

COMMISSION ON OUTREACH AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
Minutes
April 15, 2021; 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Via Zoom

Attendance: Nick Copeland, Presiding; Tara Brent, Holly Carroll, Guru Ghosh, Ralph Hall, Don Hempson, Ashley Johnson, Ed Jones, Lee Learman, Ellie Monnig, Penny Muelenaer, Juan Luis Nicolau Gonzalbez, Nicole Nunoo, Robert Oliver, Morgan Paulette, Cassidy Rist, Peter Schmitthenner, Susan Short, Latanya Walker, Robert Weiss, Xiaowei Wu

Absent with Notice: Katrina Kirby

Absent without Notice: John Galbraith

Guests: Rich Mathieson

Welcome: Nick Copeland called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m. and welcomed the group. Attendees signed into the chat and visual attendance was taken; a quorum was established.

1. Adoption of Agenda:

A motion to adopt the agenda was made and seconded. The motion carried.

2. Announcement of Approval of Minutes, March 18, 2021:

Minutes from the March 18, 2021 meeting were approved electronically and can be accessed on the Governance Information System on the web (<http://www.governance.vt.edu/>).

3. Acceptance of Constituent Reports and/or Minutes:

- A. **Chairman's Report:** Nick presented a summary on the University Council meeting of April 5, 2021. **Old Business-Second Reading and Voting:** 1) Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity-Resolution to Modify Membership on the Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity; 2) Commission on Faculty Affairs-Resolution to Amend Faculty Senate Operations; 3) Commission on Faculty Affairs-Resolution to Approve the Awarding of Tenure in the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine; 4) Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies-Resolution to Discontinue Degree Program, Doctor of Education (EdD) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Career and Technical Education (EDCT); 5) Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies-Resolution to Approve New Major, European and Transatlantic Studies, in Bachelor of Arts in International Studies. **New Business-First Reading:** 1) Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies-Resolution to Approve New Major, Advertising, in Bachelor of Arts in Communication; 2) Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies-Resolution to Discontinue Major, Family and Consumer Sciences, in Bachelor of Science in Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management. **Presentations:** 1) Recruiting and Diversity Process-Bryan Garey, Jeff Cumberland, Whitney Abraham; 2) Climate Survey 2021-Bryan Garey, Christine Luketic, Tricia Simpson. Approved minutes for University Council can be found at: <https://governance.vt.edu/meeting-materials.php>.
- B. **Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE):** Ed Jones discussed funding from the CDC of \$25,000 for vaccine education, which hopefully will open the door for long-term program funding. Activities are starting to open up; there will be a reduced capacity, 4-H camp this summer; and news of the Coming Together for Racial Understanding program.
- C. **University Committee on International Affairs (UCIA):** Latanya Walker included a summary of the UCIA meeting from March 22, 2021. Discussion included Alumni Awards for International Education, Research and Outreach; including a possible re-structure of the awards to include a team component; and discussion of streamlining the MOU process.

D. **Global Alumni Engagement Committee Update:** Latanya Walker indicated that the committee has no update at this time; the data committee is still working to provide an update.

4. **Call for Announcements and Commission Board Member Comments:** Nick made the call for any announcements/comments. Susan Short announced the Engagement Scholarship Research/Creative Activities Grants Program for Faculty - Conducting scholarship that is mutually beneficial for the university scholar and for the community is a topic of great interest to members of the Engaged Scholarship Consortium (ESC). The ESC Scholarship Committee has been charged with the role of helping to facilitate this outcome for higher education faculty. In response to this need, a small grants program has been developed. Faculty at ESC Member Institutions may apply for up to \$5,000 to fund a one-year project. Application deadline is May 7, 2021. For additional information, go to [Application Procedures and Process - Engagement Scholarship Consortium](#). In addition, Susan shared that registration is currently open for the 2021 annual meeting of the Engagement Scholarship Consortium that will be held virtually September 13-15, 2021. For additional information, go to: [Registration - Engagement Scholarship Consortium](#).

Don Hempson announced there is a new Executive Director of the Steger Center; the public announcement is to be coming out soon; her official start date will be August 1st. The suggestion was made for the new Executive Director to possibly join a future COIA meeting as a guest.

Penny Muelenaer asked about contacts for the Consortium of Universities for Global Health and having Virginia Tech as a member. The suggestion was made for Lee Learman to start a discussion with the Dean's group that meets regularly for a possible joint membership.

Peter Schmitthenner asked about any requirement for students to be vaccinated prior to arrival in the fall. Lee indicated that this may be coming for the future; and discussions are ongoing with communication to be forthcoming.

Ralph Hall announced the 12th Annual International Science of Team Science (SciTS) Conference that is co-hosted by SPIA/VT will occur in June: <https://www.inscits.org/cfa2021>.

Don indicated that faculty wanting to travel abroad for research have been applying to the Global Travel Oversight Committee (GTOC); requirements from the host country for vaccinations are being taken into consideration for approval.

5. **Adjournment:** There being no further business, Nick thanked the group for attending; a motion was made to adjourn the meeting; seconded. The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

The next meeting will take place on May 6, 2021 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly Rhodes, Recording Secretary

PROPOSED DATES FOR 2021-2022 *(Meetings 3:30-4:30 p.m. unless indicated otherwise)*

- September 16 3:00-3:30 p.m. (Orientation for New Members)
- September 16 3:30-4:30 p.m. (Regular Meeting)
- October 21
- November 18
- December 9
- **NO JANUARY MEETING**
- February 17
- March 17
- April 21
- May 12