

University Committee on International Affairs (UCIA)
Minutes
September 28, 2020
Zoom

Attendees:

Latanya Walker, Don Back, Jennifer Nardine, Nicole Sanderlin, Don Hempson, April Raphiou, Janell Watson, Tom Thompson, Valerie Regan, Theresa Johansson, David Clubb, Monica Gibson, Mallory Miller, Lara Khansa, Gene Ball, Guru Ghosh, Jenene Belcher, John Talerico, Rich Mathieson, Patricia Hughes

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions: Latanya welcomed each person present. Everyone introduced themselves.
2. Nomination for Vice-Chair: After some discussion, it was decided that Latanya and Patricia would “put their heads together” for a working plan.

3. Global Data Working Group update:

Nicole and Don are working with University Data Commons. There is data in a lot of places within the university. They are working on a basic Beta version that includes:

data pulled from faculty travel and data pulled from student travel

The hope is to have this Beta version available to the UCIA members for our next meeting in October. Other suggestions for inclusion include alumni and international student data. This may be revised at a later date. International student data already has a dashboard.

4. Update from UCIA Units:

- a. CIRED is preparing for the launch of the Peace Corps prep certificate program. An announcement should be coming within the next month. More information will be sent when available.
- b. Nicole announced a virtual conference through AACU on global learning response to Covid-19, October 8-10. If interested, please contact Nicole.
- c. Global Education just completed their first ever Virtual Study Abroad Week, coordinated by Rommelyn Conde. It had both live and pre-recorded sessions. There were 600 participants. While there were challenges, there were also positives in that it provided a base of information to be used later.

Fulbright has been reorganized. The contact for each group is listed on the GEO website.

- d. Cranwell will have enrollment data to share at the next meeting. Initial indicators point toward a decline in the numbers of undergraduate and graduate students.

- e. LCI is working on multiple proposals. Patricia Parera is working on a Humphries Fellow program in substance abuse, treatment and prevention. They are working in an IREX proposal with the University of Mosul for a Center for English Language-all instruction would be virtual. Student recruitment events continue to be virtual in conjunction with Education USA.
5. Challenges and opportunities related to the pandemic:
- a. Challenge-limited mobility for international students and students wanting to go overseas.
 - b. Opportunity-developing capabilities for online training programs.
 - c. Opportunity-Breakout rooms for a virtual meet and greet.
 - d. Opportunity-The virtual Study Abroad Fair has produced a library of promotional materials to draw from.
 - e. Opportunity-Faculty members have worked to get materials about their programs on video.

6. Guru Advancement Charge

Global advancement must be front and center of the university's advancement plan to ensure that we are able to build a global strategy which includes student engagement for students; curriculum enhancement and development; and a global research perspective.

It is time for us to think about a plan for international (global) advancement. What do we want to ask for? What personnel would be needed to meet the needs? Can we show the value? What is UCIA's role?

7. COIA Updates and OIA Accomplishments

Guru gave many OAI updates including the recognition of the completion of the Arabic language program. He also recognized the efforts of LCI and GEO in adapting to the current pandemic environment. He cited activities at CIREC, Steger, 3+1+1, Botswana, College of Engineering, College of Liberal Arts, Fralin Life Sciences, and Economic Development.

He concluded by commending everyone for the work they have done over the last several months.

8. Sesquicentennial-150th Anniversary of Virginia Tech

There will be a year of events. Members have been invited to participate in a focus group to plan events with an international theme. This is an opportunity to have global events highlighted. More information will be forthcoming.

Adjournment-There being no further business, a motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting. The next meeting will be held on Monday, October 26 at 10:30 AM via Zoom.

Patricia S. Hughes
Recording Secretary