

COMMISSION ON OUTREACH AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Minutes

December 5, 2024; 3:30-4:30 p.m.

120 Gateway/ZOOM

Attendance (in person): Jennifer Clevenger, Guru Ghosh, Susan Short, Amanda Stewart, Susan Whitehead

Attendance (via Zoom): Francisco Carvallo (Presiding), Ashley Appling, Tom Archibald, Diana Bairaktarova, Mike Gutter, Abdeali Jivaji, Cristalia Laing, Charles Lowery, Penny Muelenaer, Katalin Parti, Lynn Resler, Richard Shryock,

Absent with Notice: Eric Bendfeldt, Terry Clements, Rebecca Smith, Aimée Surprenant

Absent without Notice: Abbigail Moore

Guests: Kathy Hager, Theresa Johansson, Rich Mathieson, Gerhardt Schurig, Dee Dee Somervell

Welcome and Self-Introductions: The meeting was called to order 3:32 p.m. Francisco Carvallo welcomed the group. Self-introductions were made; written and visual attendance was taken and quorum was met.

1. **Adoption of the Agenda:** Francisco asked for a motion to adopt the agenda as presented, Richard Shryock moved to adopt the agenda; Penny Muelenaer seconded; there was no opposition or abstention; the agenda was adopted as presented.
2. **Announcement of Approval of Minutes, November 21, 2024:** Minutes from the November 21, 2024 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. **Virginia Tech Center at Universidad Austral de Chile, Valdivia Chile:** Dr. Gerhardt Schurig presented slides and gave an overview of the Virginia Tech Center at the Universidad Austral de Chile. Rich discussion included the program beginning as research projects; expanding into exchanges in 2015. Various scholarships have been awarded over the years, and a further defined program to include various courses and immersive experiences and learning is currently being developed. For additional questions or information, Dr. Schurig can be contacted at gschurig@vt.edu.
4. **Acceptance of Constituent Reports and/or Minutes:**
 - A. **Chairman's Report on University Council meetings of October 7 and November 4, 2024:** Francisco reported on the University Council meeting of December 5, 2024. In the interest of time, minutes will be posted on the University Council website at: <https://governance.vt.edu/BodyDetails/UC>. Resolutions from the Commission on Faculty Affairs (CFA) regarding amendment of the faculty handbook description of administrative support for University Distinguished professors was presented for second reading; first readings for CFA included resolutions for: university mission initiative committee to recommend updated policies for funding doctoral research; amend the faculty handbook description of clinical faculty ranks; amend the faculty handbook regarding ethics of intimate relationships involving faculty; amend the faculty handbook regarding procedures for promotion and tenure and related appeals; resolution from the Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies to form a working group to formulate a university policy to combat unprofessional behaviors towards graduate and professional students; the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies resolution to revise Policy 6305, satisfactory academic progress for associate and undergraduate students.
 - B. **Engagement Leadership Council:** The Engagement Leadership Council (ELC) met this afternoon, December 5, 2024. Susan to get a summary of the meeting to Kim Rhodes to share with the Commission and to include in the final minutes. Brief update included work on the Carnegie re-classification document.
 - C. **Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE):** Ashley Appling gave a brief update that included the transition and search for a new hire for Cathy Sutphin who is retiring effective January 1, 2025.
 - D. **University Committee on International Affairs (UCIA):** Tom Archibald indicated there was not a UCIA meeting since last meeting's update; UCIA will meet again January 27, 2025 and will provide an update at the February COIA meeting.

5. **Announcements/Commission Board Member Comments:** The call for announcements and comments was made. Guru Ghosh indicated Carla Finkelstein and the School of Medicine are in talks to collaborate with Austral. Theresa Johansson asked Penny Muelenaer if there were discussions with David Trinkle regarding the expansion of student rotations internationally for the medical school. Penny indicated that the students are required to meet certain standards for supervision/research; further conversations could be coordinated with David.
6. **Motion to Adjourn:** Jennifer Clevenger made the motion to adjourn, Richard seconded; there was no opposition; the meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m. **Please note: There will not be a meeting in January; the next meeting will be held on February 20, 2025.**

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)

NO JANUARY MEETING

- February 20, 2025 3:30-4:30 p.m.
- March 20, 2025 3:30-4:30 p.m.
- April 17, 2025 3:30-4:30 p.m.
- May 1, 2025 3:30-4:30 p.m.