



## International Advisory Council (IAC)

**13 February 2020**

### Minutes

College Representatives & Other Voting Members	Ex-Officio Members
1. Arena, Ross Anthony	1. Bonnin, Nora
2. Art, Jonathan	2. Fletcher, Kiely
3. Deanna, Linda	3. Gutierrez, Marty
4. Hammerschmidt, Jim	4. Stein, Marlee
5. Keen, Ralph	5. Thomas, Lynn Ann
6. Kozłowska, Ana	6. Wang, Jeff
7. Lau, Alan	
8. Lewis, Paul	<b>Guests</b>
9. Mariscalco, Michele	
10. Martinie, Jim	1. Cabrera Lazarini, Juan José
11. McClure, Ellen	2. Kodeski, David
12. McCreary, Linda	3. Lofthouse, Alyson
13. McCrillis, Neal (Chair)	4. Stein, Marlee
14. Moss, Tom	
15. Pac, Patricia	
16. Pfister, Patricia	
17. Sidik, Khalifah	
18. Stoll, Megan	
19. Thakral, Charu	
20. Thomas, Michael	
21. Uslenghi, George	
22. Weine, Steve	

#### **I. Introduction of Members and Guests**

McCrillis asked IAC members and guests to introduce themselves.

#### **II. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The November minutes were placed in the IAC “Box” and distributed at the meeting. There were no deletions, additions or changes to the minutes. McCreary moved approval and Keen seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

#### **III. Office of Global Engagement Updates**

##### **A. Monterrey Tec Faculty Liaison**

Dr. Juan José Cabrera-Lazarini, UIC’s first Monterrey Tec Faculty Liaison, introduced himself as a visiting scholar in the College of Business Administration with responsibility for supporting and expanding the collaborations between UIC and Monterrey Tec. McCrillis added that Cabrera-Lazarini has been appointed to his role for three to four years which will enable Monterrey Tec and UIC to move forward developing this first strategic UIC partnership.

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

McCrillis reminded members that the Global and Cross Cultural Studies Certificate has been approved by both of the sponsoring colleges (AHS and CBA). The certificate has been forwarded to Dana Wright who is reviewing it before submitting it to SCEP.

### **C. Distinguished Visitor Form**

McCrillis asked each IAC member to encourage their colleagues and units to use the online submission form when hosting international visitors. It is easy to fill out, and documents such as biographies and itineraries can be uploaded. Once submitted, the information goes to OIS and OIA, and they will provide support related to visas, visits to appropriate UIC offices, etc.

**D. International Travel Safety Enrollment (ITS) and Gallagher Comprehensive Insurance**  
Enrollment in ITS is mandatory for students traveling internationally and strongly recommended for UIC employees. The Gallagher comprehensive insurance will provide medical coverage regardless of the traveler's location as well as funds for evacuation, repatriation and emergency family visits. It is available free to UIC employees on authorized international travel. McCrillis asked that IAC members encourage others to use the ITS website and Gallagher insurance.

## **IV. Campus Internationalization Committee Report**

Thakral stated that the committee has been working on two initiatives. The first of these is international city signposts, and Pac has been instrumental in this. Pac provided an update of the signposts which are planned for outside Student Center East and Student Center West. Each 14-foot high signpost can hold six double-sided signs for twelve cities. Pac indicated that two signposts would cost almost \$2,900 each but increasing the number of signposts reduces the per signpost cost to \$2,200 for six signposts.

Pac indicated that Ross has committed his department and the College of Applied Health to covering the cost of the SCW signpost. McCrillis added that Pandit has solicited the Dean of the College of Business Administration who committed to covering the cost of the SCE signpost.

At Thakral's suggestion McCrillis outlined how the committee was approaching the choice of cities. He created a spreadsheet with the top 201 cities by population. In addition, he noted cities in countries which sent many students to UIC or had historically contributed to the Chicago population. He also noted cities which were Chicago's sister cities.

There was an extended discussion about which cities should be included. Some suggested including U.S. cities, others emphasized special UIC connections such as Turin (Engineering) while others suggested including cities that were historically or culturally significant. There were also suggestions for some kind of student polling or contest.

Deanna emphasized the need for consensus and a clear rationale given that there will be objections regardless of the choices. Ross suggested that in addition to selecting larger cities, the primary consideration should be cities in countries from which UIC receives large number of students. In addition, there was consensus that the selection should be broadly representative of the world's continents, regions and countries. Martinie suggested using the relevant regional or national language for the signs. Pac said she would investigate that possibility.

Thakral noted that the second committee initiative is pairing international students in the "Live Learn Grow" courses with "domestic" students in the LAS 110 First Year Seminar. An initial meeting was held, and the committee hoped that the design team would have some collaborative projects ready for LAS instructors when they meet for their orientation in May.

McCrillis noted that the LAS 110 course includes a three-week segment that the instructor can customize so this will allow some LAS 110 instructors to collaborate with Live Learn Grow

instructors. Thakral emphasized that the collaboration should be beneficial to international and domestic students and work effectively for the two different classes.

## **V. International Students & Scholars Committee Report**

Hammerschmidt reviewed the work of the committee he is co-chairing with Deanna. They have three priorities: safety, housing and health insurance. The committee has met with campus representatives related to each area. With regard to campus safety, UIC is increasing lighting, but the committee would like to conduct a walk-through of the whole campus to have a complete assessment. Hammerschmidt also indicated that the committee thought the UIC Safe app might be made more culturally appropriate for international students and scholars.

With regard to housing, the biggest shortcoming is short-term housing for post-doc scholars. In addition, housing contracts are paper-based which is difficult for incoming students and scholars who have not yet arrived in the country. Finally, some housing are not adequately equipped.

Deanna thanked the committee members for being so active and engaged. With regard to insurance, CampusCare does not provide appropriate access for students. The biggest problem is that students must go through Family Medicine which has very limited access during evenings and weekends. In addition, students and scholars do not have coverage when they are traveling in the U.S. or abroad. Finally, there is no provision for repatriation or emergency family visits. McCrillis noted that the level of coverage does not meet the federal requirements for J-1 visas.

There was a discussion regarding the shortcomings of CampusCare, particularly the lack of access. Mariscalco and Ross discussed the challenge and ways in which the problems might be overcome. Ross offered to assist the committee with improving access. McCrillis asked the co-chairs to bring concrete recommendations at the next IAC meeting.

## **VI. Study Abroad Committee Report**

McClure noted that Chris Deegan has resigned as Executive Director of the Study Abroad Office and the Office of Global Engagement is conducting a national search for his replacement.

The priority for the committee has been responding to the U of I mandate to develop a policy and procedure for reviewing the safety and security of study abroad programs. McCrillis emphasized that there is not a UIC policy. Although the Study Abroad Office procedures adhere to best practices in the field, there are a number of programs outside of SAO that are not fully reviewed.

Lofthouse asked for clarification of which activities are covered by the policy. McClure referred to the definitions section of the draft policy. Others raised questions about which activities were or were not included and suggested further clarification might be needed.

McCrillis noted that study abroad includes any ongoing international program for which students earn academic credit or the activity is used to complete the student's academic program. This includes the individual field or clinical placement abroad. However, the existing International Collaborations Policy ensures that exchanges and direct enrollment programs are already reviewed. For that reason, these programs are excluded from the draft policy. On the other hand, "one-off" student activities such as individual student research or conference presentations would not be subject to the proposed policy. The associated review procedures (also provided) would not need to be approved and could be changed as needed.

McClure asked if IAC members were ready to consider the draft policy which the committee has approved. McCrillis noted that the policy, if approved, would be sent to the Committee on

Policy (COP) which often recommends changes in draft policies. If approved by COP, the policy would go to the Vice Chancellor's Committee chaired by the Chancellor.

The Study Abroad Policy was unanimously approved by the IAC. McClure stated that the committee's next task is to develop a "White Paper" strategy for increasing access to and participation in study abroad.

## **VII. Research and Scholarship Committee Report**

Arena updated members on the committee's work. The first initiative is a Dual Degree and *Cotutelle* Policy. Arena stated that developing a policy will encourage greater and more sustainable global engagement, particularly in the areas of research and graduate programs.

Kozlowski asked if both institutions must grant a dual degree together. Arena indicated that each bi-lateral agreement specifies how the degree is structured. McCrillis noted that the current UIC joint degree policy was designed for inter-college degrees and limits shared coursework to 25% which is too low when students must travel internationally. He also noted that any policy approved by the IAC would go through the processes of shared governance. Art stated that there are already units pursuing or hoping to develop dual and *Cotutelle* degrees; the policy would help guide these initiatives. The Dual Degree and *Cotutelles* Policy was unanimously approved.

Arena stated that the second initiative is recognizing faculty who make major contributions to UIC's global engagement. The concept is to offer awards of \$1,000 to \$1,500. He and McCrillis have met with the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs who supports the idea. McCrillis stated that he has followed up with the VPFA who agreed that the proposed new awards could be added to the processes for existing faculty awards. Because the application deadline is in February, we would have to wait until 2021-2022 to offer the awards.

Arena noted that he and McCrillis also met with the VPFA to discuss ways to adjust promotion and tenure guidelines to encourage greater global engagement. The proposal being considered is a global engagement P&T statement similar to the diversity statement. Arena also mentioned his department's clarification of international activities in their departmental P&T guidelines.

The third initiative is creating a mechanism to share current global engagement activities amongst faculty. The committee met with library staff who are creating "My Collaboratory." It will be updated by faculty and therefore will enable faculty to benefit from colleagues' current international collaborations and research.

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

McCrillis indicated the next meeting will take place during early to mid-April.

## **IX. Question, Concerns or Other Business**

There was no other business.

## **X. Adjournment**

The IAC adjourned at 4:55.

Respectfully submitted,  
David Kodeski and Neal McCrillis