

# COMMISSION ON OUTREACH AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Minutes  
September 18, 2014  
3:30-4:30 p.m.  
325 Burruss Hall

**Attendance:** Kathy Alexander, Montasir Abbas, Jan Helge Bøhn, Andrea Brunais, Howard Chung, Christine Fiori, Guru Ghosh, Shannon Jarrott, Reed Kennedy, Mike Lambur (for Ed Jones), Nicole Sanderlin (for Don Back), Michael Schwarz (via phone), Llyn Sharp, Susan Short, Elizabeth Spiller, Elakumaran Subbiah

**Absent:** Don Back, Kirsten Buhls, Lee Cooper, Brian Hairston, Ed Jones, Andrew Overbay, Eric Vance

## 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. **Announcements**

Reed made the call for announcements.

Susan Short spoke about the Virginia Science Festival to be held October 4-11, 2014. The festival is being coordinated by Virginia Tech and the Science Museum of Western Virginia with contributions from NASA-Langley, the Town of Blacksburg and Roanoke City. The festival will launch on October 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 a.m. at the Moss Arts Center with President Sands. Activities will continue from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in several locations to include the Drillfield and The Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center (IVTSCC). A "Meet the Scientists" event will be headed by the College of Science in Davis Hall. Various events will be held throughout the Commonwealth with many activities occurring in Roanoke October 6-11, 2014. (The website for the Virginia Science Festival: <http://virginiasciencefestival.org/>).

Susan also announced the Tech Entrepreneurship Conference to be held November 14-15, 2014. (The website: <http://www.vtcrc.com/resources/tec2014/>).

## 4. **Approval of Minutes, May 8, 2014**

The minutes from the May 8, 2014 were sent out electronically for updates; were updated accordingly and were sent onto University Council and to the University Governance website.

## 5. **Chairman's Report**

Reed discussed the meeting of Commission Chairs which occurred shortly before the Commission on Outreach and International Affairs (COIA) meeting. The meeting included the following Commissions: Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs; Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity; Commission on Faculty Affairs; Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies; Commission on Outreach and International Affairs; Commission on Research; Commission on Staff Policies and Affairs; Commission on Staff Affairs; Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies; and the Commission on University Support. The Chairs of these commissions met with President Sands and Provost McNamee to discuss commission activities for the upcoming year.

Reed relayed that COIA would be working on the Alumni Award for Outreach Excellence, and the anticipation of policies to be reviewed from the University Council on International Affairs (UCIA). Several activities may involve changes in study abroad programs and policies as well as consistency in faculty compensation for such programs. Additional policies with regard to the task force for Safety and Security in relation to study abroad programs as well as the Lifelong Learning Institute policies through the Engagement Leadership Council. One of the purposes for the Chair meeting is to uplift any issues that may cross between commissions and collaborate between the commissions.

The Outreach Council meeting on July 29, 2014 was cancelled; there is no report on this meeting.

The Outreach Council was updated to reflect the name, *Engagement Leadership Council*; which met with some new members on September 4, 2014. Representatives from Continuing and Professional Education (CPE) and Warm Hearth Administrators delivered presentations to the Engagement Leadership Council. Discussions included the Virginia Science Festival and the Lifelong Learning Institute, respectively. All colleges are represented on the council; which will now meet four (4) times throughout the year with topics and speakers for each meeting.

**6. Election of the Vice Chair**

In reviewing the criteria for Vice Chair, which includes a preference for having two (2) more years on the commission and served on the commission for one (1) year prior, those fitting the requirements that were listed on the membership roster were reviewed and read aloud. Shannon Jarrott volunteered; the last call for any other nominations was made; Shannon's nomination was moved and seconded; all present voted affirmative; no negative votes were received; Shannon's appointment was approved. Reed thanked Shannon for her willingness to serve as Vice Chair on COIA.

**7. Reports**

**a. Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE)**

Guru Ghosh wanted to thank extension for the support of the Catawba Sustainability Center. Mike Lambur indicated there was no report to give on VCE; but that given the budget situation, there may be some help in alleviating some of the budget cuts to be made.

**b. University Council on International Affairs (UCIA) Meeting**

Nicole Sanderlin provided the report for UCIA on behalf of Don Back who was unable to attend the COIA meeting. Nicole highlighted the annual Global Education Fair that will take place on September 24<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on the Drillfield (Squires if rain).

The Language Culture Institute (LCI) reporting 300 students enrolled; the Cranwell Center is now located in Harper Hall; there has been a 25% increase in international students, both undergraduate and graduate. The Graduate School has reported the largest number of international students that have arrived by August; about 400. The opening of the VT-India Center in conjunction with the Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science (ICTAS) took place in May; the hope is to have the center fully staffed by Thanksgiving. The center will focus on research for now. Outreach and International Affairs (OIA) is offering Fulbright workshops September 24-25, 2014. (Kim Rhodes will send out the email with the COIA members regarding the workshops **flier attached**).

Nicole also reported that the UCIA will be prioritizing discussion items and will include discussion of the voluntary health form implementation (faculty-led programs); scholarships for students; different models for financing programs in a standardized model; and creating a development officer position.

**8. Commission Board Member Comments**

Discussion among the members included a shared work with TANUVAS; food safety and training in January for VT aquaculture.

Guru Ghosh gave the charge to the commission and highlighted the need for greater global presence on our campus; the international student recruitment plan; institutional policies and procedures to be uplifted for global engagement; transfer credit issues; graduation requirements of other nations and aligning with our work. A mandate should be coming from the Virginia Economic Development office regarding conference and workshops for a "Vibrant Virginia".

Kim mentioned those interested in sitting on the selection committee for the Alumni Awards for Outreach Excellence to send her an email.

Michael Schwarz discussed acceleration of international programming between Virginia Tech and Forever Oceans, a recent aquaculture development spinout of Lockheed Martin. Under this new collaboration, an initial project has been funded, establishing the new International Forever Oceans Aquaculture Academy Powered by Virginia Tech. The Academy will begin operations through the Virginia Tech Seafood AREC in Hampton Virginia in January of 2015.

Reed Kennedy expressed appreciation on behalf of the commission to Kim for taking minutes and handling all the administrative details of the commission.

The commission adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Rhodes  
Recording Secretary

# FULBRIGHT



## Fulbright Information Sessions for Faculty • Administrators • Students

### Sessions include:

- background information on featured countries
- grant benefits
- how to apply

### Info sessions, all to be held at North End Center, Hampton Roads Room

Wednesday, September 24

1:00 – 2:30 • faculty

2:30 – 4:00 • students

Thursday, September 25

8:00 – 9:30 • administrators

9:30 – 11:00 • faculty

11:00 – 12:30 • students

### Reception at Alumni Gallery

Wednesday, September 24

4:30 – 6:30 • open to all returned and visiting Fulbright awardees  
and anyone interested in future Fulbright opportunities

For more information, contact Betty Watts • 231-7220 • [bettyw@vt.edu](mailto:bettyw@vt.edu)

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Phi Beta Delta International Honor Society • Global Education Office



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## **Fulbright Information Sessions for faculty, administrators and students to be held September 24 - 25**

The Office of the Senior Vice President and Provost, in conjunction with the Phi Beta Delta International Honor Society, will host a series of workshops and information sessions on September 24 – 25 for all faculty, administrators, and students interested in learning more about Fulbright opportunities.

Representatives from the Council for International Exchange of Scholars, a division of the Institute of International Education, will be visiting campus to share information and advice on teaching and research opportunities in more than 125 countries; tips on selecting countries for application and making contacts abroad; ideas on how the campus can host visiting foreign Fulbright scholars, and more. All sessions will consist of a forty-minute presentation plus a Q&A period.

Additionally, there will be a reception the evening of Wednesday, September 24 from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. for all returned and visiting Fulbright Scholars, as well as anyone interested in learning more about Fulbright opportunities, at the Alumni Gallery. RSVPs are not required but would be appreciated; the point of contact is Kathy Murphy ([kathymm@vt.edu](mailto:kathymm@vt.edu); 231-9987).

There is no charge for the events.

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