

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

**March 21, 2019; 3:30-4:30 p.m.**

**Gateway Center; 902 Prices Fork Road; Suite 120**

**Attendance:** Andrea Brunais, Urs Buehlmann, Cheng Chen, Lehi Dowell, Ben Grove (representing Ed Jones and Tom Thompson), Roberto Leon, Shelley Martin, Juan Luis Nicolau, Heinrich Schnoedt, Susan Short, Xiaowei Wu

**Absent:** Wayne Crotto, Gregory Daniel, Guru Ghosh, Ed Jones, Karen Munden, Morgan Paulette, Valerie Ragan, Brett Shadle, Madilynne Tanner, Tom Thompson, Kang Xia

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Urs Buehlmann welcomed the group, self-introductions were made.

**2. Agenda Approval**

Urs made the call for motion to approve the agenda; motion made; was seconded; all were in favor, there was no opposition and the agenda was approved.

**3. Announcement of Approval of Minutes, February 21, 2019**

The minutes from the February 21, 2019 meeting were approved electronically and were sent to University Council to be posted to the University Governance website upon approval by University Council. Minutes can be found: <http://www.governance.vt.edu/>.

**4. Chairman's Report**

The University Council meeting from the March 4, 2019 included old business: The Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies presented the resolution for second reading and approval to create a new full-time candidate status for doctoral students and a resolution for second reading and approval on policy management of Graduate Assistantships and Tuition Remission.

New business included: The Commission on Faculty Affairs presenting the resolutions for first reading: 1) to amend the Faculty Senate Constitution to adopt the parliamentary rules; 2) to amend the Faculty Senate Constitution regarding term limits; 3) to amend the faculty Senate Constitution regarding amendments to the Faculty Senate Constitution; 4) to amend the Faculty Senate Constitution regarding the function of the Faculty Senate as Faculty Voice.

**5. Vice-Chair Report**

There was only one entry for the Alumni Awards for Outreach Excellence for the team award, and no entries for the individual awards. The committee reviewed the eligibility requirements/criteria for the award applicants and deemed the team as a winner of the team award. The congratulations letter has been sent out to the team members and the materials have been sent to Special Events.

**6. Reports**

a) Susan Short reporting on the Engagement Leadership Council meeting from March 7, 2019: Upcoming Engagement Scholarship Consortium call for proposals, March 15<sup>th</sup> was the deadline; Annual Conference is October 8-9 in Denver, Colorado, with a pre-conference October 6-7, 2019. There was a presentation from Julie Walters Steele, Director of The Reynolds Homestead on the Rock Spring Distillery at The Reynolds Homestead; and Lesa Hanlin, Executive Director of Roanoke Regional Initiatives gave a presentation on the Thank A Bit Lab at the Roanoke Center.

Engagement Leadership Council minutes can be found at the following link on-line: <https://www.outreach.vt.edu/about/commissions-committees/elc.html>.

b) Ben Grove reported on the Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) update for Ed Jones: Currently there are four (4) extension agents and several specialists in Senegal working with the Youth in Agriculture project (JEA); two (2) agents will be in Senegal in June to work on the Food Safety and Food Preservation Programs; and on Friday, two (2) agents will be selected to participate in a professor exchange partnership with Teagasc, Ireland. Ed Jones and Tom Thompson will be in Kenya next week visiting Egerton University. There they will share about the US CES model in East Africa. April 10-12 the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy (ECOP), APLU will be on campus. Dan Goerlich has been named the Associate Director for Economy Community and Food; and the Central District Director position will be filled.

- c) Ben also reported on the University Committee on International Affairs (UCIA) meeting from February 25, 2019 for Tom Thompson: Ben reported that Virginia Tech competed for and was awarded the Global Agricultural Productivity (GAP) report, which is in the 10<sup>th</sup> year, Tom Thompson is the executive editor of the report. The GAP report measures agricultural productivity and plays a prominent role in uplifting various organizations around the world with regard to sustainably increasing productivity. The annual GAP report is launched at the annual World Food Prize in Des Moines, Iowa each October. The plan is for Virginia Tech to also add a launch this year. Additional information regarding the GAP report can be found at the following link: <https://vtnews.vt.edu/articles/2018/12/CALS-GapReport.html> as well as at the following link: <https://globalagriculturalproductivity.org/>. [The summary of the UCIA minutes from Tom Thompson will be distributed with the COIA minutes].

UCIA meeting minutes that have been approved thus far are available at the following link on-line: <https://www.outreach.vt.edu/about/commissions-committees/ucia.html>.

## **7. OIA Activities**

Urs updated the group with regard to the Global Engagement Office Scholarship funding, and a visit from Provost Cyril Clarke. Provost Clarke will be unable to attend one of the COIA meetings this spring, but he is tentatively scheduled to attend the first meeting this fall on August 29, 2019. A future conversation with Tom with regard to the activities of what UCIA's sub-committee has planned for their database for international projects will need to take place. The members present agreed that if the activities are similar to what COIA is wanting to work on, then it made sense that both COIA and UCIA should not be working on similar projects. The suggestion was made that perhaps COIA could work with UCIA in defining a comprehensive database.

## **8. Call for Announcements (Item #3 on the AGENDA)**

Urs indicated that the call for announcements was inadvertently skipped over, and he made the call for announcements, there were no announcements.

## **9. Commission Board Member Comments**

Urs made the call of comments, there were no comments.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded; all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 3:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Rhodes, Recording Secretary

**TENTATIVE MEETING DATES FOR 2018-2019-***(All meetings will be from **3:30-4:30 p.m.** and will take place at the Gateway Center-902 Prices Fork)*

- April 18, 2019
- May 9, 2019

**TENTATIVE MEETING DATES FOR 2019-2020-***(All meetings will be from **3:30-4:30 p.m.** and will take place at the Gateway Center-902 Prices Fork)*

- August 29, 2019                      3:00 p.m.                      Orientation for New Members
- August 29, 2019                      3:30 p.m.                      Regular Meeting
- September 19, 2019
- October 17, 2019
- November 21, 2019
- December 12, 2019
- NO JANUARY MEETING
- February 20, 2020
- March 19, 2020
- April 16, 2020
- May 7, 2020