

UCIA Meeting
Monday, September 28, 2015
1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
International Affairs Offices, Conference Room A

Present:

Don Back, *Director, Language and Culture Institute*
Jenene Belcher, *Transfer Evaluation Coordinator, University Registrar*
David Brady, *Director, Office of Export and Secure Research Compliance*
David Clubb, *Director, Cranwell International Center*
Van Crowder, *Director, Office of International Research, Education, and Development (OIRE)*
Andrew Fortin, *Financial Aid Specialist, University Scholarships and Financial Aid*
Guru Ghosh, *Vice President for Outreach and International Affairs*
Inge Haugen, *University Libraries*
Sonia Hirt, *Associate Dean, College of Architecture and Urban Studies*
Theresa Johansson, *Director, Global Education Office*
Reed Kennedy, *Director of International Programs, Pamplin College of Business*
Stephanie Lang, *Director of Academic Programs, College of Natural Resources and the Environment*
Ian Leuschner, *Director, International Support Services*
Gary Long, *Associate Dean, College of Science*
Jerzy Nowak, *International Program Coordinator, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences*
Ginny Ritenour, *Alumni Chapter Coordinator, Virginia Tech Alumni Association*
Nicole Sanderlin, *Director of International Programs, College of Engineering*
Gerhard Schurig
Debra Stoudt, *Associate Dean for Academic Policies and Procedures, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences*

Guests:

Andrea Brunais, *Communications Director, Outreach and International Affairs*
Michael Herndon, *Director, Office of Summer and Winter Sessions*
Randy Penson, *Assistant Director for Global Safety and Risk Management*
Charles Phlegar, *Vice President for Advancement*
Miriam Rich, *Director of Communications, OIRE*
Eliza Wethey, *Associate Director of Global Engagement, VT Engage*

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

Nicole Sanderlin called the meeting to order and asked all participants to introduce themselves. A motion to approve the minutes of the August meeting was made by Ian Leuschner and approved unanimously.

2. Introduction of Advancement Division

Charles Phlegar, the newly-hired Vice President for Advancement, attended the meeting to discuss plans for new funding initiatives. President Sands has merged the offices of Alumni Association, University Relations, and Development to help avoid fundraising silos and to follow a trend that universities with successful funding models are implementing. Mr. Phlegar stated that Virginia Tech has to establish a culture of giving; consequently the new hires for department heads of University Relations and the Alumni Association have been recruited with the aim of developing a more robust program of annual funding and gifts. The offices are now in the process of revising communication strategies and creating brochures to better engage alumni. Mr. Phlegar noted that across campus all departments and programs need more

money but the university does have a large and prosperous alumni base. Mr. Phlegar earned two degrees from Virginia Tech and has kept abreast of its status, and hopes to use the lessons he learned from his time at Cornell to create an equally successful funding program here. He observed that alumni are not very engaged in international volunteer programs and that the university needs to leverage the connections, influence, and wealth of its former students. There is increasingly a push to internationalize land grant universities. Mr. Phlegar plans to begin by identifying key three areas to begin an international campaign, adding that beyond inviting people to donate and attend events, it is imperative to get involved in-country overseas. Students at the University of Tennessee voluntarily agreed to donate \$10/person to fund international student travel; this is commendable but students must spearhead this type of effort. Mr. Phlegar stated the need to come up with a strategy to encourage cash donations available immediately as opposed to endowments. It was noted that VT alumni indicate they are really happy with their student experience but bad about giving; a Gallup Poll indicates VT is #3 for positive experiences but ranks extremely low in fundraising with alumni donations at a mere 9%, compared to 18 - 25% for most public schools. This disconnect needs to be examined. The Alumni Association is upgrading its database of international alumni and the library is willing to assist with that project. The UCIA can help by encouraging all those active in the international arena to advocate for greater engagement on behalf of the alumni and assist the university in building its international alumni network and leveraging those connections. Failure to do so will put VT in an extremely precarious financial situation in just 25 years.

After Mr. Phlegar left, Dr. Sanderlin suggested preparing a memo from the UCIA to suggest key needs for an international campaign. She will work on a memo on behalf of the UCIA and Ginny Ritenour of the Alumni Association offered to assist. It will be crucial to tap into people's positive experiences. One issue is that email addresses often change after students graduate and it is difficult to keep that information current in any database. Another issue to be addressed is rankings; VT does well nationally but not so well internationally. Different approaches were mentioned to raise the university's profile such as winning grants from the Gates Foundation and developing a strategy to mobilize more quickly for funding opportunities. Previously there had been discussion about getting a development officer dedicated to international endeavors and the group should continue to push for that; funding would have to come from the home unit which in this case is Outreach and International Affairs. This is an important issue and not improbable, as Student Affairs has a dedicated development person. OIRED is also hiring a development specialist. This is a matter that needs to be moved forward; ideas should be sent to Dr. Sanderlin and David Clubb, and the topic will stay on the agenda in coming months.

3. International aspects of VT-Engage

VT Engage Associate Director for Global Engagement Eliza Wethey gave a presentation on how the three components of VT-Engage—community, faculty, and students—collaborate to create partnerships and work locally on service opportunities. International projects are being expanded to the Dominican Republic, where they will work with student leaders and incorporate reflection while on the trip and upon return. These are non-credit bearing programs but still provide a valuable learning experience. These types of opportunities will continue to expand with a focus on partnerships. VT-Engage will work with the GEO and Risk Management to capture all travel and ensure compliance with insurance compliance and health and safety regulations, but they also want to avoid making the process so cumbersome that participants get discouraged. The goal is to promote and support student leadership and faculty-led service learning. There is concern that students should be able to get credit for their work; the current no-credit model was passed down through previous standards but offering credit could help recruit participants since it is sometimes a struggle to get enough volunteers for a specific project or travel opportunity. Concerns were raised about what is being done to foster an international atmosphere with these projects, since the university wants departments to create a more global world view but does not understand the limitations to integrating US and international students. VT Engage offers some programs

like 'Get on the Bus' Saturday service programs and weekend service immersion trips, but scholarship funding is non-existent and costs can be prohibitive; they are also trying to engage in some fundraising. It was suggested that international students can recommend or refer projects and communities in need from their knowledge; since local domestic projects are often developed as such by students, this strategy of identifying global partners is also a possibility. VT Engage expressed interest in partnering with VCOM (Via College of Osteopathic Medicine) for opportunities during their medical mission trips.

4. 'Global Village' update

Theresa Johansson reported that this project is still in the idea-generating phase. The most recent meeting produced some energetic and exciting suggestions and conversation, and there appear to be no limit to people's expectations for this living-learning community.

5. Constituent reports

a. International Education Policy Committee

The group will be putting forward some resolutions aimed at reviewing and revising existing policies to update university documents and standardize the language. The Global Travel Oversight Committee (GTOC) will be addressing this during their first meeting and work on the definitions of terms such as "university-sponsored" and "university-affiliated." The GTOC will consist of Theresa Johansson, Karl Markgraf, Rachel Holloway, Kay Heibredner, David Brady, KF, Randy Penson, Guru Ghosh, and EW. The committee also discussed the process for the new Hokie Sentinel travel monitoring system and how they can streamline information with the aim of knowing where VT personnel are at all times. Several incidents have taken place earlier in the year that proved it works. Other resolutions being drafted include policies regarding auditing classes during study abroad travel and offering in-state tuition for out-of-state students on study abroad trips, since under the current model this demographic is not participating. The committee will also be working on college and departmental fees charged to exchange students. Council members were reminded about strict adherence to graduate and undergraduate exchange nominees. There are different levels of tuition between the graduate and undergraduate programs that won't permit exchanges between these levels on a 1-to-1 basis, although other ratios such as 2 ½ -1 or 3-1 may be possible.

b. Global Education Office

The office has implemented a risk assessment form, which will be presented at the revised faculty program leader training sessions on October 15 – 16. The Fall Fair on September 23 was successful. Discussions with the offices of Financial Aid and the Registrar are ongoing to overcome some hurdles in reintroducing scholarships. The new advisor has been hired and is undergoing a background check prior to starting; two other positions are opening soon. An inquiry was made as to whether there should be a college representative on the GTOC; colleges have personnel on the ground doing programs and could offer valuable insight. The committee member recommendations had come from Guru Ghosh and can be changed. The project to revise summer programs and compensation models is on hold for now; Karl Markgraf will be leading this effort.

c. Office of International Research, Education, and Development

Van Crowder reported that a delegation from VT recently traveled to Senegal, including John Rudd from the Office of Sponsored Programs. Former Chief of Party Larry Vaughan is returning to Blacksburg and Tom Archibald is taking his place since the project was extended one year. Despite some stumbles, the project has ultimately been viewed as successful and has generated some valuable lessons learned that can be applied to InnovATE. The office is in the process of investigating the potential to launch projects in

Iraq, Kenya, Indonesia, and South Sudan. Lots of initiatives are available, with objectives and goals that are of interest to other sources of funding such as the Gates Foundation.

d. Language and Culture Institute

Don Back reported that the LCI is also engaged in proposal writing as they seek funding for projects for next spring and summer. Among these are programs in Afghanistan and a pan-African State Department initiative.

e. Cranwell International Center

David Clubb provided some enrollment reports and statistics. There is a 46% increase in new international undergraduate students, from 376 to 549. International student enrollment at the Graduate School jumped 29% from 456 to 590. There is a total international student population of 3573—a 17% increase from last year—with 1508 undergraduate and 2065 graduate students. In addition to highlighting this information, council members should consider what the numbers mean; in immediate terms, it is resulting in increased staffing at Cranwell.

f. Office of Export and Secure Research Compliance

David Brady announced that restrictions on Cuba are changing; they are expanding the definition of permissions, and no filing will be required for educational programs. The annual review of the international visitor task force is taking place and the number of high-risk departments on campus has fallen from 115 to 12.

g. International Support Services

Ian Leuschner announced that Associate Director Mollie LoJacono left in July and has been replaced by Dena Neese, an immigration attorney. Ian is working on the post-earthquake assistance for Nepal funding and should have information about that by the end of the week. He is working on a new system for the MOUs and will test it with experienced stakeholders such as Reed Kennedy, Debby Stoudt, and Nicole Sanderlin. In conjunction with Cranwell, the LCI, and the GEO, ISS is sponsoring an international tailgate party on Friday, October 9 from 5:30 – 7 at the former international center. In addition to food, the Hokie Bird and some of the bands will make an appearance.

There were no other items to discuss and the meeting was adjourned at 3:00.

7. Schedule of meetings for 2015-2016 academic year (all meetings to take place from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m., Conference Room A, International Affairs Offices):

October 26	January 25
November 30	February 29
December 14	March 28
	April 25
	May 9