

MINUTES

Commission on Outreach and International Affairs

March 20, 2025

3:30-4:30 p.m.

120 Gateway/Zoom

Present: Francisco Carvallo (presiding), Tom Archibald, Guru Ghosh, Nicole Sanderlin (for Diana Bairaktarova), Susan Short, Richard Shryock, Amanda Stewart

Attendance (via Zoom): Ashley Appling, Eric Bendfeldt, Terry Clements, Mike Gutter, Cristalia Laing, Abigail Moore, Penny Muelenaer, Katalin Parti, Lynn Resler, Rebecca Smith

Absent with Notice: Jennifer Clevenger, Abdeali Jivaji, Charles Lowery, Aimée Surprenant, Susan Whitehead

Guests: Rich Mathieson, John Provo

Welcome and Self-Introductions: The meeting was called to order 3:35 p.m. Francisco Carvallo welcomed the group. Self-introductions were made; written and visual attendance was taken and quorum was met.

1. Adoption of Agenda

Francisco asked for a motion to adopt the agenda as presented, Richard Shryock moved to adopt the agenda; Nicole Sanderlin seconded; there was no opposition or abstention; the agenda was adopted as presented.

2. Announcement of approval and posting of minutes of February 20, 2025

Francisco noted that the minutes from the February 20, 2025 meeting were sent out electronically for edits and were approved electronically. They are to be sent to the Governance Information System; and can be found on the web (<http://www.governance.vt.edu/>)

3. Center for Economic and Community Engagement Update

John Provo, Executive Director, Center for Economic and Community Engagement (CECE) gave a presentation. CECE has a presence in many areas throughout the Commonwealth including the Corporate Research Center, the Roanoke Center, the Virginia Tech Research Center in Arlington as well as shared colleagues in Newport News. Involvement includes program work with the Appalachian Regional Commission, US EDA, Go Virginia, Vibrant Virginia, the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research, U.S. Economic Development Administration, the Roanoke Blacksburg Innovation Alliance, and the Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission as well as many community project work. Discussion included partnerships across the University and in the community and seeking funding sources to continue impactful projects.

4. Acceptance of Constituent Reports and/or Minutes:

A. Chairman's Report on University Council meetings of March 3 and March 17, 2025:

The March 3rd meeting included first readings of the following resolutions: 1) to update language in the Faculty Handbook on the A/P Faculty grievance process; 2) amend the Faculty Senate Constitution to establish a discussion forum under the purview of the faculty senate; 3) to rename the Department of Biomedical Engineering and Mechanics; 4) to expand CGPSA membership to graduate students from extended campuses. The March 17th meeting included second reading for all resolutions listed above; and first reading of a resolution to amend articles V, VI and XI of the Faculty Senate Constitution. University Council minutes will be posted on the University Council website at: <https://governance.vt.edu/BodyDetails/UC>.

B. Engagement Leadership Council Meeting March 20, 2025: Susan Short indicated the council met March 20th and reminded the group regarding the Engagement Scholarship Consortium proposals are due March 31, 2024. Registration should open May 1, 2025.

C. University Committee on International Affairs (UCIA): Tom Archibald gave an update on the February 24, 2025 UCIA meeting. Highlights included member updates; visit to campus by Alexandria University, Egypt's President; continued updates regarding Federal Fulbright programs; NAFSA has published a comprehensive list relating to international education: <https://www.nafsa.org/executive-and-regulatory-actions-trump2admin>; discussion included finding ways to support international students. Guru Ghosh added that upcoming faculty appointments for visas are going to become difficult due to less staff to provide interviews as well as fewer sites to conduct interviews.

D. Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE): Mike Gutter spoke about the strategic plan finalization.

5. Announcements

Due to the timing, the call for announcements and comments was carried over to next meeting; if there are specific announcements, please email Kimberly Rhodes rhodesk@vt.edu and she will send them out to the commission.

6. Adjournment

Francisco announced the next meeting will be held on April 17, 2025 and asked for a call for a motion to adjourn; Richard made the motion to adjourn, Amanda Stewart seconded; there was no opposition; the meeting adjourned at 4:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Rhodes, Recording Secretary

TENTATIVE MEETING DATES FOR 2024-2025 (All meetings will take place at either 120 Gateway Center-902 Prices Fork or Zoom)

April 17, 2025	3:30-4:30 p.m.
May 1, 2025	3:30-4:30 p.m.