

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

**April 18, 2019; 3:30-4:30 p.m.**  
**Gateway Center; 902 Prices Fork Road; Suite 120**

**Attendance:** Andrea Brunais, Urs Buehlmann, Lehi Dowell, Guru Ghosh, Ben Grove (representing Ed Jones), Roberto Leon, Shelly Martin, Karen Munden (via phone), Susan Short, Tom Thompson

**Absent:** Chen Chang, Wayne Crotto, Gregory Daniel, Ed Jones, Juan Luis Nicolau, Morgan Paulette, Valerie Ragan, Heinrich Schnoedt, Brett Shadle, Madilynne Tanner, Xiaowei Wu, 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; a motion was made; seconded; all were in favor, there was no opposition and the agenda was approved.

**3. Call for Announcements**

The call for announcements was made, there were no announcements.

**4. Announcement of Approval of Minutes, March 21, 2019**

The minutes from the March 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/>.

**5. Chairman's Report**

The University Council meeting from the April 8, 2019 included old business: 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. All of those were passed, one slightly changed the wording.

New business included: Resolution to establish a Master of Engineering Degree in Computer Science and Applications (CSA-Meng) presented from the Commission of Graduate Studies and Policies. Commission of Undergraduate Studies and Policies presented a resolution to approve a new major in Childhood Pre-Education.

Two presentations were given; 1) Aubrey Knight and Dan Harrington presented on the Virginia Tech school of Medicine honor code. 2) Patty Perillo and Chris Wise gave an overview of the study of mental health taskforce, which focused on students. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 22, 2019.

**6. Reports**

- a) Ben Grove gave the report for the Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) on behalf of Ed Jones: Tom Thompson and Ed Jones Visited Egerton University and participated in the conference on Cooperative Extension in East Africa. They are exploring ways to follow up and continue to build on the partnership with the center for excellence and sustainable agriculture and agribusiness management, which is hosted at Egerton University. The APLU Extension Committee on Organizational Policy (ECOP) met on campus last week. The focus of their meeting was to explore ways that extension can add to the outreach missions and land grant universities and to focus on the future of cooperative extension. Ben thanked Susan Short and her office in supporting that event. The central district director interviews have concluded and input is being sought from the field before making a selection; the hope is to fill that position soon. In 2020, the national association of accounting agriculture agents will host their annual meeting in Virginia Beach; VCE will be the organizational host. There will be many opportunities to showcase Virginia Tech in addition to larger cooperative extension systems, more information to come.
- b) Tom Thompson reported on the University Committee on International Affairs (UCIA) meeting from March 25, 2019: 1) UCIA is trying to structure toward a community practice. The members will be learning in more detail the approach and strategy for various units and their international protocol, in order to better understand the work in various divisions. 2) UCIA discussed working on the challenges of finding short-term housing for international visitors. The length of stay tends to be too long for a hotel and too short for a lease at an apartment complex. Francis Keene, interim director for Housing and Residence Life has talked to the group. The hope is to come up with a list of best practices and resources that can be identified, and what can be accomplished collectively to be as inviting as possible. 3) Joint data needs related to international programs for various colleges have been

identified, and include student mobility and faculty mobility. Nicole Sanderlin from engineering is chairing a task force that is gathering information to get a package of best practices and data needs and includes not contacting institutional research or other units on an ad hoc basis.

Guru Ghosh added that there are some colleges that are not participating in some of those databases. He indicated that the student activity and mobility data sets are pretty well organized, but the faculty activity is inconsistent. There is currently a mechanism to provide some standardization, and student activity is being tracked by the global education office.

Urs asked if a note could be made to ask the incoming chair of UCIA that they update COIA on the efforts, or someone from the committee.

Approved UCIA meeting minutes are available on-line: <https://www.outreach.vt.edu/about/commissions-committees/ucia.html>.

## **7. OIA Activities**

- 1) Urs reminded the group that the provost is scheduled to be at the August 29, 2019 COIA meeting to speak about the future of Global Education Scholarships.
- 2) Relative to both chair for UCIA and COIA being present at the COIA meeting, Guru spoke about immigration matters that International Support Services (ISS) are encountering. Guru has discussed with ISS that some of the practices may need to be put forth as university policies. Ultimately, ISS adheres to federal immigration regulations and laws, and many of their practices may not be university policies, but a policy may need to come from his office. Guru has asked Ian to prepare a document for UCIA for next fall, and the practices will ultimately be brought to COIA.

## **8. Commission Board Member Comments**

Susan made two (2) announcements: 1) the proposal deadline for Carilion educational funding for projects, seminars and events, is next Friday, April 26, 2019. If there are questions about what Carilion has funded previously, Susan can speak to those questions. 2) The Thinkabit Lab has been established after the successful model in Northern Virginia. The ribbon cutting will take place at the Roanoke Center next Friday, April 26, 2019, and the lab is being referred to as a Qualcomm inspired Thinkabit Lab. Over the past two weeks, sixth graders from Franklin County schools have been visiting in steady streams. Susan remarked that Lesa Hanlin and her team has done a really nice job of getting the lab up and running.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded; all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 3:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Courtney Holland, 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)*

- 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