

University Committee on International Affairs (UCIA)
Minutes
August 28, 2017
526 Prices Fork Road Blacksburg, Room 121 A

Attendance:

Van Crowder, Monika Gibson, Amr Hilal, Theresa Johansson, Vicki Langford, Ian Leuschner, Nicole Sanderling, Gerhardt Schruig, Debra Stoudt, Danny White, Brian Ducote, Andrea Brunias, Ben Grove, Sudipte Mukhejee

1. Welcome and Introductions:

Ian Leuschner, chair welcomed everyone to the first UCIA meeting of the new academic year.

The minutes of the May 8 meeting will be distributed with the minutes from the August 28 meeting for comment and/or approval.

2. Constituent Reports:

OIRED-Van Crowder

- OIRED will be transitioning to a Center in October
- The proposal with IIE for STEM Egypt has been submitted, no word yet of award
- The Youth in Agriculture, a follow-on to the Senegal project (\$4 million), has been submitted. We expect to hear something soon
- There is a non- compete opportunity in Tanzania that is \$12 million over a 4 year period. It is due for submission on September 15
- The Tanzania LLC is approved. It will help with this project and provide a model for future projects.
- TEAM Haiti returned from a scoping trip, and will work with OIRED to develop a strategy to obtain funding for a project(s)
- We are advertising for a Financial and Program Coordinator

LCI-Brian Ducote for Don Back

- **Proposals**
 1. Shandong University Faculty Development Program –will begin in October
 2. Pakistan Teacher Training program –beginning next summer
 3. Effat University in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia-beginning in the Fall
 4. Iraq PhD Scholarship program –still under development
- **Pathway Program** - LCI has been working on a Pathway initiative called Advantage VT. The purpose is to take international students that qualify for admission to VT in all areas but English and provide them a combination of English Preparation and Academic classes.
- **VIP Visits** - LCI will be hosting a number of high level delegations including a:
 1. Polish delegation led by the Polish Undersecretary of State for the Ministry of Science and Higher education, (Wed in Arlington)
 2. Republic of Georgia, Deputy Minister of Defense-September 21
 3. Vietnam Peoples' Security Academy- October 18

Global Education-Theresa Johansson

- Numbers of VT students participating in study abroad 2016-17 is up about 7%, from 1160 to 1246
- There were significant increases in bilateral exchange and VT faculty-led participation, with a decrease in participation in non-VT program
- Our GSA commitment together with compliance requirements related to the new SCHEV guidelines for study abroad will put significant pressure on GEO to increase promotion, training, student preparation, and faculty support activities
- We are working with the Office of Budget & Finance to revise the study abroad fee structure to meet these needs
- The Partners of the Americas grant is wrapping up
- As part of GEO's focus on Africa this year, we have hired a second GA to continue curriculum-mapping work and we will give preference to faculty program development grants that propose new programs in West Africa, southern Africa, and East Africa
- GEO faculty leader training enters its third year; since policy 1070 requires training every two years, we are now offering an abbreviated training session for returning faculty; we will also offer optional training for faculty in the use of TerraDotta software to manage their programs
- GEO is hiring for a new position, the European Programs Coordinator, who will serve as the central administrative coordinator for all Steger programs

International Support Services-Ian Leuschner

There has been a high demand for ISS services

Cranwell International Center-No representative

Graduate School-Monika Gibson

Reported a 10% decrease in new student enrollment with an 8% decrease in new International student enrollment. These numbers may change slightly as this is the first day of classes.

OESRC-No representative

Corp of Cadets-No representative

3. Institute of International Education (IIE) Membership-Ian Leuschner

There is one VT membership and departments do not need to have one-Ian will coordinate.

4. CIP Code Updates-Ian Leuschner

A current review is underway to identify codes that need modification. Our goal is to provide the best opportunities for our students to qualify for STEM OPT Extensions. Colleges will need to review the codes and determine if changing to a qualifying code is appropriate.

5. Guru's Updates as reported by Ian Leuschner

- VT hosted its first International Alumni event in London in June 2017 at the Royal Automotive Club. The event was led by Alumni Affairs and hosted by President Sands
- UDP, Bob Bodnar will assume his role at Director of the Steger Center in September. Enrollments in the Steger Center are low this fall, but a full house is expected in the spring

- VT India is launching a 15 month Business Analytics Certificate Program in Chennai in January, a precision agriculture research partnership is being developed between Mechanical Engineering and Mahindra (\$18B company in India) to develop robotic arms for fruit plucking)
- Continuing discussions with Provost about path forward for AVP-International position
- Provost has asked OIA to convene and lead a VT Immigration effort. (All directors working on immigration matters will be meeting on a regular basis)
- Major initiatives are afoot amongst multiple colleges in China—SPIA and COE. More to come
- President Sands has asked OIA VP to convene a task-force in AY 17-18 to develop a fresh European strategy around the continuation and evolution of the Steger Center. Task force members to be announced soon

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Patricia S. Hughes
Recording Secretary