

**COMMISSION ON OUTREACH AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**  
**Minutes**

**October 15, 2020; 3:30-4:30 p.m.-Via Zoom**

**Attendance:** Tara Brent, Holly Carroll, Nick Copeland, John Galbraith, Guru Ghosh, Ben Grove (for Ed Jones), Ralph Hall, Don Hempson, Lee Learman, Penny Muelenaer, April Myers (guest), Nicole Nunoo, Robert Oliver, Cassidy Rist, Peter Schmitthener, Latanya Walker, Robert Weiss

**Absent:** Juan Luis Nicolau Gonzalbez, Ashley Johnson, Ed Jones, Morgan Paulette, Susan Short, LaWanda Wright, Xiaowei Wu

1. **Welcome, Self-Introductions:** Nick Copeland welcomed the group. Due to timing, self-introductions were not done.
2. **Agenda Approval:** Nick made the call for motion to approve the agenda; a motion was made; was seconded; all were in favor, there was no opposition and the agenda was approved.
3. **Call for Announcements:** The call for announcements was made; Don Hempson reported that the Global Travel Oversight Committee (GTOC) met and with regard to Study Abroad for spring semester, faculty were given the option of whether to participate or not. Guru Ghosh spoke about a dialogue to include OIA and Extension on the main university web page. Nick spoke about his meetings with Cooperative Extension and the commission's willingness to support VCE.
4. **Announcement of Approval of Minutes, September 17, 2020:** Nick called for the approval of the September 17, 2020 minutes, which were sent out electronically by vote and forwarded to University Council for approval and posting. A motion was moved, seconded and formerly approved. Approved minutes can be found: <http://www.governance.vt.edu/>.
5. **Vice Chair Vote:** Robert Wiess has volunteered to be Vice Chair for the commission; a call for other nominees from the floor was made; there were no other nominees; Robert Wiess will be the Vice Chair of COIA; and will be the Chair of COIA for the 2021-2022 academic year.
6. **Chairman's Report:** Nick updated the group concerning the September 21<sup>st</sup> and October 5<sup>th</sup> University Council meetings. For the September 21 University Council Meeting: 1) the Commission Chair Reports were given; 2) there was a Presentation by Kelly Oaks and Katie Polidoro, regarding the new Title IX Regulations; 3) There was an announcement from Bryan Garey regarding holiday policy which has been revised to align with new state law setting Election Day as a staff holiday and eliminating Lee-Jackson Day as a staff holiday. For the October 5 University Council Meeting: the Commission on Faculty Affairs-Resolution CFA 2020-21A was presented for first reading to Revise Faculty Handbook Promotion and Tenure Guidelines; 2) a presentation by Dwayne Pinkney, John Randolph, and Denny Cochran, regarding the Virginia Tech 2020 Climate Action Commitment Revision; 3) a presentation by Bryan Garey, Marsha McKay, and Patricia Simpson, on the new PageUp Learning Management System.
7. **Reports: Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE):** Ben Grove gave a report on behalf of VCE; expressing thanks to COIA for their support of and collaborations with VCE. October 26<sup>th</sup> will bring fall district conferences in the virtual/plenary formats, then individual later; goals set to increase effectiveness and how VCE can be better; strengthening engagement of people and reviewing feedback. Monday marks the Global Agriculture Activity Production report (GAAP) launch; there is a 45-minute documentary on the VCE website that folks can access.

**University Committee on International Affairs (UCIA):** Latanya Walker reported on the September 28<sup>th</sup> meeting of UCIA. The report included work on updating data for faculty; staff travel; the lack of data on alumni and international alumni; the inability to identify student attendance at Virginia Tech for international students; working on ways to refine how we define international students; the Center for Research, Education and Development (CIRED) update; Peace Corps prep program; the virtual

conference on global learning; the virtual Study Abroad fair; the reorganization of the Fulbright program; proposals made through the Language Culture Institute (LCI); Alumni Advancement work; and the Sesquicentennial meetings that have been occurring recently. Previous minutes for all UCIA meetings that have been approved thus far are available at the following link on-line: <https://www.outreach.vt.edu/VP/CommissionsAndCommittees/ucia/uciaminutes.html>.

**Engagement Leadership Council:** No meetings since the last COIA meeting.

**8. Global Alumni Engagement Committee Update:** See UCIA report above.

**9. Commission Board Member Announcements and Comments:** There was a question around the Reynolds Homestead art competition that occurs annually, and if the name is connected to Jeb Stuart, who was a Confederate soldier. There was an interest if the name could be changed; discussion included the history of the Reynolds family; endowments; regional healing and that the concern will be brought to the Director, Julie Walters Steele and Susan Short by Guru.

Discussion included promotion of extension, and what strategies there might be; as well as how VCE is handling the pandemic as there are problems with agricultural system; funding needs; vulnerability in areas within the Commonwealth; huge demand for VCE programming. Ben indicated that there would be an opportunity for VCE to have a discussion with COIA to talk about how VCE works and how programs are prioritized; and how 229-specific funding is defined; as well as extension throughout the Commonwealth. Robert Weiss raised how VCE works across the colleges and how research is linked. Ben indicated that VCE has met with each of the Deans and collaborates with many areas across the university. For a future COIA meeting, a suggestion was made to invite Kim Butterfield and Kathy Hosig to present. Guru wanted to uplift Ralph Hall's work on the Food Access and Security Project.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded; all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kimberly Rhodes, Recording Secretary

**TENTATIVE MEETING DATES FOR 2020-2021**-(All meetings will be from **3:30-4:30 p.m.** via Zoom until further notice)

- November 19, 2020
- December 10, 2020
- **NO JANUARY MEETING**
- February 18, 2021
- March 18, 2021
- April 15, 2021
- May 6, 20