

University Committee on International Affairs (UCIA)
Minutes
October 25, 2021
Zoom and In-Person

Attendees: Theresa Johansson, Michel Pleimling, Nicole Sanderlin, Farida Jalalzai, Monika Gibson, Jennifer Nardine, Janell Watson, Rachel Fitzgerald, Rich Mathieson, Kim Rhodes, Dave Trinkle, Lara Khansa, Brady Deaton, Mallory Miller, Danny White, Don Hempson, Ian Leuschner

1. Approval of September minutes

The September minutes were distributed electronically and no corrections were submitted. Therefore; they stand approved as distributed.

2. Election of Vice Chair

Farida Jalalzai from the Department of Political Science was elected to service as Vice-Chair for 2021-2022.

3. Remaining member introductions

Brady Deaton, Lana Khansa, Ian Leuschner, Mallory Miller, Danny White and Dave Trinkle introduced themselves to the group and were welcomed by all.

4. Report on University Data Commons Global Engagement App

Nicole Sanderlin gave a presentation to the group on the Data Commons Global Engagement App. She provided the dashboard link: <https://udc.vt.edu> so that all members could visit the site and explore what is currently available. There are two sections:

1. VT Authorized User
2. Open Access

All UCIA members should have access to the site. If you do not, please complete the request form or contact Nicole for access.

Each section provides information that can help departments and college. Nicole noted that each data set includes an explanation of data sources. There is also a link to SciVal for those who wish to dig deeper into information on international collaborations.

It was noted that the page representing for-credit study abroad is still being built; they are working through some FERPA-related issues in this area. Right now, the site pulls information on study abroad *applications*, which does not match completed study abroad. Lara Khansa remarked that it would be very useful to include international internships and to be able to sort data by college.

Nicole request everyone to look it over, do some research and send her suggestions and/or comments for ways to improve the app.

Don Hempson thanked Nicole for leading this effort over the past couple of years.

5. Work of the committee for 2021-2022

Theresa outlined the COIA priorities for 21-22 and suggested that UCIA might want to pattern their priorities along the same lines. COIA's priorities are: Study Abroad, Collaborations, sustained funding for study abroad, positioning the institution to be eligible for federal funds, and bringing entrepreneurial projects to Virginia Tech.

a. International MOU/agreement process mapping

Don discussed the MOU process, the challenges of the data base, the mapping process and the initiator process. His goal for UCIA is to help streamline the process.

b. Alumni Awards for Excellence-International Education, Outreach, and Education

Farida Jalalzai, Vice Chair will be chair of this committee. Volunteers to serve on the selection committee are needed.

c. COIA 2021-2022 priorities

After much discussion, the group identified these possible working groups:

1. Alumni Awards (Farida Jalalzai, chair)
2. International MOU/Agreement Process and Database (Don Hempson, chair)
3. Home Community (Campus and Local) Globalization
4. Global Advancement (Include international Alumni engagement)

Theresa requested that anyone that would like to serve on one of these working groups, contact her. She is looking for about 4 members per group. If it turns out there is very low interest in groups 2, 3, or 4, that working group will not be pursued.

6. Possible updates to UCIA membership

A motion was made and seconded to expand membership to include a representative from OSP and CETL. Kim Rhodes suggested that the UCIA Bylaws be changed similarly to when they were changed in 2019 adding the VT Carilion School of Medicine. She will forward the Resolution that was presented and approved by COIA then. This constitutes the first reading. The second reading will occur in November.

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, November 22, 2021 at 11:00 AM.

Patricia S. Hughes
Recording Secretary