

UCIA Meeting
Monday, April 28, 2014
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
International Affairs Office, Meeting Room A

Present:

Don Back, *Director, Language and Culture Institute*

Lynda Bailey, *Assistant Registrar for Transfer*

Mike Bertelsen, *Director, OIRE*

Jackie Bixler, *Chair, Foreign Languages and Literatures*

Brian Bolton, *Director, Cranwell International Center*

Cynthia Bonner, *Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs*

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

Andrea Brunais, *Senior Assistant Director for Public Communications, Scholarships and Financial Aid*

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

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

Stephanie Lang, *Academic Advising Coordinator, College of Natural Resources and the Environment*

Jennifer Nardine, *University Libraries*

Jerzy Nowak, *International Programs Coordinator, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences*

Ginny Ritenour, *Alumni Relations*

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

Jennifer Quijano Sax, *Director, Global Education Office*

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

Elankumaran Subbiah, *Associate Professor, Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine*

1. Welcome, introductions, and approval of March meeting minutes

Elankumaran Subbiah called the meeting to order and noted that not only was it the last meeting for the academic year but also the last meeting for outgoing Global Education Office director Jenny Sax. He expressed his thanks on behalf of the council to Jenny for all the work she has accomplished. After participants introduced themselves, Dr. Subbiah asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the March meeting. A motion to do so was made by Lynda Bailey, seconded by Jackie Bixler, and approved unanimously.

2. Constituent updates

a. IEPC

Jenny Sax reported that the IEPC had been scheduled to meet immediately prior to the UCIA meeting but was cancelled due to Guru Ghosh's absence; he had been slated to lead a conversation on the follow-up to the resolution to Presidential Policy Memorandum 281. Other items were deferred to Don Back's report on the COIA meeting.

b. Global Education Office

Jenny Sax reported that they are in the process of reviewing proposals for the spring cycle of mini-grants and hope to notify winners by the end of the week. 4 awards of \$2500 each will be presented; this cycle's competition generated 12 proposals which is an increase from last semester. The results will be announced through the UCIA and Global Education office listservs. The office is in the process of renewing the contract with Cultural Insurance Services International (CISI), purchase of which is mandatory for students and highly recommended for faculty. In the meantime the office can work with

individual students needing to buy the insurance but group enrollment should wait until next week if possible. Shannon Dove and Jenny are the primary contacts for matters related to insurance. Several end-of-year trainings for faculty have been scheduled, including the outbound orientation for program leaders, a fund management training, and a Title IX workshop since program leaders are required to report any incidents of sexual harassment that take place on trips. Registration is required and participants can sign up on line. The upcoming newsletter will contain information about this as well as the recent photo contest. All finalists had their photos on display at the XYZ Gallery for two weeks and finalists and winners will be posted on the website. Judges for the contest included John Dooley, Terry Papillon, Rachel Holloway, and Gary Kirk.

Don Back had presented the voluntary health form to the Commission on Outreach and International Affairs, after which it went to the University Council where President Steger expressed his support. Several clarifying remarks were necessary and the document is being presented again today before being sent to the Board of Visitors. Jenny had met with Reed Kennedy and representatives from Schiffert Student Health Center, Services for Students with Disabilities, and Cook to finalize the procedure and determine how information will be handled once it has been disclosed. Jenny commented that the process is not yet perfect—for example, it is still voluntary participation, not required—but it is a first step. It likely will not be ready in time to launch for summer programs but can go into effect in the fall. Reed Kennedy commented that at the implementation meeting they learned that conditions will be treated as an accommodation which offers limited information and is a much less-detailed solution than had been anticipated; faculty had hoped to receive direct information and this conservative approach is somewhat of a deterrent. Students who choose to disclose will also receive information on how to manage their conditions in the context of their travel. Stephen Capaldo from the Office of Legal Counsel is researching how the matter is handled among peer institutions, including those for which disclosure is mandatory, since each school handles the issue differently. Virginia Tech is the only school in the Commonwealth that has chosen this particular interpretation. Many third-party providers require students to have a checkup and dietary and allergic considerations are noted, with physicians having the ultimate clearance authority. This situation has the potential to create more responsibility for the faculty, with students likely to assume the faculty are aware of their conditions. Changing the language on the form now would be difficult since the form is actually part of the policy. The form is fine and Stephen Capaldo has defended it; it is the implementation of the procedure that needs to be revised, which as of now will have the form funneled through Services for Students with Disabilities who will prepare the accommodation letter for the students. Debra Stoudt commented that this has taken an unfortunate turn and that it will likely serve as a disincentive to faculty program leaders, ultimately impacting Virginia Tech's aspirations to become a leader in global education. It was suggested to invite Kay Heidbreder to a meeting to discuss these concerns and better understand the perspective of faculty program leaders. If other institutions in the Commonwealth can manage this matter differently, Virginia Tech should be able to do so as well. It was also noted that the Office of Emergency Management performed a comprehensive review of programs that should be revisited but an emergency response team has not yet been put together to follow up on the report. Dr. Subbiah noted that although there are many issues related to Global Education that still need to be addressed, none of them should detract from the work Jenny has done.

c. OIRED

Mike Bertelsen reported that the RFA has been received for the Integrated Pest Management Feed the Future Innovation Lab and the office is now working on two \$50 million proposals. This one is similar to the successor to the Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resource Management (SANREM) project but excludes West Africa and includes Ethiopia, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, and Burma, Cambodia, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Vietnam. The project in South Sudan is ending on May 31 due to ongoing

fighting in the country; originally they had hoped to move work to Kenya but that did not materialize. The chief-of-party will relocate to Tanzania to work with Ohio State on a sub-award project and opportunities for graduate students that had been working in South Sudan. The InnovATE project's annual report was well received; project personnel have returned from a scoping trip to Nicaragua and will soon be traveling to Indonesia for another one. The associate award from Armenia is pending availability of funding from the mission in that country.

d. Language and Culture Institute

Don Back thanked the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences for hosting a reception for the Humphrey Fellows. At the recent Department of State fair in Kurdistan, applications were collected for fifty well-qualified potential students, among them candidates for admission to architecture and engineering programs. This is a preliminary conditional application with the graduate school provide ultimate acceptance and admission. The LCI recently held a two-day train-the-trainer session for mental health professionals throughout the Commonwealth on linguistic and cultural competency. Don concluded his report by noting that the open house for the Northern Virginia LCI will take place at the end of the month, the LCI at Radford University will open next month, and a cohort from Kurdistan will be visiting Blacksburg in July.

e. Cranwell International Center

Brian Bolton reported that the 55th annual street fair that took place on Sunday, April 27 was a success and thanked all who participated. The event was better-attended than anticipated and may expand in coming years. The move to Harper Hall is still scheduled to take place on May 19; Brian reminded everyone that it will take a few days for them to settle in. They have finished 1300 admission files for potential incoming undergraduate students. This is a slightly higher number (within 10%) than last year and completed earlier as well; ultimately the admissions office will determine who will be offered acceptance letters.

f. Graduate School

Monika Gibson commented that in comparing the numbers with Cranwell, the Graduate School has processed about 500 applications to date, and will likely receive a total of 800 – 900 that will yield 400 acceptances. These numbers are all about the same as those from last year. The deadline is June 1 but students are still looking for sources of funding before making their decisions.

g. OECSRC

David Brady reminded the group that the Treasury Department provides guidance for students from sanctioned countries and that specific services require licenses, especially in regards to the massive online courses. He met with the Vice Provost for Enrollment and several stakeholders to discuss these policies. For example, Iranians can take business, law, and social sciences courses with no license required, but courses pertaining to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) are licensed and in some cases prohibited. These must be determined on a case-by-case and course-by-course basis. David will be attending a conference that discusses these issues.

h. International Support Services

Ian Leuschner was unable to attend but had announced through Jenny that the search for the ISS coordinator position is ongoing with a target hire date of June 1.

3. Reports from COIA

Don Back reported that the transfer of credit policy has been held up in the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies because it is being adopted for use by other groups. Eventually it will be forwarded to the Board of Visitors for approval without having to be reviewed by the Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies. Lynda Bailey explained that the original rationale for this restriction on the amount of credits transferrable was to ensure that a certain number of courses be taken at Virginia Tech in order for the degree to be an actual Virginia Tech degree.

4. Election of Vice Chair for 2014 – 2015

Nicole Sanderlin was nominated for and accepted the position of Vice Chair for the 2014 – 2015 academic year.

5. Additional items

- The group considered items that needed to be carried over to address during the coming year, to include:
 - Recommendations from the 2012 Education Abroad task force report and the Presidential Policy Memorandum 281 task force
 - Faculty compensation for summer programs
 - Summer tuition models for study abroad
 - Scholarships
 - Incentives for newly-hired faculty
 - Tuition structure for international distance learning
 - Updates on the new international strategic plan and a list of recommendations

- Ian Leuschner will assume leadership of the IEPC which will resume meetings in the fall.

- The national search for the director of the Global Education Office will be launched next week. Jenny will continue working full-time in the office until June 20 and then part-time/as needed through September 1 to assist in the transition. The search committee has yet to be chosen. It was noted that the timing may present some challenges as many faculty are gone over the summer.

- The list of proposed dates for 2014- 2015 meetings was presented. The first meeting will be the first day of class. Meetings will continue to be held at the International Affairs Offices, 526 Prices Fork Road, from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. on Mondays.

August 25	January 26
September 22	February 23
October 20	March 30
November 17	April 27
December 15	

- Don Back thanked Elankumaran Subbiah for his service as chair; Dr. Subbiah in turn thanked the council for the opportunity to work with them. He considered the experience a great honor and an opportunity to learn a lot about the governance of the university.

There were no other items to discuss and the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.