

# **COMMISSION ON OUTREACH AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

**Minutes**

**February 19, 2015**

**3:30-4:30 p.m.**

**325 Burruss Hall**

**Attendance:** Jan Helge Bohn, Howard Chung, Christine Fiori, Guru Ghosh, Shannon Jarrott, Ed Jones, Reed Kennedy, Nicole Sanderlin (sub for Don Back), Llyn Sharp, Elankumaran Subbiah

**Absent:** Montasir, Abbas, Kathy Alexander, Don Back, Andrea Brunais, Kirsten Buhls, Lee Cooper, Brian Hairston, Andrew Overbay, Michael Schwarz, Susan Short, Elizabeth Spiller, Ian Van Pelt, Eric Vance

## **1. Welcome and Introductions**

Reed Kennedy welcomed the group and self-introductions were made.

## **2. Agenda Approval**

Reed made a call for the approval of the agenda and any changes; the agenda was motioned to approve as is; was seconded and was approved.

## **3. Announcements**

Reed made the call for announcements.

Guru Ghosh announced that the search for the Office of International Research, Education and Development (OIRED) Director is in process as well as the Associate Vice President for International Affairs search. Howard Chung announced that there is a very good reception from the graduate students in relation to the reduced/free classes being offered to spouses and partners of international students. Shannon Jarrott announced that she will be transitioning to Ohio State and will be unable to fulfill the duties of COIA Chair for next year; a new Chair will need to be nominated.

## **4. Approval of Minutes, December 11, 2014**

The minutes from the December 11, 2014 meeting were sent out electronically for updates; have been approved and sent to University Council and to the University Governance website.

([http://www.governance.vt.edu/comcout/minutes\\_12-11-14.pdf](http://www.governance.vt.edu/comcout/minutes_12-11-14.pdf))

## **5. Chairman's Report**

Reed reported on the February 2, 2015 University Council meeting; the February 16<sup>th</sup> meeting was moved to February 23<sup>rd</sup>. The old business included the Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs resolution to approve the revision on to the faculty handbook concerning the grievance policy and; the motion passed. Also presented was the second reading from the Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies resolution to discontinue the Master of Science degree in Dairy Science; the motion passed. The last resolution presented was from the Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies regarding discontinuing the Master of Science degree in Horticulture; the motion passed.

The new business and first reading included the Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies resolution to establish a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Executive Business Research. A presentation regarding the new NCAA structure and the Pylons of Promise was given. Minutes can be found at: <http://www.governance.vt.edu/>.

## **6. Vice-Chair's Report**

Shannon reported on behalf of the committee for the Alumni Awards for Outreach Excellence. She indicated there were winners for both the individual and team awards; but we are not to disclose the winners until they have been notified and until Special Events has made the announcement publically.

## **7. Reports**

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

Ed Jones indicated that the Excellence in Extension Award has been selected. Next week over 400 people will be attending a professional development workshop for extension agents.

### **b. University Council on International Affairs (UCIA) Meeting**

Nicole Sanderlin reported on behalf of Don Back on the January 26, 2015 UCIA meeting. She reported that Theresa Johansson has started as the new Director for the Global Education Office (GEO); the Language Culture Institute (LCI) has started offering reduced rate classes for international spouses/partners. President Sands was invited to the January meeting and reiterated his support for international programs; global village; and education abroad. There is a state requirement for J-1 scholars with regard to a language requirement. LCI is working to get on-line resources and working with the State Department requirements to facilitate this requirement. In Guru's conversations with President Sands, Dr. Sands indicated that he is interested in supporting undergraduate students; especially education abroad and making sure the global agenda is on both Provost and Development positions that are currently being advertised.

Jan Helge Bøhn spoke about the Cambridge test and exploring the process. Guru indicated that Don Back's office should be able to receive any information regarding the Cambridge test.

## **8. UCIA Bylaws Revisions**

Reed announced that the University Council on International Affairs (UCIA) is putting forth a resolution to COIA in order to update their bylaws. The language has already been approved through UCIA. Reed went through the revisions that are being proposed; first reading. Next meeting we will have the second reading and vote.

## **9. Commission Board Member Comments**

The international database was revisited from last meeting; and Guru indicated he was going to follow-up with Scott Farmer.

Shannon proposed some changes for the commission to consider for the Alumni Awards for next year. Some of these changes included: 1) eliminating the nomination phase; 2) receiving electronic applications; 3) clarifying the criteria in bulleted points; 4) having a previous winner provide a winning packet as an example of what a packet should look like; 5) readdressing the evaluation criteria form/ranking; 6) recognizing talented applications that did not win; 7) providing feedback for those who did not win; 8) increasing the award amount.

Guru indicated that he would speak to Tom Tillar about the award amounts.

Motion to adjourn was made, seconded, all in favor; adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Rhodes  
Recording Secretary