MINUTES

Commission on Outreach and International Affairs
February 20, 2025
3:30-4:30 p.m.
120 Gateway/Zoom

Present: Francisco Carvallo (presiding), Tom Archibald, Susan Short, Amanda Stewart

Attendance (via Zoom): Eric Bendfeldt, Terry Clements, Jennifer Clevenger, Guru Ghosh, Abdeali Jivaji, Charles Lowery, Abbigail Moore, Katalin Parti, Lynn Resler, Nicole Sanderlin (for Diana Bairaktarova), Richard Shryock, Rebecca Smith

Absent with Notice: Ashley Appling, Mike Gutter, Penny Muelenaer, Aimée Surprenant, Susan Whitehead

Guests: Kathy Hager, Rich Mathieson, Allie Oberoi, April Myers

<u>**Welcome and Self-Introductions:**</u> The meeting was called to order 3:33 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; Lynn Resler seconded; there was no opposition or abstention; the agenda was adopted as presented.

2. Announcement of approval and posting of minutes of December 5, 2024

Francisco noted that the minutes from the December 5, 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. <u>Updates to Policy 1070: Global Travel Policy</u>

Allie Oberoi, Associate Director; Global Safety and Risk Management gave a presentation on updates to Policy 1070: Global Policy(https://www.globaleducation.vt.edu/globalsafety/HighRiskTravelCOVID-19.html) Highlights included efforts to track travelers going abroad and to keep travelers safe while traveling abroad as well as information addressing inbound policy. Concepts of the policy haven't changed; however, some aspects have and updates eliminated redundancies in the policy. Travelers should process pre-approvals in Chrome River at least two (2) weeks prior to travel; this process alerts Allie, the traveler's supervisor as well as Export Control among other approval offices. All business travel must be registered and travelers must enroll in travel insurance; which has not changed and is reimbursable. Emergency support contacts include Allie, Safety and Risk Management, Campus Police. Some areas of the world are deemed high-risk and not safe for travel; however, some travel exceptions can be reviewed by following the appeal process.

Some new changes to the policy include required incident reporting; as well as more defined "high risk" travel. There are federal and state reporting requirements for reporting incidents and how they fall into OSHA and Worker's Compensation cases. Lists have been developed to include further clarification and more definition of programs and include direct links sorted by country as well as being broken down further. A new committee for non-credit students going abroad was formed and called GNAC, the committee for students studying abroad for credit is called GEAC. The Faculty Handbook is important for travelers going abroad and should serve as a reference to travelers. When traveling with computers, you may want to reach out to IT Security or Export Control if your computer has sensitive information to have VPN loaded. Additionally, there is a laptop loaner program which has basic information on your computer, in case your computer is lost, stolen, damaged, etc. Some countries may need to know about sensitive computer information and proprietary software that needs reporting. Some countries required a "clean computer" to be brought when traveling. Discussion also included Registered Student Organizations (RSO) and travel, as they are not considered University entities or organizations and are treated as personal travel despite participants being students of the university. Incident Reporting Requirement: https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?VirginiaTech&layout_id=48 and for High Risk Travel: https://www.globaleducation.vt.edu/globalsafety/HighRiskTravel.html links will provide travelers further information. Comments included thanking Allie for her presentation and for bringing this information to the meeting.

1. **Acceptance of Constituent Reports and/or Minutes:**
    A. **Chairman's Report on University Council meetings of February 3, 2025 (the February 17 meeting was cancelled):** Guru Ghosh reported on the University Council meeting of February 3, 2025 and indicated Chairs of Commissions presented their goals for spring semester. COIA's goals included: Discuss proposal for "Global Learning Badge" program; Review progress of selected outreach units; Analyze the role of two Virginia Tech international centers (India and Chile) in order to make suggestions for betterment of the representation of the University in these countries; Review the proposal of Carnegie classification of community engagement. University Council minutes will be posted on the University Council website at: https://governance.vt.edu/BodyDetails/UC.
    B. **Engagement Leadership Council:** The Engagement Leadership Council (ELC) will next meet on March 20, 2025.
    C. **University Committee on International Affairs (UCIA):** Tom Archibald gave an update on the January 27, 2025 UCIA meeting. Highlights included Elsie Paredes named Vice Chair; International Education Week updated by Rachel Fitzgerald; Global Website update from Amanda Broome; Federal updates; foreign affairs; diversity, equity and inclusion and Higher Education; tracking actions; student mobility issues; efforts with the community and support of families; and what to do if there are encounters with ICE agents-contact Kay Heidbreder's office and Virginia Tech Police.
    D. **Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE):** Eric Bendfeldt reported that the Strategic Plan in partnership with Virginia State is being updated; federal impacts to farming and agriculture communities in being monitored.

4. **Announcements**

The call for announcements and comments was made.

Susan Short announced the October 6-9 Engagement Scholarship Consortium Annual Conference to be held at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center; as well as the request for assistance for content regarding the Carnegie narrative. The prompt is: *"If there is work in progress to revise promotion and tenure (at tenure-granting institutions) guidelines to reward faculty scholarly work that uses community engaged approaches and methods, describe the current work in progress, including a description of the process and who is involved."* The call for proposals for the Engagement Scholarship Consortium annual meeting to be held in Roanoke is open. Please go to Call for Proposals - Engagement Scholarship Consortium for additional information. The proposal deadline is Monday, March 31, 2025.

5. **Adjournment**

Francisco announced the next meeting will be held on March 20, 2025 and asked for a call for a motion to adjourn; Richard made the motion to adjourn, Kati Parti seconded; there was no opposition; the meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Rhodes, Recording Secretary

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

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.