

**University Committee on International Affairs (UCIA)**  
**Minutes**  
**October 26, 2020**  
**Zoom**

Attendees:

Latanya Walker, Don Back, April Raphiou, Rachel Fitzgerald, Juan Espinoza, Jennifer Nardine, Don Hempson, Valerie Ragan, Rich Mathieson, Jenene Belcher, Jennifer Clevenger, Monika Gibson, David Clubb, Danny White, Gene Ball, Tom Thompson, Nicole Sanderlin, John Talerico, Patricia Hughes

**Agenda**

1. Welcome and Introductions: Latanya welcomed each person present. Everyone introduced themselves.
2. Nomination for Vice-Chair: After some discussion, Don Back nominated Danny White to serve as Vice-Chair. The nomination was approved.
3. Global Data Working Group update:  
  
Discussion about the report that was sent to COIA was met with a suggestion that this information be reviewed for relevance. Don, Latanya and Nicole will review the document and make suggestions to this committee.
4. Update from UCIA Units:
  - a. CIREd's newsletter is being released today. April reported on the value chain project led by Ralph Hall and Jessica Agnew.
  - b. LCI is participating in virtual events to stay connected with prospective students. They are working on setting up an outpost in China.
  - c. Nicole announced Career Net-working for International Students to be held October 28 from 12:00-1:00 pm.
  - d. Latanya mentioned a meet & greet for students and Alumni. She will distribute more information.
  - e. GEO-Rachel announced that there is updated preflight information on their website. She also stated that they had completed a successful virtual Study Abroad week.
  - f. Cranwell-David reported Cranwell is busy responding to changes in International Travel. He stated that Virginia's Attorney General is championing for International students.
  - g. Danny White reminded the committee that the Swim Coach is a Venezuela and is available to speak to groups. He also offered support from Athletics to International students that are "trapped" her for the holidays. He further stated that International recruiting is being conducted via zoom.
5. Juan Espinoza, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management and Director of Undergraduate Admissions provided updates. He reported that the visitors center was closed, on-campus tours have been replaced with virtual tours that have been adapted to meet the

needs of a diverse group. He mentioned a live event zoom which allows for questions and answers with alternate dates and time to accommodate the needs of international prospects.

He continued to provide statistics that there are 201 International students enrolled. This is the most diverse class in Virginia Tech's history

6. 2020-2021 Focus

The following topics were listed as potential topics of focus:

- GEO-"Global at Home"
- Advocacy and storytelling
- Alumni connections
- Website
- Building Community
- Recruitment of Outbound students
- Mobility

It was agreed that more discussion into these and other areas is necessary.

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 23 at 10:30 AM via Zoom.

Patricia S. Hughes  
Recording Secretary