

## **UCIA Meeting**

**Monday, November 30, 2015**

**1:30 – 3:00 p.m.**

**International Affairs Offices, Conference Room A**

Jackie Bixler, Chair, *Foreign Languages and Literatures*

David Clubb, *Director, Cranwell International Center*

Inga 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*

Vicki Langford, *Registrar's Office*

Ian Leuschner, *Director, International Support Services*

Karl Markgraf, *Associate Vice President for International Affairs*

Jerzy Nowak, *International Programs, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences*

Ginny Ritenour, *Alumni Chapter Coordinator, Virginia Tech Alumni Association*

Nicole Sanderlin, *Director of International Programs, College of Engineering*

Pete Smith, *Graduate Student Association*

Debra Stoudt, *Associate Dean for Academic Policies and Procedures, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences*

Judy Taylor, *Staff Senate; Office of the Provost*

Eric Vance, *Faculty Senate; Assistant Research Professor and Director of LISA (Laboratory for Interdisciplinary Statistical Analysis)*

Larry Vaughan, *Office of International Research, Education, and Development (OIRE)*

### **1. Welcome, introductions, and approval of October minutes**

Nicole Sanderlin called the meeting to order and asked participants to introduce themselves. A motion to approve the minutes of the October meeting was made by Karl Markgraf, seconded by Ian Leuschner, and approved unanimously.

### **2. Constituent reports**

#### **a. International Support Services**

Ian Leuschner reported that to date they have not received any applications for the Nepal proposal, but he and Karl Markgraf would be happy to answer any questions about the project. Applications are due the first week of the spring semester. Ian is working with the Office of Risk Management to add J-1 scholars to the VT insurance pool and is waiting on a quote from Aetna. Adding the scholars may affect the prices, since the scholars tend to be older and the insurer would likely be paying more claims. Scholars would have the option to pay monthly premiums rather than a lump sum payment.

#### **b. OIRE**

Larry Vaughan announced that the office is preparing a proposal for a USAID-funded project regarding natural resource management in Ghana. Jerzy Nowak is also working with on the proposal and they are partnering with an international NGO as well. Dr. Vaughan will be traveling to Ghana on a scoping trip for this five-year multi-million dollar project. Catholic Relief Services has recently contacted OIRE regarding future collaborations, so the office is benefitting from a positive reputation.

**c. Cranwell International Center**

David Clubb reported that a bus traveling from Richmond after the Thanksgiving holiday crashed en route to Roanoke; several Virginia Tech students were on board, including an international undergraduate. Dean of Students Tom Brown is handling this situation and was unable to attend today's meeting.

**d. Global Education**

Theresa Johansson reported that there will be 12 Wintermester programs this year with a total of 182 student participants. This is an increase from last year's numbers (10 programs /146 participants). During the spring semester 96 students are scheduled to participate in different types of programs (exchanges as well as faculty-led short-term or semester-long programs). There appears to be an uptick in interest in programs in Latin America and Africa.

**e. International Education Policy Committee**

The second IEPC meeting of the year will take place on Monday, December 7 from 1:45 – 2:45. Among the agenda items is identifying the topics the group will address; ideas can be forwarded to Theresa Johansson. The IEPC was created as a working subgroup of the UCIA with a more manageable size.

There have been queries about students changing travel plans due to the terrorist attacks in Paris. One student who was in Europe did return early but there has been no widespread cancellation, which seemingly would have affected both Wintermester and spring travel. Summer programs should have time to recover, although the Communications program that goes to the Steger Center each year has decided to cancel its program. The Global Travel Oversight Committee (GTOC) will be issuing an announcement regarding travel and safety. The GTOC policy is to promote safety and security but not to make declarations about which places are safe and which are not safe. Among their work is reviewing travel to countries under State Department travel warnings, such as Mexico, which for years has had problems but is also a large country with varying levels of safety between regions. Some universities have a 'black and white' approach to safety but Virginia Tech prefers to look at the bigger picture and analyze each program, using resources on campus such as faculty who have traveled and conducted research in locations under scrutiny. Randy Penson, the assistant director for global safety and risk management, was commended for his leadership in implementing these procedures.

**f. OIA**

Karl Markgraf reported that Guru Ghosh had led a team to India to follow up on the research facility project. The original partnership was dissolved and Virginia Tech is now partnering with MGR University in Chennai to continue work on the facility, which has its main focus on energy harvesting. A group included representatives from University Legal Counsel and the controller's office. The team was able to reuse some equipment from the original project, including a wind tunnel, and it appears the facility is on track to be completed in the fall of 2016.

### **3. Global Travel Oversight Committee (GTOC) Updates**

Theresa Johansson had already discussed some of the GTOC's work, particularly regarding the terrorist/counterterrorist work in Paris. The two groups at the Steger Center were scheduled to visit Paris on the way home, one for curricular travel and the other for non-curricular travel. GTOC decided to make the recommendation that they not go to Paris, especially since the French government requested that student groups not visit. The GTOC meets every other week to conduct work such as reviewing policy changes, introducing common language for all policies, and using common insurance carriers. Hokie Sentinel will become the tool for reviewing programs and will be approved in the spring for full implementation for fall programs.

### **4. UCIA Membership Addendum**

David Clubb introduced a memo to add a representative from the Corps of Cadets/ROTC to the UCIA membership. The rationale behind this is the Corps' global focus, to include increasing the number of student international travel programs and implementing a global leadership development initiative. As per regulations this topic must be introduced at two meetings prior to voting and then moved to COIA for approval. In the meantime, Dr. Elaine Humphrey will be invited to attend as a guest. The final vote may be done via an online poll.

### **5. Alumni Awards for International Excellence**

Larry Vaughan reported that the call for nominations alumni awards for excellence in international education, outreach, and research was finished and will be sent out to UCIA members for distribution. Nominations are due on January 29. The review committee may be meeting prior to the deadline to review and discuss the selection process.

### **6. Global Village report**

Theresa Johansson reported that the last meeting of the Global Village planning committee consisted of a visit to an existing learning-living community to gain a better understanding of how those function, how the concept of living-learning communities can be applied to the 'Global Village' project, and how the project could enhance a living-learning community.

### **7. Other items**

- Nicole Sanderlin suggested that constituents submit a short list of bulleted items prior to the meetings as part of their update. The COIA requires this, and it gives attendees time to respond to the information and better address any issues or concerns. Constituents would receive reminders and deadlines for submitting their reports, but a missed deadline would not preclude participation in a meeting.
- Council members agreed to cancel the December meeting since it is only two weeks away.

There were no further items to discuss and the meeting was adjourned at 2:10.

### **8. 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):**

January 25	April 25
February 29	May 9
March 28	