

University Committee on International Affairs (UCIA)
September 26, 2022
526 Prices Fork Road/Zoom
Minutes

Attending in person: Farida Jalalzai (presiding), Khaled Hassouna, Don Hempson, Kimberly Rhodes

Attending via Zoom: Don Back, Brian Bond, Jennifer Clevenger (for Lara Khansa), Evan Czajkowski, Ran Jin, Theresa Johansson, Christi Lineberry, Rich Mathieson, Jamie McGrath, Kim McKinnie, Jennifer Nardine, Sara Steinert Borella, Tom Thompson, Janell Watson, Danny White

Farida Jalalzai welcomed the group and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

1. **Agenda Approval:** Farida asked for approval of the Agenda; there were no edits to the Agenda; the Agenda was approved as presented by unanimous consent.
2. **UCIA Charge:** Don Hempson gave the charge for the University Committee on International Affairs (UCIA):

The University Committee on International Affairs (UCIA) acts in support of the Virginia Tech International Mission and the University Strategic Plan. The international mission of Virginia Tech is to reflect through all activities of its tripartite mission (education, research, engagement) an appreciation of the significance of other cultures and languages and of global change and to address the environmental, political, economic, social, and technological challenges that confront communities across the globe. UCIA is the direct voice of its constituencies to the Commission on Outreach and International Affairs (COIA). It recommends policy to COIA and to the University Administration.

3. **Membership Introductions (Name and area of representation):** Self-Introductions were made.
4. **Election of Vice Chair:** Farida asked the committee members to consider volunteering for the Vice Chair position; which will also serve as a training to become Chair of UCIA for 2023-2024. Duties include representing the Chair of UCIA at meetings when the Chair is unable to do so. Additional representation at other meetings may be needed when the Chair is unable to attend; as well as chairing the Alumni Awards selection committee. A more detailed description has been sent out electronically to members (**see attached**). Jennifer Nardine asked for a description of what the Chair does. Farida indicated she would like a response by October 7, 2022.
5. **Announcement of Approval of Minutes, April 25, 2022:** The minutes from the April 25, 2022 meeting had been previously distributed electronically, with the call for edits and approval. The minutes were approved electronically.
6. **Alumni Awards for International Education, Outreach and Research:** We would need to have at least two additional members from UCIA on the selection committee in addition to the Vice Chair of UCIA. Kimberly Rhodes described that the call usually goes out in

November with additional announcements through the deadline date of January 31, 2023. Kimberly will take care of sending out the memo and keeping up with the announcement as well as receiving the electronic application packets and posting them to a shared drive for the selection committee to review. The Vice Chair of UCIA will bring the selection committee in early to mid-February to select winners for each award; which will then come back to Kimberly to communicate with Alumni and Special Events by the end of February; as well as sending out notification letters. Don Back and Theresa Johansson volunteered to serve on the selection committee. Farida expressed concern from last years nominees/application packets that there was a lack of diversity. She wanted to bring it to the Committee's attention so that members can encourage their respective areas to apply for the awards. Don H. also encouraged members to elevate the importance of these awards.

7. Updates:

a. **Working Group updates and chair selections:**

1. MOU process/database working group-Don Hempson indicated this group worked through the end user challenges; and to identify some inefficiencies and areas of improvement as well as better communicating the process. Evan Czajkowski will be working on this project with research and feedback.
2. Global Advancement and Alumni Engagement-Christi Lineberry reported that the group had identified at least one international event and rotating annually. The hope is to organize an event in London July 2023 as well as create more Alumni Chapters outside of Europe.
3. Internationalization at Home-Rachel Fitzgerald was unable to attend; but the minutes from April updated UCIA as to their work.

Farida indicated that perhaps we do not need to add any more working groups, but to continue moving forward with the working groups currently identified.

- b. **Report on University Data Commons Global Engagement App:** Nicole Sanderlin was unable to attend the meeting; Don H. reported that most of UCIA members have been able to interact with the App. This long-standing project was broken down into smaller phases. The purpose is to provide information easily accessed by the user; Don H. gave kudos to Nicole for the work that she has done on this project. Those unable to access, please let one of us know; and offer suggestions for enhancements (https://udc.vt.edu/global_engagement/). OIA will be working on taking the project to the next phase. Theresa indicated that the database should be reflective of "who" is working in a particular area to give the user a point of contact.
- c. **Sesquicentennial Celebration:** Sara Steinert Borella gave a presentation of the Sesquicentennial Celebration at the Steger Center for International Scholarship (**see attached**). The presentation also included the programs for fall 2022 which include 24 students in Architecture, 5 students in GeoSciences, and 20 students in European Affairs in a Global Context (PoSci). Theresa complimented Sara and recognized her for the work she has done at the Steger Center over the past year.

8. Member Announcements/Comments:

Jennifer Nardine announced Iuliia Hoban is organizing International Week November 10-14, 2022 (<https://international.vt.edu/IEW.html>). Workshops and Iuliia has been invited to talk about the events for the October meeting.

Jennifer Clevenger announced the joint program between Virginia Tech (Pamplin College of Business) and Xidian University where students will spend three (3) years in China and come to Virginia Tech for one (1) year; the first cohort of 98 students has been accepted. Jennifer C. also announced the acceptance of the third cohort of 63 students with Narsee Monjee; (the first cohort brought 29 students the second brought 52 students). The program is a 3+1+1, where three (3) years are spent in India, the Senior and Masters years are spent with Virginia Tech.

Kimberly asked the committee to bring the information to their colleagues, departments, etc. regarding the process for bringing International Visitors to campus; there is a website (<https://www.outreach.vt.edu/international/international-visitors.html>) that provides detailed information on the process. Most importantly, the process begins with the Export Control Questionnaire that must be completed; and the request for Administration-VPOIA-001 to request the President, Provost, VP for OIA (Guru Ghosh) and AVP for International Affairs (Don Hempson). The form collects the purpose of the visit as well as background information on the visitors. Even if delegations are not meeting with upper administration, the form helps our office make some connections of other partnerships that are on-going at Virginia Tech.

A reminder that the next meeting will be held on **Monday, October 24, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. (Blacksburg Time)/4:00 p.m. (Swiss Time).**

9. Adjournment: There being no further business and no objections, the meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

2022-2023 Meeting Dates

All meetings will take place from 10:00-11:00 a.m. (Blacksburg Time). Those members unable to attend are encouraged to send a proxy/alternate to the meeting. We anticipate meetings to be in person at 526 Prices Fork Road as well as via Zoom for remote participants. A determination for Zoom Only meetings will be made based on community health guidelines prior to meetings. Zoom links will be made available for each meeting.

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| ➤ October 24, 2022 | ➤ February 27, 2023 |
| ➤ November 28, 2022 | ➤ March 27, 2023 |
| ➤ NO DECEMBER MEETING | ➤ April 24, 2023 |
| ➤ January 23, 2023 | ➤ NO MAY MEETING |

Respectfully submitted

Kimberly Rhodes,
Recording Secretary

UCIA CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR POSITION DESCRIPTIONS

Vice Chair: *This position will represent the Chair when the Chair is unavailable to attend meetings. This may include, but is not limited to attending the Commission on Outreach and International Affairs (COIA) meetings; attending the Engagement Leadership Council (ELC) meetings; or Chairing the UCIA meeting in the Chair's absence. Additionally, the Vice Chair, in conjunction with the UCIA support staff handles the process for the Alumni Awards for International Education, Outreach and Research (three individual awards). Three main components of this process include coordinating a selection committee at the beginning of the process; reviewing application packets the end of January (January 31, 2022); and convening the selection committee to select a winner of each award in early-mid February. The Vice Chair typically becomes the Chair of UCIA for the following year.*

Chair: *Responsibilities may include, but are not limited to: representing UCIA as well as give monthly reports to the Commission on Outreach and International Affairs (COIA) (September-May); attending the Engagement Leadership Council (ELC) meetings; developing the monthly UCIA AGENDA; chairing UCIA meetings; coordinating with UCIA support staff communications to the committee; communicating and assisting with working groups; reviewing meeting minutes for accuracy; organizing speakers.*



The Steger Center for International Scholarship

RIVA SAN VITALE SEPTEMBER 2022



- We welcomed 35 guests from abroad and another 65 from the local community for four days of activities in celebration of the Sesquicentennial in Switzerland.



Activities included a wine-tasting, a gala dinner, local excursions, and networking opportunities.



At right, Don Hempson and the Villa Maderni decked out for the festivities.

At left, Scott Nelson speaking to participants about Switzerland's role in Europe. Photo taken at the Customs' Museum, Lake Lugano.









New furniture and fresh paint in the Villa Maderni.



Steger Center for International Scholarship, Summer 2022

- Welcomed programs from CLiGS, Neuroscience, GPP, Sustainability, Dementia Care in May, June, and early July
- Facilitated collaborations with local universities and organizations, including visits, shared lectures, and joint activities



Steger Center for
International
Scholarship,
Fall 2022

- 49 students at the Steger Center, 24 in Architecture, 5 in GeoSciences and 20 in European Affairs in a Global Context (PolSci)
- Integrated living situation and programming
- Emphasis on integrated Italian courses and community-based experiences



Steger Center for International Scholarship, 2023

- Spring 2023: appr. 50 students from Architecture, Eurasia (PolSci, TBC) and PGS
- Summer 2023: Neuroscience, GPP, Inspire (PCoB), Dementia Care, Engineering Ed
- Fall 2023: planned programs in Civil Engineering, Food and Health in CH, European Affairs, Arch, and GeoSciences



Steger Center for International Scholarship, Faculty and Professional Development

- Faculty Development Workshop: Study Abroad as Engaged, High-Impact Learning (July 2023)
- Race in the Marketplace Network Workshop (July 2023)
- Workshop on Refugees, Migration, and Displacement (Dec 2023)

