model was significantly more complicated than originally anticipated and further discussions have been tabled until the fall, although some work on the project may be conducted during the summer.

b. Global Education

Theresa Johansson reported that the GEO has invited two candidates to interview for the risk management and global safety position. Several faculty training programs are scheduled for the coming weeks; a Title IX training has been canceled by the presenter. She and Ian Leuschner recently returned from site visit travel to Italy and Switzerland. Theresa announced that all Fulbright programs will now be administered through the GEO. The new grants program to internationalize curriculums received 39 applications with 2/3 of the applications proposing new courses and 1/3 for revising existing courses. The awards are \$5000 for new courses and \$3500 for revised courses.

c. OIRED

Keith Moore reported that OIRED had recently had personnel in Nepal but all had departed prior to the April 25 earthquake; however, they still have project partners there as well as labs. Some damage was reported but no loss of life among colleagues. OIRED is working on a livestock proposal in conjunction with VMRCVM and the Animal Sciences department. The office participated in the International Street Fair. InnovATE met with project partners and reported that their budgets are being scaled back.

d. Language and Culture Institute

Don Back reported that the VTLCI is wrapping up regular classes and summer is generally a slower time. The Humphrey Fellows have arrived and will be here through August. A group from Kurdistan was scheduled to arrive to take courses for improving English language teaching methods, but a bombing outside the embassy there may affect the issuing of their visas. The VTLCI is also working on renewing their contract with the King Abdullah University in Saudi Arabia.

e. Cranwell International Center

Suzie Baker reported that the Center is reacting to the tragedy in Nepal; the standing protocol in such situations is proactively reaching out to individuals to ensure they can contact family and friends. So far no one has reported loss of life but homes have been destroyed. Several years ago the decision was made to hold the International Street Fair outdoors rain or shine because the event is too big to fit inside Squires. This year was the first time it had rained but she still received positive feedback and noted that most booths ran out of food. The performances and the Kids' Zone were moved inside. The only facility large enough to host the event indoors would be the Field House. Suzie added that the admissions rate for international students is double that from last year, with a similar increase in the number of international transfer students. The deadline for acceptance is May 1 international students have more flexibility.

f. Graduate School

Monika Gibson reported that the Graduate School is also busy with international applicants and admissions. She added that they have been approved for the accreditation to enroll internationals. This process must be done every other year and takes six months due to a shortage of the accreditor's staff. Other institutions had been questioned throughout their procedures but VT was approved with no questions, indicating that they are operating properly according to regulations.

g. OESRC

David Brady confirmed that OIRED was the only VT department that had had personnel in Nepal and that all had left the country without incident prior to the earthquake. He announced that new processes are being put into place regarding federal restrictions on controlled information which may pertain to student records and visas. This is an unprecedented level of scrutiny that will affect 109 different categories. There had been a period for comments following the first announcement but not much was revised after the initial round of feedback; a second comment period will end May 12. This could severely impact information such as data that many campus units collect and store, such as data in Banner.

h. International Support Services

Ian Leuschner reported that this time of the year is also busy for ISS, with many new scholars and post-docs arriving and requiring processing of visa paperwork.

i. OIA

Guru Ghosh had nothing to report.

6. Search updates: AVPIA, OIRED, GEO, Cranwell

Guru Ghosh reported that an offer has been made to a candidate who interviewed for the OIRED director position and accepted verbally; the candidate had requested and received a tenure position as well. The fourth candidate for the associate vice president for international affairs is interviewing this week. Suzie Baker added that the search for the Cranwell director has a very aggressive timeline with a target date of May 19 to select the top candidates who will then interview in early June. There is cross-campus representation of international interests on the search committee

7. Fulbright award debrief

Nicole Sanderlin reported on her recent trip to India as the recipient of a Fulbright Nehru international administrator award. Similar programs take place in Germany, Japan, Korea, and France. Dr. Sanderlin was in India for two weeks and visited a variety of higher education institutions in New Delhi, Kolkata, and Chennai, from community colleges to universities with 400,000 students. There were 10 participants from different institutions in the US, all of whom worked in international education. The purpose was to

make connections and promote greater mutual understanding between countries. Dr. Sanderlin reminded the group that there are many different types of Fulbright awards for a wide variety of participants, including student researchers, English teaching assistants, post-docs, distinguished chairs, and shorter-term programs; all are encouraged to apply and promote these opportunities.

8. By-laws update

Reed Kennedy reported that the approval process was nearing completion, with the final reading scheduled to take place May 4 at the University Council meeting.

9. Nominations for UCIA Vice Chair, 2015 – 2016

Elankumaran Subbiah nominated Jackie Bixler to serve as vice chair. She was not there to accept or decline; Don Back will contact her to follow up.

10. End-of-year wrap-up

Don Back thanked all for working with him this year and stated that he is looking forward to Nicole Sanderlin's leadership next year. On behalf of the council, Guru Ghosh thanked Don for his work this year as chair.

11. Other items

- Debra Stoudt announced the international category of alumni award winners: Kathleen Alexander for research, Jan Helge Bøhn for outreach, and Lance Matheson for education. She also inquired about any protocol for disaster responses, since an announcement had been sent asking students to sign a condolences banner after the recent mass shooting at a Kenyan university but no official announcement had come from VT.
- There will be a vigil and a fundraiser for earthquake relief efforts in Nepal. Announcements will be sent through the council.

12. Proposed 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):

August 24	January 25
September 28	February 29
October 26	March 21 or 28
November 30	April 25
December 14	May 9 or cancel