

COMMISSION ON OUTREACH AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Minutes

October 20, 2011

3:30-4:30 p.m.

325 Burruss Hall

Attendance: Jan Helge Bohn, Carlyle Brewster, Andrea Brunais, Kirsten Buhls (via phone), Peter Callan (via phone), Naomi Dam, Jack Davis, John Dooley, François Elvinger, Christine Fiori, Guru Ghosh, Reed Kennedy, Gary Long, Susan Short, Paul Knox (guest)

Absent: Onwubiko Agozino, Mehmet Altin, Devi Gnyawali, Lori Greiner, Ed Jones, Joao Macieira, Lenah Nguyen, John Provo, Bob Smith

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

Gary Long welcomed everyone. Self-introductions were made.

2. **Agenda Approval**

Gary Long made a call for the approval of the agenda; the agenda was moved to approve; seconded and was approved.

3. **Update on Long Range Planning Process**

Paul Knox was a guest to update the group on the Long Range Planning Process. Discussion included recruiting students overseas. As a summary, the process began in March; a task force of about 55 members was established by Senior Management.

The focus was to review what kind of a profile does VT currently have and what should it look like for the future and beyond 2018? The task force was to think about adjustments that should be made with focus on the profile of the university. The task force gathered in the spring and reconvened in August. Full reports will be put up on the web by next Friday, October 28, 2011: <http://www.longrangeplan.vt.edu/>. There is a blog for people to send in their comments/thoughts and the ability to join the scholar site.

There are a series of positions; emerging ideas about implementation; the task force is relying on the community and committees for feed-back so a draft can be written over the winter break and will go out for public review. The Board of Visitors (BOV) would like a final draft for their meeting in March 2012. The idea is to produce a plan that is general and flexible where departments on campus can insert their own strategic plans. Therefore, recruiting students overseas will be one tier down. There is an expectation to recruit international students for doctoral programs.

In addition to the task force documents; Larry Hincker will be releasing a presentation that Paul developed and presented to the Academic Council. Discussion included framing to be global engagement; dual and joint degrees; language instruction and study abroad. Mostly conversation should include better and more not what are we not doing. The idea of a Language Emporium similar to the Math Emporium emerged; there was great support from students for the Rosetta Stone program. Discussion also included a physical as well as a virtual language instruction.

4. **Announcements**

Gary Long made the call for announcements; there were no announcements from the commission.

5. Approval of Minutes, September 8, 2011

Gary Long informed the council that the minutes for September 8, 2011 were sent out electronically for updates; were approved electronically and sent onto University Council and to the University Governance website.

6. Chairman’s Report

Gary Long reported the meeting of the Commission Chairs, hosted by President Steger, on September 12, 2011. He reported that discussion included students going outside the U.S. and behavior during that time.

The University Council meeting included discontinuing the Executive Masters and Information program. Additionally discussion included a new policy flagging undergraduate students that are dropping below the GPA threshold suddenly before it is too late for the student to bring up their GPA. The new policy recommends earlier intervention and that the intervention would not be flagged on the student’s transcript. A new degree program with a Masters and PhD program on Nuclear Engineering passed.

The Alumni Awards for Outreach Excellence for individual and team awards will be handled by Christine Fiori, Vice-Chair for COIA. She will appoint members of the committee to include at least one previous winner; and two members of the COIA. A request to discuss the progress at the November meeting was made. A scholar site will be set up for this committee.

7. Reports

a. Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE)

Ed Jones was not able to attend; therefore the report will be carried over to next meeting.

b. University Council on International Affairs (UCIA)

Reed Kennedy spoke about the recent UCIA meeting. There are 172 students in the Study Abroad program this semester. There was discussion and a presentation by David Brady concerning foreign nationals visiting Virginia Tech and obtaining CVs and other documents prior to their visits. A taskforce has been appointed and they will need to identify gaps on who will be screened and who won’t. There are penalties if the process is not followed. Michael Herndon discussed summer school and how the numbers have not been increasing over the last few years; how summer school is funded and discussion about faculty caps. The suggestion was made to bring a member of the task force to a future COIA meeting.

8. Engagement White Paper Discussion

It was discussed to table this discussion for now.

9. Commission Board Member Comments

There were no member comments.

FUTURE COIA MEETINGS (all meetings from 3:30-4:30 p.m. in 325 Burruss)

November 17, 2011	March 15, 2012
December 15, 2011-210 Burruss Hall	April 19, 2012
No January 2012 Meeting	May 3, 2012
February 16, 2012	

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Rhodes
Recording Secretary