

**UCIA Meeting**  
**August 23, 2010**  
**1:30-3:00 p.m.**

**International Affairs office, Meeting Room A**

Present:

John Dooley, Vice President for Outreach and International Affairs  
Debby Stoudt, Associate Dean for Academic Policies and Procedures, CLAHS  
Glenda Scales, Associate Dean for International Programs and IT, College of Engineering  
Miriam Rich, Communications Coordinator, OIRED  
Reed Kennedy, Director of International Programs, Pamplin College of Business  
Mike Bertelsen, Associate Director, OIRED  
Jeremy Billetdeaux, Assistant Program Director, Education Abroad  
Don Back, Director, Language and culture Institute  
Richard Shryock, Department Chair, Foreign Languages and Literatures  
Lynda Bailey, Assistant Registrar for Transfer  
Laurie Brogdon, Director of Multicultural Alumni Programs, Alumni Association  
Ken Smith, Associate Provost for Resource Management and Planning  
Barry Simmons, Director, Scholarships and Financial Aid  
Ana Dubnjakovic, Performing Arts and Foreign Languages Librarian

Debby Stoudt called the meeting to order and asked participants to introduce themselves. Minutes from the May meeting were distributed electronically and approved prior to the meeting. Dr. Stoudt discussed future meeting times.

### **1. Education Abroad Updates**

Jeremy Billetdeaux announced that the annual Education Abroad fair would be held on Wednesday, Sept. 22, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. on the drillfield. Emails had been sent out and the committee was asked to pass along the information to any interested parties.

The office is currently very busy, as the application deadline for the spring semester is quickly approaching. Roughly 90 exchange students are coming to the university, with about the same number going abroad. This number has been around 110 the past few years. Jeremy explained that the number had gone down due to housing, class size, etc. John Dooley added that the university must stay in balance. The number of outgoing students drives the number of incoming students.

Dr. Stoudt asked about the status of the search for a new Program Director for Education Abroad. Dr. Dooley believed that were a total of 38 applicants, 11 of whom had passed the initial screening. Dr. De Datta, who is leading the search, will update the committee when he returns from India in September.

The number of students who went abroad during the summer was 500-600. The office currently has five student workers, whereas it had seven in past years. There are two graduate assistants helping out, however.

Dr. Stoudt asked about the health disclosure and medical insurance forms. Jeremy stated that legal counsel did not approve the medical disclosure form and that it should not be used. Dr. Dooley responded that Steve Capaldo, Associate University Legal Counsel, came to the April meeting where the forms were discussed. There had been communication with former Program Director Matt McMullen. Jeremy recalled a conversation with Mary Beth Nash, Associate University Legal Counsel, but no record of the form's approval had been found. Dr. Dooley asked Jeremy to speak with Steve and tell him that he (Jeremy) had spoken with Mary Beth. Matt McMullen brought up the idea of purchasing group health insurance for groups going abroad. The forms were to be shared with faculty for feedback and a task force was going to be created to study both issues. Steve volunteered at the April meeting. Dr. Stoudt called for additional volunteers. Jeremy Billetdeaux and Reed Kennedy accepted. Dr. Kennedy stated that he had received feedback from two faculty members. One thought that the idea was good for liability, while the other thought it was overly bureaucratic and would drive prices up.

## **2. Certificate in Global/International Competence**

Dr. Dooley met with Daniel Wubah, Vice President and Dean for Undergraduate Education, earlier in the day. The primary delay is due to university policy that states that "certificates" can only be granted at the graduate level. This would be a special citation on a bachelor's degree. The question is whether to alter the word "certificate" or change university policy. The conversation hasn't moved forward because of this, but there are other issues dealing with the requirements, namely: 1. Language competence – How is it measured? 2. Education Abroad – How long should the experience be to qualify? 3. Demonstrated academic achievement in courses with global content – How are the courses determined? 4. Senior or capstone international experience? – What qualifies under this requirement? Dr. Dooley proposed to Dr. Wubah that a subcommittee between UCIA and undergraduate education (associate deans from the respective colleges) be assembled to look at the program. Ken Smith added that other groups will most likely want to follow with similar programs, so the mechanism that is used should be transferable. Dr. Dooley suggested moving forward with the "certificate" as a pilot program because it has been in development for three years already. Glenda Scales, Richard Shyrock, Reed Kennedy, and Debby Stoudt volunteered for the subcommittee.

## **3. International Guest Housing**

Don Back presented the results of a survey he conducted in May. Dr. Back received feedback from 15 departments around the university. Some of the key questions and responses: 1. Does your department welcome visiting scholars? 86% said yes. 2. Will they in the future? 92% said yes. 3. How long will they stay? The majority said a couple days. 4. When do they come? Fall, Spring, Summer (in that order). 5. If housing was provided, what percentage would the number of visiting scholars your department hosts increase? The majority said 10-20%. Dr. Dooley stated that, based on the data, there is not a compelling argument to provide a guest house for international scholars. Dr. Back responded that LCI has not weighed in, and the guest house is still a good idea for the university. Short-term stays could be problematic, but the guest house could attract more scholars. Dr. Dooley then provided details on the status of a plan under consideration. A private donor is looking to sell an eight-unit complex that would go to the Virginia Tech Foundation, however, a plan would be worked out to turn this into a guest house for scholars that are visiting the university. The timeline was interrupted, but the idea was to have the facility ready by July 1, 2011. Dr. Dooley added that the business plan must stand on its

own. Dr. Back did a model and it does, as the \$700 per month rate is less expensive than the leases many of the respective colleges are currently paying. Dr. Stoudt asked if Dr. Back had reviewed the model with leases currently in place. Dr. Back responded that he didn't have time to review his notes, but he hoped to provide a thorough update at the next meeting.

#### **4. Bylaws**

Dr. Stoudt asked about assembling a sub-committee to look at the UCIA bylaws. Dr. Dooley responded that he doesn't think the committee will be able to find any, as UCIA is a relatively recent creation. Former Provost Peggy Meszaros established the council. It met four times a year and she served as chair of the committee. The model changed when Dr. Dooley became Vice President. Dr. Dooley volunteered to put together a one-sheet document on what UCIA does. He will have this at the next meeting.

#### **5. International Initiatives**

Dr. Stoudt asked the council if it wanted to continue to have presentations from various colleges/departments on their respective international programs. The overwhelming response was yes. Dr. Dooley suggested a 15-20 minute for presentations during each meeting. Dr. Stoudt called for volunteers. The following individual volunteered to present at upcoming meetings:

September – Language and Culture Institute (Don Back)

October – Hokies Abroad (Laurie Brogdon)

November – OIRED (Mike Bertelsen)

December – Foreign Languages and Literatures (Richard Shryock)

#### **6. UCIA Priorities**

Dr. Dooley brought up the priorities for UCIA for the coming year. The Certificate in Global/International Competence is a priority because the lack of movement has been frustrating. Next is facilitating incentives for faculty to take part in Education Abroad. As part of that, can the university provide financial incentives to take Education Abroad to the next level? Third is the International Strategic Plan, as the current phase is almost at an end. UCIA needs to discuss what should be done in the next phase, but it must be in line with university's strategic plan. Dr. Dooley said that it should not be viewed as re-doing the plan, but rather as identifying what new initiatives Virginia Tech wants to pursue. The final point is the development of the Virginia Tech Research Corporation. The plan under discussion will provide the opportunity to pursue grants that are not ideal for universities and that have trouble going through sponsored programs. An example is the National Tire Center in Southside. The Virginia Tech Research Corporation is a wholly owned subsidiary that will allow the university to contract internationally in the education marketplace. Dr. Dooley will have a report on this in the future.

#### **7. Informational Items**

Dr. Back announced that the faculty language programs sponsored by LCI will be starting up again soon. He also announced that Phi Beta Delta has a membership drive coming up soon. The organization is a national honor society open to students, faculty/staff, and visiting scholars. There are currently over 200 total members at Virginia Tech, with more than 100 faculty/staff members. The deadline for applications is Sept. 7. The organization is also looking at sponsoring several international speakers in the future.

Mike Bertelsen announced that OIRED has hired a new Peace Corps recruiter. Corrie Kramer, a master's student in the College of Engineering, started earlier in the month. She worked with Peace Corps in Bolivia and received a bachelor's degree from the University of Florida. Her office is located in the Education Abroad quadrant of the OIA building.

Dr. Dooley announced that Outreach and International Affairs has a new graduate assistant, Ian Michalski. Dr. Dooley will bring him to a meeting in the future to introduce him to the committee.

Glenda Scales announced that the College of Engineering has a new Director of International Programs. Nicole Sanderlin, who was formerly a graduate assistant in Dr. Dooley's office, started work during the summer.

Barry Simmons announced that small grant support for housing at CESA had been received. The need-based grants already have been awarded for the fall semester.

Ana Dubnjakovic announced that the library has received funding for a Language Research Center. The funding will help the library purchase new computers and software as well as books for the center. Dr. Dooley suggested that Ana contact Rosetta Stone, the language translation software company, because the CEO and president is thought to be a Virginia Tech graduate.

Dr. Kennedy suggested changing the date of the Dec. 20 meeting, as many people around the university will be out of town. It was decided that an email would be sent out to check availability and select a possible replacement time.

There were no further items to discuss and the meeting was adjourned at 2:47 p.m.