

COMMISSION ON OUTREACH AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Minutes

February 16, 2017; 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Gateway Center; 902 Prices Fork Road; Suite 120

Attendance: Jan Helge Bøhn, Andrea Brunais, Dave Close, Svetlana Filiatreau, Guru Ghosh, Ed Jones, Roberto Leon, Kaveh Rahimi, Heinrich Schnoedt, Gerhardt Schurig, Brett Shadle, Susan Short, Ian Leuschner (for David Clubb/UCIA)

Absent: Bonnie Alberts, Kathy Alexander, Cyril Clarke, David Clubb, Brian Hairston, Sara Jordan, Karl Markgraf, Djordje Minic, Jordan Schoeneberger

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

Dave Close welcomed the group; self-introductions were made.

2. **Agenda Approval**

Dave Close made the call for motion to approve the agenda; motion made; was seconded and approved.

3. **Call for Announcements**

The call for announcements was made; Guru Ghosh spoke about a group that will be formed to look at Economic Development.

4. **Approval of Minutes, December 15, 2016**

The minutes from the December 15, 2016 meeting were sent out electronically for updates; were approved electronically; were sent to University Council and will be posted to the University Governance website upon approval by University Council. Minutes can be found at: <http://www.governance.vt.edu/>.

5. **Chairman's Report**

Dave Close gave the reports for the Engagement Leadership Council (ELC) meeting in which members discussed the conference incentive funds as well as Continuing and Professional Education's announcement of new price structures for conferences. The suggestion was made for price structures to be reviewed annually to avoid announcing large increases. The prices will increase effective July 1st. Also discussed was the 2017 Engagement Scholarship Consortium annual conference to be held in Birmingham Alabama September 26-17, 2017. Submission deadline for presentations and posters is March 15, 2017; the link is <https://engagementscholarship.org/upload/conferences/2017ESC-call-for-proposals.pdf>.

The resolutions for the February 9th University Council meeting will be discussed at the next meeting. All minutes can be found at: <http://www.governance.vt.edu/>.

6. **Vice-Chairman's Report**

Jan Helge Bøhn reported on the Alumni Awards for Outreach Excellence. He indicated there was one (1) application packet for the team award and two (2) application packets for the individual award. Discussion also included re-defining outreach vs engagement to attract more applications. Susan Short offered to take the language for the awards definition to the ELC for review and recommendations back to COIA. Jan Helge offered to include scholarship of engagement as well. Discussion also included name changes for the awards and the impact on

other names that include outreach vs engagement. Others discussed that their application packets for awards were down as well.

7. **Reports**

a. **Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE)**

Ed Jones talked about the annual winter conference that VCE hosted last week. The conference was hosted virtually and there were good reports and feedback on the conference. Ed encouraged the members that if there is a need to share information across extension agents, there is a possibility of getting the agents and colleges together virtually.

b. **University Committee on International Affairs (UCIA) Meeting**

Ian Leuschner, Vice-Chair of UCIA, attended the meeting for David Clubb. Ian spoke about a letter to be submitted to the Provost in support for credit for international scholarship and education by faculty; UCIA is in support of the endorsement. He asked if COIA might be willing to also draft a letter of support. Brett Shadle mentioned that through the faculty senate it was noted that service doesn't appear in the new budget model. Ian also discussed that Juan Espinoza spoke to UCIA on international recruitment as a guest speaker; and information about the executive order/travel ban is on line; although there haven't been many updates due to the current court blocks. The website is: <http://www.vt.edu/immigration.html>; the email for questions is vtimmigration@vt.edu. Discussion included visa interview waiver process and the impact of the seven (7) countries. The ban affects over 100 students from the seven (7) countries here at Virginia Tech. Minutes for the UCIA meetings can be found on-line at: <http://www.outreach.vt.edu/VP/CommissionsAndCommittees/ucia/uciaminutes.html>.

8. **Commission Board Member Comments**

Dave Close made the call for comments; Ian talked about committees having a filter when reviewing applications for the awards; some faculty see the awards process as a hassle.

Roberto Leon asked why the DAAD English exam in Germany was not valid for J-1 applicants. Ian indicated that the Virginia Tech Admissions office bases the criteria on certain acceptable tests, but does not recognize the DAAD test. The best test is the SKYPE interview. Discussion included Graduate Admissions accepting the test, Ian indicated he would have to check into it.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, all in favor; adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Rhodes
Recording Secretary

TENTATIVE MEETING DATES FOR 2016-2017

*(All meetings will be from **3:30-4:30 p.m.** and will take place at the Gateway Center-902 Prices Fork)*

- March 16, 2017
- April 20, 2017
- May 11, 2017