



**International Advisory Council (IAC)  
13 September 2019  
Minutes**

<b>College Representatives &amp; Other Voting Members</b>	<b>Ex-Officio Members</b>
1. Ansari, Rashid	1. Bonnin, Nora
2. Arena, Ross Anthony	2. Deegan, Chris
3. Art, Jonathan	3. Farrell, Charles
4. Deanna, Linda	4. Fason, Melvin
5. Keen, Ralph	5. Martinie, Jim
6. Kozłowska, Anna	6. Romano, Jason
7. Lewis, Paul	7. Sikorski, Tracy
8. Mariscalco, Michele	8. Tekian, Ara
9. McClure, Ellen	9. Thomas, Lynn Ann
10. McCrillis, Neal (Chair)	
11. Mehta, Sypriya	<b>Guests</b>
12. Pac, Patricia	1. Kodeski, David
13. Pandit, Shail	2. Walsh, Susan
14. Pfister, Patricia	
15. Stapel, Mary	
16. Stoll, Megan	
17. Thakral, Charu	
18. Thomas, Michael	
19. Vidyarthi, Sanjeev	

**I. Introduction of Members and Guests**

McCrillis, asked each member of the IAC to introduce themselves. Afterward McCrillis noted that he had worked with college deans to replace a few representatives who had left UIC, shifted to new roles or were away on sabbatical. In addition, McCrillis asked a few administrative offices to name representatives because their work in relation to payroll, payments and other processes are crucial to successful internationalization, particularly the issues under the purview of the new Research and Scholarship Committee.

**II. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The April minutes were placed in the Box at the end of the spring semester and distributed at the meeting. There being no changes to the minutes, McCrillis asked for a motion to approve them. Arena moved approval and Keen seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**III. Office of Global Engagement Updates**

**A. International Students Enrollment and International Scholars Numbers**

In the absence of Jim Hammerschmidt who was attending a John Marshall integration meeting, Browne announced there are more than 1,000 new international students on campus.

#### **B. UIC Global Graduate Direct Launch and Academic Chair**

McCrillis announced that the first cohort of 35 UIC Global Graduate Direct students arrived for Fall 2019. The small number was due in part to the late February launch of the program, and he anticipates larger numbers in future cohorts.

#### **C. Gallagher Comprehensive Insurance**

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 effort which is expected to be completed soon.

It was asked if anyone at UIC had had to use the benefits of the Gallagher policy in the past. Deegan said there had been claims, but typically these were for small amounts. 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 gaining this benefit for faculty and staff.

#### **IV. Highlights of 2018-2019 IAC Achievements**

##### **A. International Collaboration Policy and Online International Collaboration Proposal**

McCrillis announced the International Collaboration Agreements policy and process. Bonnin reported that the proposal process is operational and that she has been providing information demonstrations before directing users to the online portal next month.

##### **B. Strategic Partnerships**

The draft document developed by IAC was shared by McCrillis with the Chancellor and Provost. Both agreed that it provided a good framework for understanding what constitutes a strategic partner. They also both indicated that the naming of any strategic partners would be done by the UIC leadership based on the parameters laid out by the IAC draft.

##### **C. Global and Cross-Cultural Studies Certificate**

McCrillis outlined how the Global and Cross-Cultural Studies Certificate is moving forward within the College of Business Administration and the College of Applied Health Sciences. A foreign language requirement option for the experiential learning component is also likely to be available pending approval by the School of Literatures, Cultural Studies and Linguistics. The plan is for the certificate is be ready by fall 2020.

Arena noted that Certificate will allow for specializations within sponsoring colleges. He hoped that this would encourage other colleges or units to join the certificate with their own focus.

##### **D. "Mapping Our Global Community"**

McCrillis shared a short slideshow of photos from our inaugural "Mapping Our Global Community" ceremony. He expressed his personal appreciation to Patricia Pac who had been crucial in developing this initiative and to Ana Hoban who had led the OIS' effort to run what was a very successful inaugural event. Chancellor Amiridis participated by placing the first pin

on the map and personally welcomed each new student after they placed their pin on map. He was so pleased with the event that he asked to be invited to participate next year.

#### E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Faculty Workshop on Teaching International Students

McCrillis reported that the workshop was very successful. He thanked the Offices of Diversity and Faculty Affairs for their work in developing and offering the workshop. Kozłowska participated in the workshop and thought the new game component of the workshop with its various scenarios and pedagogical playing cards worked well. She said that the Library is using this approach to facilitate their meetings and keep the conversation focused.

#### F. UIC Study Abroad Survey

The IAC Study Abroad Committee completed a survey of study abroad practices (pre-departure orientations, collection of emergency information, etc.) amongst different colleges. The survey's overall "takeaway" was that practices vary a great deal and most units on campus are not sure about best practices or who assists them regarding best practices.

### **V. Members on IAC Committees**

McCrillis reminded everyone that each member is asked to participate in one of the committees. These are the real working groups that produced the IAC recommendations. He has already assigned each IAC member to one working group based on what he believed was their interest and responsibility. However, if anyone wants to switch from one committee to another, they should email the IAC Chair.

### **VI. IAC Committee Priorities for 2019-2020**

#### A. International Students & Scholars Committee (Linda Deanna & Jim Hammerschmidt)

Deanna reported that she plans to meet with Hammerschmidt during the week of 23 September to discuss the committee's previous activity and how it could move forward. She indicated she is open to developing the agenda with the committee.

#### B. Research and Scholarship Committee (Ross Arena)

Arena reviewed some of the possible areas of focus for the committee, including best practices in Promotion & Tenure that reward international research and teaching, faculty awards for internationalization, dual degrees and removing barriers to collaborating with international colleagues.

Deegan thanked Arena for sharing his department's new P&T guidelines which normalize faculty participation in study abroad programs.

#### C. Campus Internationalization Committee (Shail Pandit & Charu Thakral)

Thakral and Pandit reported that they are working on several possible initiatives, including a signpost that would indicate direction and mileage/kilometers to various international locations. Pac said she is ready to assist in the logistics and has researched vendors.

Deegan cautioned that the destinations included or excluded could be controversial. Discussion focused on the need to be thoughtful in the choices. It was also suggested signposts could feature themes such as destinations of UIC faculty-led study abroad programs. McClure suggested that signposts might refer to Chicago's Sister Cities. Thakral thought that it would be essential to get student input as they moved forward.

Arena noted that the signposts could be modular and changed out periodically. This would allow the signposts to reference the “Mapping Our Global Community” participants. Browne pointed out that more campus signage in general would be an improvement.

Thakral said the committee is also looking at some kind of International Day. She asked if it had been done in the past and what the day might look like. Deegan, Bonnin, and McCrillis noted that International Education Week (officially the week before Thanksgiving) already takes place on campus and could be a starting point.

Pandit said the committee is interested in working with the Dean of Students to develop a hosting family plan for international students. The idea would be UIC faculty, staff or students could invite international students to a holiday meal, sporting event, shopping or another typical American experience.

#### **D. Study Abroad Committee (Ellen McClure)**

McClure reported that in addition to responding to the U of I mandates mentioned by McCrillis, the committee is working on raising awareness of study abroad opportunities amongst faculty. One of their primary initiatives is investigating how study abroad participation at UIC measures up between demographic groups and majors and against national trends. This will help the committee understand the strengths and weakness at UIC and to develop strategies to increase the involvement of students and faculty. The goal is normalizing study abroad and overcoming barriers (real or perceived) to study abroad participation.

Arena stated that the committee’s focus is developing the conceptual recommendations. McCrillis noted that it is the job of OGE to find ways to operationalize the recommendations.

#### **IV. Plans for the Next Meeting**

Next meeting will take place during early to mid-November.

#### **V. Other Business**

Ansari suggested the IAC consider ways to leverage faculty sabbaticals to promote international partnerships. He suggested putting together a packet for faculty to share with potential partners.

Bonnin asked how often committees meet. McCrillis responded that they meet once or twice between IAC meetings.

Martinie expressed his thanks to the Council for including him as ex-officio member. He noted that being a part of the Council will be a learning experience as he hears from members about their global engagement activities.

#### **VI. Adjournment**

The IAC adjourned at 12:20.

Respectfully submitted,  
David Kodeski and Neal McCrillis