

COMMISSION ON OUTREACH AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Minutes

April 16, 2015

3:30-4:30 p.m.

325 Burruss Hall

Attendance: Don Back, Jan Helge Bøhn, Justin Goldberger (sub for Howard Chung), Reed Kennedy, Eric Vance, Llyn Sharp, Elankumaran Subbiah, Ian Van Pelt, Scott Farmer (guest), Tom Tillar (guest)

Absent: Montasir Abbas, Kathy Alexander, Andrea Brunais, Kirsten Buhls, Howard Chung, Lee Cooper, Christine Fiori, Guru Ghosh, Brian Hairston, Shannon Jarrott, Ed Jones, Andrew Overbay, Michael Schwarz, Susan Short, Elizabeth Spiller

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

Reed Kennedy welcomed the group and self-introductions were made.

2. **Agenda Approval**

Reed made a call for the approval of the agenda and any changes; the agenda was motioned to approve as is; was seconded and was approved.

3. **Alumni Awards for Outreach Excellence**

Tom Tillar was present at the meeting to answer questions and get feedback from the group with regard to the Alumni Awards for Outreach Excellence. The commission had expressed a concern about the award amount, and if an increase would be possible to attract more applicants.

Tom began by giving a little bit of background with respect to the number of awards that are funded by Alumni Affairs. He indicated that over the years the number of awards has increased, and some of the awards have been around for a long period of time. When the awards started out, the monetary amount awarded was \$1,000. The award increased to \$2,000 about 20 years ago, and has stayed at that amount. There are between 18-25 awards, and it would be very difficult to increase the amount of one award without increasing the amount of all of the awards. Endowment funds the awards in part, but does not cover the entire amount of the award.

The question that was also raised was concerning changing the name of the Alumni Awards for Outreach Excellence to provide further clarity to applicants. Tom responded that there is some flexibility with the name changes and that we would need to send some suggestions to the Alumni Association. The question as far as changes in the criteria was also raised and Tom responded that there is flexibility with that as well. Another aspect that was raised had dealt with the question if other award committees put forth multiple years' applicants forth for the current award period, and Tom indicated that some committees do practice this.

4. **Announcements**

Reed made the call for announcements.

Kimberly Rhodes indicated that candidates for the Executive Vice President and Provost position will be arriving on campus beginning next week; and that the third candidate for the Associate Vice President for International Affairs will also be on campus next week.

5. **Approval of Minutes, March 19, 2015**

The minutes from the March 19, 2015 meeting were sent out electronically for updates; have been approved and sent to University Council and will be posted to the University Governance website upon approval by University Council. Minutes can be found at: <http://www.governance.vt.edu/>.

6. Chairman's Report

Reed reported on the April 6, 2015 University Council meeting. Old business included the Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies resolution on Graduate Continuous Enrollment; resolution on Graduate Leave of Absence; and resolution on Absentia Status, all for second readings. The Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies presented the resolution to revise Presidential Policy Memorandum No. 125 for second reading. The new business for first reading included the Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity resolution to Affirm CEOD as Governing Body within New InclusiveVT Structure; and the resolution to revise the Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity's Charge. Minutes can be found at: <http://www.governance.vt.edu/>.

7. Vice-Chair's Report

There was no report with regard to the award winners, as we are still waiting for Special Events to announce in their publication. Since Shannon Jarrott will be leaving Virginia Tech, the commission will be looking for nominations for Chair for next year and we will vote at the May meeting.

8. Reports

a. Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE)

We did not have a report from the VCE.

b. University Council on International Affairs (UCIA) Meeting

Don Back reported on the March 30, 2015 UCIA meeting. Scott Farmer and David Brady had given presentations on tracking international activities and what data might be available. The Global Education Office (GEO) reported on student exchanges and relations with other institutions; Training April 27-May 2nd for Title IX for Study Abroad; the Oman project is progressing well; travelers need to exercise a high degree of caution with regard to travel to various regions; the spousal program in Language Culture Institute (LCI) is going well; a search is ongoing for a new director for the Cranwell center; testing for J-1 scholars is now required; and the Humphrey Fellows are currently on campus. Please see minutes located at: https://www.outreach.vt.edu/UCIA/minutes_index.html.

9. Database and Mapping International Activity at the Institutional Level

Scott Farmer gave a presentation with regard to pulling together international information into a shareable database for the university. The presentation included some previous databases to gather information, and some databases that have been abandoned. Some previous databases include the expertise, EFARS, and VT Navigate. There are many challenges such as how to get the best comprehensive data, had to get good data, how will the database be maintained and having a designated person to maintain the database.

10. Commission Board Member Comments

Motion to adjourn was made, seconded, all in favor; adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Rhodes
Recording Secretary