

COMMISSION ON OUTREACH AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Minutes

October 9, 2008

3:30-4:30 p.m.

325 Burruss Hall

Attendance: Jan Helge Bøhn, Susan Clark, Terry Clements, Billie Jean Elmer (via phone), John Dooley, Susan Felker, William Greenberg, Gary Long, Lance Matheson, Kevin Pelzer, Scott Tate, Chris Thomas, Jane Wemhoener, Leah Wickham, Melissa Yates

Absence: Ray Ali, Sarah Burkett, Jeri Childers, S.K. De Datta, Devi Gnyawali, A.L. (Tom) Hammett, Mark McCann, Gerhardt Schurig, Ted Settle, Max Stephenson

1. Welcome and Introductions

Jane Wemhoener welcomed everyone. Self-introductions were made.

2. Agenda Approval

Jane called for approval of the agenda. Bill Greenberg made the suggestion that there be an item at the end of the agenda that calls for Commission Board Member Comments. The agenda was approved by acclamation as presented.

3. Approval of Minutes, September 11, 2008

Jane announced that the September 11, 2008 Minutes were approved electronically and have been forwarded to University Council for approval.

4. Chairman's Report

Jane reported that at the President's Meeting she attended, a representative from Undergraduate Curriculum spoke about the importance of engagement and the representative from Faculty Research seconded the importance of acknowledging scholarship of engagement for faculty. President Steger gave a budget update and Provost McNamee talked about the SACS visit and Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP).

The first University Council meeting included discussion about compensation for A/P faculty who teach; payment varies and should be uniform. Presented as COIA's agenda was Engaged Scholarship; revised fee structure for Education Abroad; support and increase of global scholarship; increased use of participants of the Academy for Outreach Excellence. (Jane requested a volunteer to attend the October 20th UC meeting and, subsequently, Lance Matheson agreed. One hour before the meeting, the meeting was cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 17th and, again, a volunteer is requested because Jane and Terry both teach Monday afternoons this fall.)

Budgets were discussed. John Dooley offered discussion regarding the update on budgets. He indicated that Governor Kaine announced a 2.7 billion dollar shortfall and that the rainy day fund could reduce the shortfall by about 400 million. Salary increases are being postponed until July 1, 2009, at which time they will be re-evaluated. Virginia Tech's reduction portion will include a 5% reduction or about 8.88 million; and Agriculture will include a 5% reduction for about 2.3 million. President Steger was in the process of sending out a communication, and by December we should have an idea of what next year's reduction will be.

5. Vice Chairman's Report

Terry Clements discussed that the call for nominations for the College awards has gone out in some areas. She also indicated that the Engaged Scholarship Document is being worked on and an outline is currently being prepared. It will be available at the November COIA meeting. Terry hopes that a draft will be completed by the end of the semester, with it being submitted for approvals spring semester. The committee includes Ray Ali, Jeri Childers, Terry Clements and Jane Wemhoener.

The Outreach Council Report was provided to Terry from Jeri Childers who was unable to attend the COIA meeting. The following was provided from Jeri: "The meeting began with Bob Smith sharing his reflections on his attendance at the 2008 *Engagement Academy for University Leaders*. His presentation, titled, *The Engagement Academy and its Application to College Leadership*, was a synopsis of the engagement plan he developed for his role and his college. Each member of the Academy develops a plan for engagement that will provide a culture to support engaged scholars. He shared a seven-point plan for his college and a one-page flyer he has developed that articulates the vision for engagement in the College of Natural Resources. This vision has five themes, 1) service learning, 2) undergraduate research, 3) international programs, 4) community partnerships, and 5) applied/partner research." Jeri suggested that Bob Smith be invited to present his presentation to COIA.

The remainder of the Outreach Council meeting included: Jeri reported on VT Policy Memo 49 requiring outreach, particularly continuing education activities, to be delivered via Continuing and Professional Education; Brian Mihalik inquired about processes to facilitate education abroad/international classes; John spoke on the report on the Tobacco Commission Special Project Actions; Jim Dubinsky updated the group on the Center for Student Engagement and Community Partnerships; Jeri discussed the overview of the *Outreach Now 2008 Conference*; and Sharon Scott updated the group on the *Post-Doctoral Bridge to Business Program*.

6. Outreach NOW 2009

John started the discussion that the group will need to decide on a theme for Outreach NOW 2009. OIA sponsors the program, which for the past two (2) years has followed the University Strategic Plan. The first two (2) years themes were Economic Vitality and Student Engagement. For next year's theme, we will need to decide between Internationalization and STEM. Internationalization can be described as looking at how we as a University develop Study Abroad and what we must do to enrich the curriculum and the experiences and bring in international faculty. STEM can be described as how do we enrich the K-12 and community in teacher preparation for VT students; in-service programs; and literacy for a greater public.

Terri asked if the budget reductions would impact our decision, John responded he didn't feel it would. Several in the group discussed their feelings as to what they would like to see in regard to the two (2) different themes. The group voted; Internationalization was the top vote with one opposition. Therefore, it was agreed that Internationalization would be the theme for Outreach NOW 2009.

7. Reports

a. Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE)

Ray Ali was unable to attend; his report will be given at the November 13, 2008 meeting.

b. University Council on International Affairs (UCIA)

Lance Matheson had just attended the UCIA meeting that morning, and the minutes would be out soon. He announced that Matt McCullum was to start on October 10, 2008; John and S.K. De Datta were traveling to India October 13-22, 2008 and then to Oman October 23-24, 2008 and that Oman was moving along nicely. The Swiss Ambassador was expected to visit November 4, 2008 where there would be a public forum; and the SADC group would be visiting October 27-28, 2008. There is a presentation October 27, 2008 at 4 pm in McBryde 100.

8. Other

There was a call for any other business. None was noted.

9. Comments/Announcements, etc. from the Board Members

Bill Greenberg wanted to mention the cycle of budget crisis and how FTE's have gone away. He also discussed that when budget crisis came about in the past, faculty generally sought out service and ways to fulfill additional time.

Meeting Dates for Next Year

November 13, 2008

December 11, 2008

February 5, 2009

March 12, 2009

April 9, 2009

May 14, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Rhodes
Recording Secretary