COMMISSION ON OUTREACH AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
Minutes
May 6, 2021; 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Via Zoom

Attendance: Nick Copeland, Presiding; Guru Ghosh, Ralph Hall, Don Hempson, Ed Jones, Ellie Monnig, Penny Muelenaer, Nicole Nunoo, Robert Oliver, Peter Schmitthenner, Susan Short, Latanya Walker, Robert Weiss, Xiaowei Wu

Absent with Notice: Tara Brent, Holly Carroll, Lee Learman, Cassidy Rist
Absent: John Galbraith, Ashley Johnson, Juan Luis Nicolau Gonzalbez, Morgan Paulette
Guests: Rich Mathieson, April Myers, Ila Schepisi

Welcome: Nick Copeland called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m. and welcomed the group. Attendees signed into the chat and visual attendance was taken; a quorum was established.

1. **Adoption of Agenda:**
   A motion to adopt the agenda was made and seconded. The motion carried.

2. **Announcement of Approval of Minutes, April 15, 2021:**
   Minutes from the April 15, 2021 meeting were approved electronically and can be accessed on the Governance Information System on the web (http://www.governance.vt.edu/).

3. **Overview of The Engagement Center for Creative Aging (ECCA):**
   Ila Schepisi gave an overview of The Engagement Center for Creative Aging (ECCA) to be considered by COIA **(see attached)**.

4. **Acceptance of Constituent Reports and/or Minutes:**
   A. **Chairman's Report:** Nick presented a summary on the University Council meeting of April 19, 2021. **Old Business-Second Reading and Voting:** Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies Resolution-Resolution to Approve New Major, Advertising, in Bachelor of Arts in Communication; Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies Resolution-Resolution to Discontinue Major, Family and Consumer Sciences, in Bachelor of Science in Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management. **New Business-First Reading:** Commission on Student Affairs Resolution-Resolution to Approve the Establishment of an Undergraduate Student Senate (USS); Commission on Student Affairs Resolution-Resolution to Amend in its Entirety the Constitution of the Graduate Student Assembly and Reenact as "The Constitution of the Graduate and Professional Student Senate"; Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs Resolution-Resolution to Revise Chapter 7 of the Faculty Handbook; Commission on Faculty Affairs Resolution-Resolution to Extend Term Limit for Postdoctoral Associate Faculty Appointments; Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies Resolution-Resolution to Rename the Department of Interprofessionalism in the VTCSOM to the Department of Healthcare Innovation and Implementation Science; Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies Resolution-Resolution to Establish Readmission Policy for Undergraduate Students. **Presentation:** Ken Miller, Vice President for Finance; Chris Yianilos, Executive Director of Government Relations; and Elizabeth Hooper, Director of State Government Relations, gave a legislative update presentation.

   Nick also reported on the May 3, 2021 University Council meeting. **Old Business-Second Reading and Voting:** Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs-Resolution to Revise Chapter 7 of the Faculty Handbook; Commission on Faculty Affairs-Resolution to Extend Term Limit for Postdoctoral Associate Faculty Appointment; Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies-Resolution to Rename the Department of Interprofessionalism to the Department of Healthcare Innovation and Implementation Science; Commission on Student Affairs-Resolution to Approve the Establishment of an Undergraduate Student Senate (USS); Commission on Student

Affairs-Resolution to Amend in its Entirety The Constitution of the Graduate Student Assembly and Reenact as "The Constitution of the Graduate and Professional Student Senate"; Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies-Resolution to Establish a Continuous Enrollment Policy for Undergraduate Students. There was no new business at this meeting. **Presentation:** Center for Economic and Community Engagement-John Provo

Approved minutes for University Council can be found at: https://governance.vt.edu/meeting-materials.php.

B. **Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE):** Ed Jones provided the summary for VCE. There are many programs that are being planned for spring and summer including field days/demonstrations across the Commonwealth.

C. **University Committee on International Affairs (UCIA):** Latanya Walker reported on the UCIA meeting of April 26, 2021; which included a presentation from the Language Culture Institute (LCI). The presentation detailed the path to recovery of University of Mosul, Iraq after the bombings. Rich Mathieson dropped the link in the chat for the article on the recovery that appeared in the E-Daily News: https://vtnews.vt.edu/articles/2021/04/outreach-lcimosul.html.

D. **Global Alumni Engagement Committee Update:** Latanya Walker indicated that the committee was soliciting additional members for the needs of what the committee will need in order to put forth to COIA.

5. **Call for Announcements and Commission Board Member Comments:**
Guru Ghosh announced that Lee Learman brought up the issue not having a Virginia Tech membership for the Consortium of Universities for Global Health; and received information during the meeting that the Provost's office has agreed to fund membership costs. Nick thanked the group for serving on this year's commission; Kimberly Rhodes thanked Nick for serving as chair.

6. **Adjournment:** There being no further business, Nick thanked the group for attending. The meeting adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

The next meeting will take place on September 16, 2021 from 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly Rhodes, Recording Secretary

PROPOSED DATES FOR 2021-2022 *(Meetings 3:30-4:30 p.m. unless indicated otherwise)*
- September 16 3:00-3:30 p.m. (Orientation for New Members)
- September 16 3:30-4:30 p.m. (Regular Meeting)
- October 21
- November 18
- December 9
- NO JANUARY MEETING
- February 17
- March 17
- April 21
- May 12

The Engagement Center for Creative Aging (ECCA)
A Center in the
Department of Human Development and Family Science
Virginia Tech

Charter Proposal April 2021

VISION

A world where aging joyfully and connected in the presence of dementia is possible.

MISSION

To provide innovative community services for families aging in place while enhancing the education of future healthcare professionals

To this end, ECCA engages in the following activities:

- **Outreach**: Providing programs and services in the New River Valley, related to aging, mild cognitive impairment, caregiver wellness, and Adult Day Services;

- **Teaching**: Providing robust learning opportunities for students, caregivers, and professionals through service learning, workshops, field study, direct care training, study abroad and more;

- **Research**: Collaborating with students and faculty across departments, colleges and universities to engage in innovative interdisciplinary research focusing on interventions and issues related to aging and dementia; and

- **Global:** Supporting caregivers and communities impacted by dementia through targeted virtual programs, social media presence, and the development of international relationships through study abroad and research efforts.

RELEVANCE TO THE UNIVERSITY'S GOALS AND MISSION

In support of Virginia Tech's mission to be an inclusive community of knowledge, discovery and creativity dedicated to improving the quality of life and the human condition within the Commonwealth of Virginia and throughout the world, ECCA will help to:

- Improve the quality of life and human condition through programming for families experiencing dementia;
- Empower adults all over the world to engage new information and programming regarding aging and brain health;
- Model advanced community-based aging services for regional, national, and global impact;
- Offer innovative and holistic programming and interventions relevant to an interdisciplinary student audience;

- Tackle critical societal issues impacting equity for older adults in rural areas;
- Support engagement and learning for alumni and the local community with relevant programming about aging; and
- Participate in continuous strategic planning for the center, enabling us to evolve with evidence-based practice and the needs of our participants and students.

ECCA Approaches To Integrative Care

There are a number of philosophies, theories, modalities, and approaches that influence ECCA's teaching, research, outreach, and engagement. These include:

- Creative Arts
- Eden Alternative Philosophy
- Game, Flow, and Systems Theories
- Greencare
- Holistic Care
- Integrative Health and Wellness
- Intergenerational Relationship
- Philosophy of Leisure
- Person-centered Care Philosophy
- Strengths-Based Approach
- Validation

OBJECTIVES

ECCA has five short-term objectives and they include:
1. Strengthen interdisciplinary collaborations across campus and in the community to contribute toward "continuous planning" of services and research meeting our center mission;
2. Increase holistic scope of services;
3. Reach beyond boundaries to expand service impact to more people;
4. Begin Greencare and Integrative Health and Wellness initiatives; and
5. Secure capital funding for a new facility.

ECCA will accomplish these objectives by:
1. Providing robust learning opportunities for students, caregivers, and professionals;
2. Increasing awareness of strategies and services available to engage individuals in preserving brain health and aging well;
3. Offering community-based services to people with mild cognitive impairment and their families to support holistic wellness;
4. Improving social connectedness and skill sets for families' caregiving for a loved one with dementia;
5. Providing holistic, therapeutic and person-centered day programming to older adults;
6. Collaborating with faculty on interdisciplinary projects to advance the field of aging; and
7. Maximizing revenue, increasing grant funding, and attracting a larger donor base through networking, collaborating and marketing efforts.

ECCA has six long-term objectives:
1. Become an official Alzheimer's Research Center with NIH/NIA Funding;
2. Partner with Engineering to become an NSF Engineering Research Center;
3. Become a National Endowment for the Arts Research Lab;
4. Become the first university-based Greencare Facility in the United States;
5. Serve as a model and support for other land-grant universities developing their own community Greencare and outreach initiatives; and
6. Become a global leader in aging innovations.

FACULTY & STUDENTS

Primary Faculty Involved	Role	Title	Department
April Few-Demo	Administrator	Department Head	Human Development and Family Science
Ila Schepisi	Director	Director	Human Development and Family Science
Joanna Culligan	Outreach	Therapeutic Program Manager	Human Development and Family Science
Benjamin Katz	Departmental Research Liaison	Assistant Professor	Human Development and Family Science

<u>Other Faculty</u>

ECCA welcomes collaboration with faculty from across the university and other institutions that align with missions of Virginia Tech and ECCA.

<u>Student Groups</u>

ECCA is positioned to provide a unique interdisciplinary educational opportunity. Volunteer and for credit options are available to undergraduate and graduate students at any level of study from any department within Virginia Tech and among neighboring institutions. In addition to the Department of Human Development and Family Science, we have supervised or collaborated with students from departments and units such as Communication; Computer Science; Interior Design; Human Nutrition, Foods, and Exercise; Music Therapy; Recreation Therapy; Occupational Therapy; Social Work; Psychology; Neuroscience; and Public Health.

ECCA provides opportunities for service learning, field study, internship, volunteering, community service and research. Additionally, collaborations with student-led organizations, local public schools, and community programs have been successful for engagement.

<u>Clientele Description</u>

The Engagement Center for Creative Aging serves:

  a. Individuals interested in preserving brain health against memory challenges;
  b. Families caring for older adults and loved ones with a dementia diagnosis or other age-related illness;
  c. Older adults with dementia and/or other conditions benefiting from a mixed social/medical model within the scope of care defined by center license with the Department of Social Services; and
  d. College students interested in expanding their knowledge base and gaining experience with the families and individuals we serve.

GOVERNANCE

ECCA will be housed in the Department of Human Development and Family Science (HDFS) within the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences (CLAHS) at Virginia Tech.

The Center's ***Administrator*** will be the HDFS Department Head.

The ***Center's Director*** is a HDFS faculty member who is appointed by the Administrator. The Director must meet all the basic requirements of the Virginia Department of Social Services (DSS) regulations for oversight of an Adult Day Care [Services] program.

The *Center's Therapeutic Program Director* is a HDFS faculty member who is appointed by the Center Director.

The *Center's Healthcare Coordinator* is a staff member who is appointed by the Center Director.

The *Stakeholders Committee* will be composed of faculty with departmental and college oversight.

The purpose of the *Stakeholders Committee* is to safeguard the Center's effective operation and ensure that the Center's mission and objectives are achieved.

Specifically, the *Stakeholders Committee* will include:

- The ECCA Director, Ila Schepisi, MTS
- The ECCA Administrator, April Few-Demo, Ph.D.
- The CLAHS Associate Dean for Policy, Debra Stoudt, Ph.D.
- The CLAHS Dean, Laura Belmonte, Ph.D.
- The CLAHS Assistant Dean of Advancement, Holly Kobia
- The Vice President for Outreach and International Affairs, Guruprasad Ghosh, Ph.D.

To achieve the Center's objectives, the Director of ECCA will be assisted by an *Advisory Board*.

The Chair of the *Advisory Board* will be nominated and appointed by members of the Advisory board.

The *Advisory Board* members include:

Virginia Tech
- AgriAbility Virginia Program Director, Center for Food Systems and Community Transformation Director, Kim Niewolny, Ph.D.
- Associate Director of Corporate & Foundation Relations, Adam Short
- Center for Gerontology Core Faculty, Tina Savla, Ph.D. and Pam Teaster, Ph.D.
- Center for Public Health Practice & Research Director, Kathy Hosig, Ph.D.
- CLAHS Communication Director, Paula Byron
- CLAHS Director of Alumni Relations, Christina Miller
- ECCA Director, Ila Schepisi
- ECCA Faculty/staff Representative, Joanna Culligan

- Executive Director of Real Estate, Heidi Meyers
- Gerontologist & Mind-Body Curriculum Specialist, Matthew Komelski, Ph.D.
- HDFS ADA Faculty Liaison for Research, Benjamin Katz, Ph.D.
- Reynold's Homestead Director, Julie Walters Steele
- VT Director of Environmental Health & Safety, Lance Franklin
- VT Women's Center Co-Director, Christine Dennis Smith

Community Partners
- Blacksburg AARP/VT Lifelong Learning Institute Representative and Former Dean, Jerry Niles, Ph.D.
- Cheryl Milkes More Endowed Professor in Mental Health Research, Keith Anderson, Ph.D., University of Texas Arlington
- Community Foundation of the New River Valley, Jessica Wirgau
- ECCA Adult Day Program, Caregiver (current or former), Betsy Risen
- Gerontologist and Research Strategist, Shannon Jarrott, Ph.D.
- Local Licensed Nursing Home Administrator, Bart Williams
- Vice-President of Health & Wellness at Warm Hearth, Heather Gearhart
- VT HDFS and Center Alumni, Emily Patrick

ANTICIPATED RESOURCE NEEDS & PROSPECTIVE SOURCES

Facility Resource Needs
ECCA requires physical space to hold outreach programming that (at minimum) meets the DSS regulations for Adult Day Care Centers with additional space adequate to accommodate on-site experiential learning, training and research opportunities for students and faculty. Additional facilities and a large outdoor space to incorporate Greencare as well as integrative health and wellness initiatives is ideal.

Human Resource Needs
ECCA requires staff with healthcare and/or complementary healthcare credentials to meet the needs of its vulnerable population and DSS regulations for Adult Day Care Centers. To reduce staff turn-over, ECCA needs full-time equivalents for sustainability.

Program Resource Needs
ECCA provides a variety of programming that requires therapeutic, medical, recreational, musical, educational, cultural, nutritional and administrative among other supplies. This would include training and personal/professional development for staff.

Technology Resource Needs

ECCA utilizes technology for programming, teaching, documentation, administration, health monitoring, and research. ECCA strives to meet HIPAA standards as best practice requiring professional oversight by the department's Systems Administrator.

<u>Prospective Sources</u>
Virginia Tech provides physical space and utilities free of charge in addition to housekeeping and maintenance. VT also provides computers to appointed faculty.

The Department of ***Human Development and Family Science*** provides the salary for the Center Director. HDFS also provides technology equipment through ETF funding, end of year funds, winter session, and/or pass downs when other faculty get upgrades.

The ***College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences*** provides the salary for the Healthcare Coordinator and Senior Systems Administrator and partial salary for the Therapeutic Program Manager.

Remaining human resources, program and technology needs are covered by ***center-generated revenue***. Fees are charged for each arm of service delivery--Engaging Aging, Caregiver Wellness, and Adult Day Services—as well as professional consultations and assessments.

Grants and donors are sought to fund research, develop new program offerings, and build organizational capacity.

FORECAST OF EXTERNAL FUNDING SOURCES

ECCA has the versatility to collaborate on interdisciplinary teams across campus, with other universities and faculty globally. ECCA will seek collaborations that will enhance eligibility for small and large grants. Former and current external funding sources include: Jesse Ball DuPont, Impact 1890, and the Alzheimer's Association. Potential future funders include: National Institute of Health, National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for Humanities, National Science Foundation, National Institute on Aging, AARP, and the RWJ Foundation.

ANTICIPATED DISTRIBUTION OF F&A COSTS

The Center follows department, college, foundation, and university policies related to F&A costs.

QUALIFICATIONS OF THE PROPOSED DIRECTOR

The Director of The Engagement Center for Creative Aging is responsible for the daily operations and overall management of the program and services of the Center. The Director ensures the center is advancing its mission. The Director reports directly to the Head of the Department of Human Development and Family Science.

Required qualifications include a Master's degree (minimum) with experience or professional degree or certification (e.g., CTRS or RN) in a health and human service profession, gerontology, or human development, and recent experience working with people who have dementia. Preferred qualifications include knowledge of community-based health and human services with research and/or clinical training/supervision experience.

The responsibilities of the Director include:

1. Management of the Center's services and programs, including compliance with local, state and/or federal regulatory agencies and Virginia Tech policies;
2. Orientation, training, and supervision of Center staff, including coordination of their activities to assure the needs of participants and families are met;
3. Providing direct care to participants as needed and within scope of practice;
4. Monitoring the Center's operating budget and supervising fiscal operations;
5. Coordinating services with other human service agencies and programs, including emphasizing public awareness for the center's programs and advocacy for quality services to older adults;
6. Initiate quality assurance of participant care by leading and delegating responsibilities for staff and student in-service training and weekly staff meetings; participate in service plan conferences with families and participate in developing interdisciplinary plans of care;
7. Fulfillment of duties and responsibilities consistent with faculty instructor status in the Department of Human Development and Family Science; and
8. Collaborating with the Department of Human Development and Family Science's Adult Development and Aging Faculty Liaison, the Child Development Center for Learning and Research, and the Advisory Board to the Center to forward the Virginia Tech's goals of learning, discovery and engagement.