

UCIA Meeting
Monday, May 14, 2012
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
International Affairs Office, Meeting Room A

Present:

Lynda Bailey, *Assistant Registrar for Transfer, Office of the University Registrar*
Mike Bertelsen, *Interim Director, Office of International Research, Education, and Development*
Cynthia Bonner, *Chief of Staff and Director of Administration, Office of Student Affairs*
David Brady, *Director, Export Control and Secure Research Compliance*
John Browder, *Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, College of Architecture
and Urban Studies*
Guru Ghosh, *Associate Vice President for International Affairs*
Paul Hover, *University Libraries*
Reed Kennedy, *Director of International Programs, Pamplin College of Business*
Ian Leuschner, *Director, International Support Services*
Jerry Niles, *Interim Vice President, Outreach and International Affairs*
Jerzy Nowak, *International Programs, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences*
Miriam Rich, *Communications Coordinator, Office of International Research, Education, and
Development*
Jennifer Quijano Sax, *Interim Director, Education Abroad*
Richard Shryock, *Associate Professor and Department Chair, Foreign Languages and Literatures*
Barry Simmons, *Director, Scholarships and Financial Aid*
Bob Smith, *Associate Dean and Professor, College of Natural Resources and the Environment*
Debra Stoudt, *Associate Dean for Academic Policies and Procedures, College of Liberal Arts and Human
Sciences*
Elankumaran Subbiah, *Assistant Professor, Biomedical Sciences*

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

Reed Kennedy called the meeting to order and asked participants to introduce themselves. The minutes of the April meeting had been distributed previously and were accepted.

2. Education Abroad updates

Jenny Sax provided a summary of the summer programs scheduled for 2012. Statistics were broken down by different categories such as program type, region of destination, and gender and college of participants. Similar information was provided for incoming exchange students for the fall semester as well. There will be a total of 95 exchange students here, which is an increase from the past; the majority of those will come from Europe. As of May 15, all outbound summer program students will be enrolled in the CISI insurance, with June 1 as the deadline for fall enrollments; the Education Abroad office will ensure compliance. Jenny thanked the faculty for their patience as the wrinkles are ironed out of the new system. She also reported on several new projects in the office. In addition to continuing to streamline the insurance process, the staff will be reviewing Student Exchange Agreements (SEAs) and tracking use of Studio Abroad. The two graduate assistants, Rachel Fitzgerald and Bill Pruitt, recently attended a conference to learn how to maximize the resources available through use of Studio Abroad. Jenny and Bill will be going to the NAFSA-Association of International Educators conference in Houston at the end of May and plan to attend workshops on bilateral exchanges and third-party providers. Jenny clarified that the insurance is mandatory for students and voluntary but highly recommended for faculty

leaders. Paul Hover commented that the enrollment options were confusing and did not lend themselves to purchasing in multi-week increments. Reed thanked Jenny for all she has been doing in her role as interim director. John Browder provided an update on the search for the director; two candidates have already been interviewed with a third one scheduled to come on campus May 15. The search committee will be meeting soon to deliberate and provide their recommendations.

3. Voluntary Health Form update

Guru Ghosh reported that he has met with personnel from the Office of Legal Counsel, to include Stephen Capaldo, Mary Beth Nash, and Tracy Gallagher, to discuss why the voluntary health forms proposed in the past were ultimately not allowed to be implemented. The discussion indicated that the information was intended to deny students access to specific programs. The suggested revisions are inclusive and acceptable; Legal Counsel is now amenable to this process and will work with the Education Abroad office to implement the procedure by the end of the summer. This will be a two-phase process; first the students will apply and be accepted to a program, and then they will be asked to complete the form. Studio Abroad can be used to facilitate collection of this information.

4. Reports on summer programs

College representatives were asked to provide updates on programs:

- CALS: A total of 44 – 48 students enrolled in programs in 2012, including a horticulture program on Civic Agriculture in Honduras during spring break; an summer equine science for animal and poultry science program in Germany; a Biological Systems Engineering program in Brazil during the summer; and a Crop and Soil Environmental Sciences program to be held in Nepal during the winter break. Additionally, several AAEC students will participate in a 'Semester at Sea' program organized by UVA.
- CLAHS had 15 faculty-led study abroad programs during 2011-2012: this number includes two programs during winter break and one during spring break. In addition, CLAHS faculty participated in the semester-long program in Punta Cana. The total number of students participating in short-term CLAHS-led programs this year is 176. In addition, 29 student members of the VT Chamber Singers are touring Italy from 13-22 May; although traveling internationally, these students are not engaged in study abroad.
- CNRE: Ten students traveled to Costa Rica and fifteen to Ireland during spring break. During the summer five will visit Belize (with an additional eleven from Ferrum College participating) and ten will travel to Ecuador.
- VMRCVM: This will be the fifth consecutive summer that VMRCVM students from Virginia Tech and Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (TANUVAS) in Chennai, India participate in an exchange program. Virginia Tech students travel to Chennai for a six-week faculty-led program with a clinical training component as well as spend two weeks working in a wild animal reserve, followed by a reciprocal program bringing Indian students and faculty here. Additionally, students from the University Austral in Chile will be coming to Blacksburg in the fall, and twelve Virginia Tech students will be attending a program in Rome on sustainable farming. Two students will also be traveling to Costa Rica in July as well.
- The Pamplin College of Business reported a total of seven summer programs, including trips to Paris; Dijon, France and Muenster, Germany; China, and Dubai. Additionally, Pamplin sends students each spring semester to a marketing program in Lugano, Switzerland, and a group each fall semester to CESA in Riva San Vitale, Switzerland.

- CAUS offers programs on Wealth, Poverty and Place in the Dominican Republic and Sustainable Europe through Urban Affairs and Planning and the School of Public and International Affairs. Additionally, the School of Architecture and Design has residency programs in the fall and spring semesters at the Center for European Studies and Architecture (CESA) in Riva San Vitale, Switzerland, as well as a fall semester CESA travel program, a summer landscape architecture Interdisciplinary European Design program, a Design for Empowerment program in India in December and January, and a summer Industrial Design program in Europe. Building Construction also has a winter break program in Portugal and Spain, and the School of Visual Arts has a spring semester program in Europe.

Paul Hover from University Libraries added that the library, in collaboration with Foreign Languages and Literatures and the Language and Culture Institute, has organized its first study abroad program, a six-credit intensive Chinese language program that also offers one credit for science and technology. He noted that he had had an architecture graduate student interested in participating but could not get the credit and would like to be able to follow up on this with Graduate School dean Karen De Pauw. Paul added that the Language Task Force had reviewed peer institutions with graduate level language courses and that although the Foreign Languages and Literatures department concurred that this should be in place, there are currently only two PhD programs that require foreign language components. John Browder commented that a UNESCO survey indicated foreign language skills are highly valued and in demand and recommended this subject be added to the strategic plan. Jerzy Nowak suggested that foreign language independent study courses should be relatively easy to approve. Richard Shryock advised that graduate-level language courses would have to include theoretic and research components distinct from content taught in lower-level courses. Dr. Browder remarked that a pilot program could be conducted through independent study courses. Dr. Nowak commented that the Horticulture department offers classes in Spanish for the Green Industry and that Europeans are now speaking 3 – 4 languages.

5. Selection of chair and vice chair for 2012 – 2013

Reed Kennedy announced that current UCIA vice chair Bob Smith would be assuming the position of chair for the 2012 – 2013 academic year and that Elankumaran Subbiah had expressed interest in serving as the vice chair. Receiving no additional nominations from the floor, he thanked Dr. Subbiah for volunteering. Guru Ghosh commended Reed on his work on behalf of the UCIA during the past two years.

6. Other items

- Guru Ghosh provided an update on the VT, India project, which will be a center modeled after the Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science (ICTAS). There are discussions with the partners regarding financial commitments and other ongoing challenges, and the next few months will be critical in determining how the project will function.
- Elankumaran Subbiah announced that in response to a USAID concept note, ICTAS is planning a consortium focusing on nanotechnology with the Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (TANUVAS) and Pondicherry University. Dr. Roop Mahajan, director of ICTAS, will be traveling to India. Dr. Sedki Riad will also be involved.

- Ian Leuschner stated that the electronic Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) processing and tracking system is now active. He requested the PID of the dean or associate dean of each college who is authorized to approve MOUs as well as one or two other individuals who are authorized to enter information and submit MOUs on behalf of the colleges. Additionally, Ian asked college representatives to share the process for internal MOU protocol.
- Mike Bertelsen announced that out of fifteen applications received for the faculty small grants program, five winners were chosen. Two of the recipients were from CLAHS, with one each from with one each from CNRE, CAUS, and CALS.

There were no further announcements and the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

7. Schedule for meetings for 2012 – 2013 academic year: to be determined