

COMMISSION ON OUTREACH AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Minutes

March 13, 2008

Attendance: Ray Ali for Mark McCann, Mike Bertelsen for S. K. De Datta, Jan Helge Bøhn, Sarah Burkett, Jeri Childers, Erin Dolan, John Dooley, Steven Duke for Andrew Becker, Devi Gnyawali, Lud Eng for Gerhardt Schurig, Osama Marzouk, Max Stephenson, Chris Thomas

Absence: Terry Clements, Billie Jean Elmer, Susan Hagen, Traian Iliescu, Alyssa Katz, Ewen McLean, Kevin Pelzer, Ted Settle, Scott Tate, Jane Wemhoener

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

Erin Dolan welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were self introductions.

2. **Agenda Approval**

The agenda was approved as presented acknowledging Steven Duke as representing Andy Becker on the agenda.

3. **Approval of Minutes, February 7, 2008**

The February 7, 2008 Minutes were approved electronically and have been forwarded to University Council for approval.

4. **Chairman's Report**

Erin Dolan reported from the February 18 University Council meeting. Approved minutes can be found at: <http://www.governance.vt.edu/minutes.php>.

5. **Vice Chairman's Report**

Alumni Award for Outreach Excellence

The awards nominations deadline is March 19, 2008. Commission members were encouraged to send reminders to faculty and staff in their colleges of the deadline.

6. **Understanding Engagement and Engaged Scholarship**

Jeri Childers, Terry Clements, Jane Wemhoener and Ray Ali met with members from the Academy for Outreach Excellence on February 18 for the purpose of further defining engagement. Recipients of the Alumni Award for Extension Excellence as well as off campus offices will also be included in upcoming discussions. A document was shared describing how universities across the country have approached defining scholarship/outreach. Another meeting is scheduled on April 8.

7. **Review Policy Statement on Participation in International Exchange Report from University Council on International Affairs (UCIA)**

A "Policy Statement on Student Participation in International Exchange Programs," was distributed and discussed. This new policy revision has been discussed and approved by the UCIA. The CALS college committee recommended this formal current policy statement to clarify

that students transferring to Virginia Tech can apply for the exchange program. There are over 70 student exchange agreements in place. Last year there were more than 100 students abroad for academic credit on exchange programs. It was decided that this remain as policy/practice at this time. If this is challenged in the future, then it can be revisited and sent formally through university governance.

Alumni Award for Excellence in International Education, Alumni Award for Excellence in International Outreach, Alumni Award for Excellence in International Research

The call for nominations for the Alumni Awards for International Education, Outreach and Research has been distributed. The deadline for nominations is April 1, 2008.

8. Outreach NOW 2008

Reviewers are being contacted. The call for proposals for presentations, posters and exhibits, and an announcement for the conference will be sent out soon. Nominees from the following areas will be invited to participate as a review panel for the Outreach NOW 2008 Conference:

- Academy of Outreach Excellence
- Winners of the Virginia Cooperative Extension Alumni Association Extension Excellence Award
- Commission on Outreach and International Affairs
- Student Affairs
- VT-Engage Steering Committee
- Selected students; a total of 20 students are welcomed

9. Reports

Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE)

Virginia Cooperative Extension is undergoing faculty reviews using on-line reporting. The winner of the Alumni Award for Excellence in Extension has been selected.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Price
Recording Secretary