

**COMMISSION ON OUTREACH AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS  
MINUTES  
October 13, 2005**

**Attendance:** Jennifer Abel (telecon), Scott Baker (telecon), Mike Barnett, Jeri Childers, S. K. De Datta, Erin Dolan, John Dooley, Ken Eriksson, Will Eyestone for Judi Lynch, Susan Hagen, Osama Marzouk, Ewen McLean, Jim Pease, Susan Prillaman (telecon), Judith Shrum

**Absence:** Linda Burcham, Jack Davis, Eileen Crist, Gene Egger, Mark McCann, Sharron Quisenberry, Glenda Scales, Ted Settle, Rodney Thompson

**Guest:** Susan Felker

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Judith Shrum welcomed members to the meeting. Self-introductions were made.

**2. Agenda Approval**

The agenda was approved as presented.

**3. Approval of Minutes, September 8, 2005**

The September 8, 2005 Minutes were approved electronically and have been forwarded to University Council for approval.

**4. Chairman's Report**

Judith Shrum praised the Outreach NOW plenary and panel. She said that the guest speaker, Dr. Martin Jischke gave a language, inspiration, and rationale for doing much of what is being done and for continuing with the goals and reaching to newer heights in doing scholarship of engagement at Virginia Tech. The exhibits were a good opportunity to network with those who are active in outreach and international scholarship. This year's goals will be to look at the outcomes of the Outreach NOW conference and to invite Ralph Byers to talk about the impact of recent legislation restructuring higher education.

**5. Vice-Chairman's Report**

Ken Eriksson gave a report from the September 19 University Council meeting.

**6. Action Items**

- Jeri Childers shared partial data information from the Outreach NOW 2005 conference.
  - Good comments from faculty and staff for the overall conference.
  - Statistics:
    - 253 people registered for this first-time conference; 196 attended
    - The registration list (sorted by college) was shared with members
    - All 8 colleges were represented as well as 40 departments; the Library sent a contingent of people.
    - 21 exhibitors – Very good feedback about the quality and quantity of exhibits.
    - As of October 12 there were 74 responses from the electronic survey. Feedback was discussed.
    - The speaker was ranked 4.8 (scale of 5)
    - Content ranking 4.7 (scale of 5)
  - Dr. Jischke's remarks can be found on the web site: <http://www.conted.vt.edu/outreachnow/>
- Scott Baker suggested that extension could be included to play a role with faculty in outreach.

- Judith Shrum will contact the panel speakers to ask permission to share their presentations on the web site.
- Commission members felt that a yet stronger understanding of the scholarship of engagement is needed, with emphasis on how to document the impact of the scholarship.
- Discussion of next steps:
  - The Commission voted to hold the conference again next year in late September and then annually.
  - A panelist to speak about international outreach and how their scholarship activity relates to that arena;
    - Invite a high profile person again.
    - Structure/strategy of the event, timing and space for the event needs to be identified by the next meeting since the IVTSCC is now high profile and it is harder to schedule space.
  - The second week of November is international week. It was suggested that during that week a high profile international scholar could be invited to talk about their international activity to help faculty look at linkages as it relates to their international activity and their scholarly activity.
  - A question was raised about what can be done to improve the understanding on campus of outreach scholarship, and what can be done to publicize the nature of outreach scholarship between now and the next conference. The Commission explored the ideas of reviewing departmental and college policies regarding outreach and ways to communicate with faculty members serving on the P&T committees.
  - Hispanic Awareness Month is in October, and this could be a time to combine our conference with international efforts already being held.
  - This discussion will continue at the next meeting to bring together these suggestions for next year and how to connect with the P&T committees this year by possibly inviting those P&T chairs to meet with the COIA before their next meeting. It was also suggested that a workshop could be held for P&T committees in the spring.

## 7. **Information Items**

- Outreach Council Report  
Judith Shrum will send out a summary of the last Outreach Council meeting. Approved Outreach Council minutes will be posted at the Outreach and International Affairs web site at <http://www.outreach.vt.edu/council/index.html>.
- University Council on International Affairs Report  
S. K. De Datta gave a report from the UCIA. Approved UCIA minutes will be posted at the Outreach and International Affairs web site at [http://www.outreach.vt.edu/ucip/min\\_index.html](http://www.outreach.vt.edu/ucip/min_index.html)

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Price  
Recording Secretary