



International Advisory Council
19 April 2019
Minutes

College Representatives & Other Voting Members	Ex-Officio Members
1. Ansari, Rashid	20. Ardinger, Nick
2. Arena, Ross Anthony	21. Bonnin, Nora
3. Bardella, Inis Jane	22. Coumbe-Lilley, John
4. Deanna, Linda	23. Deegan, Chris
5. Dorevitch, Samuel	24. Deshpande, Pratik-Sanjeev
6. Gutierrez, Marty	25. Engle, Jan
7. Hammerschmidt, James	26. Heifetz, Kali
8. Keen, Ralph	27. Romano, Jason
9. Mariscalco, Michele	28. Tekian, Ara
10. McCreary, Linda	29. Thomas, Lynn Ann
11. McCrillis, Neal	Guests
12. Pac, Patricia	30. Kodeski, David
13. Pfister, Patricia	
14. Schoen, Marieke	
15. Stapel, Mary	
16. Stoll, Megan	
17. Thakral, Charu	
18. Vidyarthi, Sanjeev	
19. Weine, Steve	

I. Old Business

A. Minutes

The February minutes were placed in the Box and distributed at the meeting. Arena moved approval, and Mariscalco seconded. The minutes were approved without changes.

II. Office of Global Engagement Updates

A. UIC Global Update

McCrillis provided an update on Fall 2019 projections. There are approximately 1,600 partial or complete applications for UIC Global Graduate Direct which was launched on 15 February. The original estimate was a Fall 2019 first cohort of 50-75, but the high level of interest may result in more. In response to a question about the countries of origin, Heifetz noted that most are from India.

UIC Global undergraduate applications for Fall 2019 are now about 110. This slightly (3.5%) below last year which mirrors national trends, but, importantly, there is a much better geographical diversity than in previous cohorts.

B. University of Illinois System Proposes to Provide Gallagher Insurance for Employees

McCrillis explained the University of Illinois System office is seeking to provide universal coverage to all system employees while they travel outside the U.S. The Senior International Officers on each campus have been working with the system on this. McCreary asked if anyone at UIC had had to use the benefits of the Gallagher policy in the past. Deegan said, yes, but typically, these were for small medical costs that are reimbursed under the policy. It would be very rare to need evacuation, repatriation or emergency family visits, but without insurance, the cost would be astronomical. McCreary noted that the insurance is a very good deal. Mariscalco congratulated McCrillis on what is a big success for faculty and staff.

III. Reports from the Standing Committees

A. International Partnerships (Marieke Schoen)

Schoen noted that the International Collaborations Policy has been approved by the university. She reported that proposals for collaboration now could be submitted through an online form, which also allows document uploading. Agreement proposals will be routed and reviewed by the relevant offices as determined by the OGE Office of International Affairs. Everyone will be able to track the proposals and see the comments. McCrillis showed the online proposal website.

Tekian asked how signatures would be obtained with the online form. Bonin said that OIA would manage obtaining signatures from heads of department and colleges. After obtaining these (demonstrating units' support), she would route the proposal and obtain signatures online from the other relevant offices. McCrillis noted that the online system is essentially a tracking system. Bonnin suggested that another function could be added to the system such that submitters could be notified at each step of the review.

Tekian asked about the length of time for review and approval. Bonnin noted that while OGE completes its review quickly (less than 48 hours), she cannot control the process after that point although she will be able to track and send reminders if needed.

Schoen noted that they were looking into shortening the processing time by requesting McCrillis be empowered to sign proposals, such as generic template agreements. McCrillis noted that he would need assurances first that partners had not made unauthorized changes to the template.

Schoen also reported that the committee investigated Strategic International Collaborations. They have a draft, which was shared. Schoen indicated the next step would be to bring this to the Chancellor and Provost for their consideration.

Tekian asked if there were any current strategic collaborations or partnerships. McCrillis said that there are none although the Chancellor has indicated an interest in this.

Mariscalco asked if the term "partnership" was a legal definition. Stoll responded that it is not. Mariscalco suggested the term "partnership" needs to be clarified.

Tekian stated that he was uncomfortable with any individual designating a "Strategic Partner." Ardinger asked if it was an organic process or were there characteristics that could be used to determine which institutions were strategic partners?

Arena suggested that discussing this matter with the university leadership soon would probably be better. Deegan asked if the definition of “strategic” could be found in current agreements, as this would help to avoid conflict. Bonnin suggested that the “T” concept [breadth and depth of collaborations] would be useful to determine strategic partners. Arena agreed that looking at it in this way would be more objective. Mariscalco said that OGE rather than colleges would have a better sense of how to determine whether a partner was strategic or not.

B. Campus Internationalization (Ross Arena)

Arena reported on the proposed Global Studies Certificate. The committee had decided earlier to develop this interdisciplinary undergraduate certificate because it would enable students to infuse their majors with global learning. The committee had also decided to approach an East campus and a West Campus college that had large numbers of undergraduates. The plan is for the proposal to be reviewed during Fall 2019 and launched Fall 2020.

Last month McCrillis approached the College of Applied Health Sciences to ask if they would consider being the West Campus sponsor. McCrillis presented the concept to a meeting of the college’s leadership. Dean Fernhall was supportive and agreed that AHS would host the certificate. McCrillis has also spoken to an East Campus college but their decision is pending.

McCrillis noted that the proposal would follow the usual UIC curriculum review processes. He suggested that the IAC be updated by posting the draft proposal in the Box sometime in August or September. IAC members would then be free to provide feedback to him.

Arena stated that the map pinning and induction for new international students will take place during the fall international student orientation (“Summit”) on August 22. Ana Hoban from OIS will be coordinating this effort and using information developed by the committee, particularly Patricia Pac. A vendor is already ready to produce and deliver the map. Hammerschmidt invited faculty to participate in the induction ceremony. Arena noted that approximately 1,000 students would be participating in the induction.

Arena stated that the committee would probably revisit the idea of creating international directional signposts next fall semester.

McCrillis noted that he hoped to seek applications for faculty to participate in the International Virtual Teaching Exchange (COIL) conference in October.

Ardinger added that the Office of International Research has arranged an April 29 demonstration of international student enrollments done by the Urban Data Visualization Laboratory.

C. International Students and Scholars (Jim Hammerschmidt)

In the absence of the chair, Hammerschmidt provided an update. He noted the new Housing Information for Faculty handout pulls together information provided by several UIC offices as well as research conducted by him and McCrillis. Hammerschmidt also shared a new OIS animated orientation film for international visiting faculty.

Hammerschmidt would like the committee to consider health insurance for international students and scholars. There are different populations with differing needs who are not necessarily best served by CampusCare. It only provides services on UIC campuses and has gaps in coverage if

the student is not enrolled (e.g. before or after their time at UIC but while in the U.S.). Thomas noted that visiting scholars usually ask as their first question “What do I do for insurance?” She asked if there is information on this. Hammerschmidt stated that his office is always ready to assist with this.

D. Study Abroad (Linda McCreary)

McCreary presented the results of the study abroad survey conducted among colleges to assess how many are currently following the new U of I System requirements on student international travel. In the main, UIC units vary in their adherence to the mandates. Among the notable findings is that respondents are not sure if study abroad students participate in orientation and are appropriately prepared for their travel. There is also uncertainty about whether documentation is gathered from students. Respondents also are unsure who is their college points of contact for International Travel Safety Enrollment with regard to Level 3 Petitions and incident response.

Deegan stated that his office has protocols in place for study abroad. He suggested that campus-wide best practices and guidelines should be developed. Compliance will remain challenge of course. Deegan suggested that messaging from the Chancellor or Provost would help.

McCreary stated that the College of Nursing has protocols in place by which students who were not approved by the college for international travel do not receive credit for funds.

Arena echoed concerns about faculty compliance with any new requirements. Deegan replied that case law—of which there is plenty—it is clear that the university would be at greater risk if it does not articulate and adhere to benchmarks and best practices.

IV. Plans for Next Year

McCrillis noted that when he asked members to join the IAC, he hoped that each of them would be willing to serve a 2-year term. However, if anyone wanted to opt out after this first year, they should note that on the sign-in sheet. He will ask college deans and other unit heads to appoint replacement members as needed.

McCrillis expressed his appreciation for the committee chairs and all of the work they had done this first very successful year. On the other hand, he stated it is helpful to seek new chairs each year in order build a depth of leadership and to allow members to pursue other interests.

Lastly, McCrillis noted that International Partnership Committee will cease to be a standing committee because its work is largely done. In its place, next year there will be an International Research & Scholarship Committee

V. Other Business

None

VI. Adjournment

The IAC adjourned at 11:28.

Respectfully submitted,
David Kodeski and Neal McCrillis