

COUNCIL ON INTERNATIONAL STUDIES AND PROGRAMS
Minutes of the Meeting, April 25, 2018

I. Approval of the Minutes of the March 2018 Meeting—Peter Biehl

Professor Biehl welcomed the Council and the meeting's special guest, Dr. Hilary Kahn, who received her Ph.D. in Anthropology from UB in 2002. The draft minutes of the March meeting were approved as distributed. He reminded members about the public lecture at 4:00 pm by Dr. Kahn in the Buffalo Room.

II. Report on the Fulbright Student Program—Colleen Culleton

Professor Culleton reported that this was her fifth year as advisor, and the second year in which she had the assistance of Meg Stewart in Office of Fellowships and Scholarships. She is most grateful for this assistance, which allows for writing workshops to be organized in spring semester. It will be determined whether the writing workshops help improved the applications, but they clearly grow the pool of applicants, and UB is seeing more applicants—this year there were 21 and 12 semi-finalists. Last year UB had 7 winners but this year there are 3 winners and 3 alternates. Alternates fill in for winners if necessary. Among applicants this year there is fifty-fifty split in terms of undergrads and graduate students. Unusually, all three winners this year are Ph.D. students doing research. One lesson learned is the advisability of language proficiency for target country. A candidate with some language shows that there's an inclination and interest—a definite advantage. Professor Dunnett applauded the work of Professor Culleton over the past five years. International Education has asked for funding in its budget to support the Fulbright Advisor position. Professor Hammill spoke about the Office of Fellowships and Scholarships, established jointly with Undergraduate Education to administer prestigious programs at both the undergraduate and graduate level. Priority was to provide more administrative staff to support Fulbright. Robin Schulze, Dean of CAS agreed that the College would support the advisor position. One priority was to provide more faculty advisor support during the summer. At this point, Professor Culleton is moving on to other projects. Dr. Baumstark spoke about the recent Fulbright Scholar Program information session that was attended by 42 faculty colleagues. A panel of 5 former Fulbright recipients spoke about their experiences. The session is a very positive beginning for this initiative to grow the number of scholar grantees.

III. Report from the Chair—Peter Biehl

Professor Biehl reported on the recent AIEA Thematic Forum at the University at Albany, which included a Times Higher Ed session on global rankings. It was announced that Albany is launching a strategic internationalization plan. Professor Biehl was impressed by the master class on global rankings. Times Higher Ed (THE) and QS are the major companies doing global rankings. Biehl is negotiating with THE about a possible visit to UB. The methodology is more than the standard analytics. Professor Biehl also reported on discussions with SEAS about the University of Rhode Island model for the foreign language development of STEM Students. Students use second languages in collaborations with

foreign partners. He also reported on the visit by the delegation from Technical University of Dortmund in conjunction with the Sister-City delegation from Dortmund.

IV. Conversation with Dr. Hilary Kahn, Indiana University, and Immediate Past President of AIEA

Professor Biehl introduced Dr. Kahn, who earned her Ph.D. in Anthropology at UB. She plans to visit her home department before her public talk later this afternoon. Professor Biehl described her publications and research. Dr. Kahn noted that, coincidentally, her father was born in Dortmund and had to leave in 1938 during the Nazi period, and the city opened their arms to him when he returned many years later. Dr. Kahn said that she has not been back at UB since receiving her degree in 2002. It's obvious that much has changed since then. Professor Dunnett had suggested that she speak to the current situation with respect to advocacy and the current political climate.

When asked about the current state of international education, she noted there is a big shift in the approach of the professional associations such as AIEA. They need a new approach, involving increased collaboration and networks. The associations were forced to do this with the travel ban at the beginning of the administration. Initially it was a matter of reacting to new affronts from Washington. There is a sense now that the associations have been too reactive and not proactive enough. AIEA, ACE (their Center for Global Engagement) and NAFSA are the three that she has been most involved with, including the Alliance for International Education Exchange. There is a need to think more about impacting public sentiment generally, not just focusing on advocacy on the Hill. She has recently been advocating to Congress about Title VI and Fulbright-Hayes (DoE) appropriations. ACE's strategic plan is focusing on reinforcing the importance of higher education in general.

The negativity toward higher education is reinforced by the anti-globalism that the Trump administration pushes. In southern Indiana, there is a fear that local students will be displaced by international students—this fear is becoming more pronounced, thanks to populist political appeals. The anti-immigrant, anti-Muslim attitude becomes a narrative about the risk posed by international students and international visitors. How can the associations change the narrative to gain the attention of those who distrust higher education and globalism? NAFSA's advocacy focuses on the economic benefit of international students. Congress is generally supportive of Department of Education programs in foreign languages and area studies. How to create new narratives that gain traction? ACE is still focused on DACA and immigration policy. The Supreme Court voted to support the Travel Ban. The Simon Study Abroad Act is still pending now for 15 years, but still awaits passage. Despite continued advocacy, this is unlikely to move forward. There is a new alliance to advocate for refugees.

In terms of funding streams in DC, the Defense Department has funding for critical language programs (FLAS) at Indiana University, and State and Education have their own pots of money, but there are questions about overlap and redundancy. Indiana University is particularly concerned about Title VI, given the importance of these programs to IU. To end optimistically, Dr. Kahn wants to emphasize the new level of cooperation among international educators to leverage advocacy with enhanced impact both in Washington and among the public generally. There is a need to engage at the grassroots level with local

communities. Outreach to local communities about global issues can help counteract the dominant narrative from Washington. One last consideration is the Department of Defense, which is funding IU to do a strategic plan called the Indiana Roadmap for foreign language learning throughout the state of Indiana. DoD programs are not about training people to speak languages in the armed forces.

Professor Biehl said the focus on risk and the protection of the homeland is noteworthy. DoD is targeting infrastructure development to support foreign language development. Dr. Huber asked about technology-based and experiential learning opportunities in internationalization. Dr. Kahn said that technology is critical in international education. It has facilitated much of her own teaching, including co-teaching virtually with Croatia, Russia and Indonesia. She used to feel that one couldn't have a cultural experience mediated by technology, e.g. video conferencing. AAC&U Global learning value rubrics are helpful here. The challenge is to use interactive technology well enough; it has to be designed properly. Dr. Kahn has not worked with COIL itself, but appreciates the advantages. Dr. Kahn cited the example of two students, one from Indonesia and one from Indiana.

Dr. Oak noted that Department of Defense is easier to deal with if your campus has an Reserve Officers' Training Corps program, as IU has. She said the current characterization of the Obama White House as having too many academics reflects a populist anti-elite and anti-academic posture. Dr. Kahn's most recent book deals with post-9/11 media stereotypes about Islam/Muslims. Only yesterday there was a book launch, and it is hard to believe that this problem continues ten years after Dr. Kahn started the project. Professor Bunker suggested that a university needs to be more imaginative and "subversive" in dealing with the situation. What could an institution do to get people's attention to change the narrative? One example was her meeting with someone who was helped by the CEL—UB could do more to prove its impact on the local community. Rather than simply denouncing the situation, think about local opportunities that would change the narrative. Professor Siaw-Asamoah noted that the School of Management is working with the refugee community. Professor Biehl said the Humanities Festival in Buffalo was about going out into the community rather than a Humanities Institute (internal) focus.

Dr. Kahn likes the idea of stealth internationalization. IU is doing a lot of outreach through local community colleges on workforce development, global competencies, etc. The problem is that elite discourses abet the polarities between populism and elitism. IU must reach out into local rural communities. Dr. Kahn said that IU takes pride in teaching a lot of languages; how many are taught here at UB? Professor Fertig reported that in addition to the Romance languages most languages are taught in Linguistics, with strong programs in Chinese, Japanese and Korean. The challenge is getting enough support, e.g. the Russian program which survives thanks to one excellent instructor. There is a very different environment from IU. Professor Liu noted what the Confucius Institute does work closely with local K-12 schools, and has brought a faculty member from Capital Normal University to support a master's degree in teaching Chinese as a Second Language. A certification program is being developed now to support local teachers.

V. Report on Visit to the UB Programs at the Singapore Institute of Management—Christopher Hollister, University Libraries.

Mr. Hollister reported that he had recently returned from Singapore, where he worked with colleagues on his e-textbook initiative. This was initiated during his visit to SIM in 2014, when he found out that the cost of textbooks was a leading concern. College textbooks have risen in price 88% over the last 10 years, while the CPI has increased by only 21%. They are way out of alignment. International editions are on average 8% more expensive at SIM, and this has prompted development of a plan to help faculty leverage ebook collections in UB Libraries to use for courses at SIM. So each semester the textbook lists for SIM courses is checked against the growing list of ebooks in the Libraries. This enables faculty to use the e-texts when available. So far, since 2015, 64 different e-texts have been provided, affecting 4000 students and saving them US\$186,770. In summer 2018, 8 courses will be supported by e-texts. There are questions about the use of e-texts. In his visits to SIM Hollister has learned a lot about how these e-texts are being used. He was awarded a grant to survey SIM students and to gather data about their usage. There were good responses about their experiences. Some students learned about their e-texts from fellow students or the survey. It's obviously not a seamless process to use e-texts. The survey had positive findings in terms of learning and course satisfaction. But only 44% of students prefer e-texts if cost is not an issue. Most students admitted not purchasing books in the past. Mr. Hollister will be reporting more extensively on this research as he continues the project, part of an effort to move toward open educational resources for course texts in the future. SUNY is pushing a new OER initiative and Hollister is co-directing UB's effort. Maria Horne asked what the average savings per student? Prof. Lewis said that in NZ they use alternate course materials through UBLearns, which are often better than textbooks. Mr. Hollister said that students generally do better in classes with faculty-developed materials.

VI. Report from the Awards Committee—Lorraine Oak

Dr. Oak reported on the nominations for the 2018 Award for Outstanding Contributions to International Education at UB—both exceptional and longstanding. It was good news that that there are two recommended candidates this year. Dr. Human has had extensive impact including advocacy for international students in SEAS, and has been key to the success of Turkish Dual-Diploma program. She has to work around the accreditation challenges in SEAS. Recently negotiated a new agreement with ITU. Dr. Jessie Poon, the second recommended awardee, is an internationally renowned researcher on international trade, particularly with and within in Asia. This research has sustained many international research collaborations and attracted many excellent international students. Professor Poon has been the coordinator of the International Trade Program in Singapore since 2012 and great mentor to international students and scholars. Dr. Oak strongly recommended both nominees for the award. Each nomination was supported unanimously by the Council.

COUNCIL ON INTERNATIONAL STUDIES AND PROGRAMS
Attendance at the Meeting, April 25, 2018

Present:	Tilman Baumstark	Faculty Affairs
	Peter Biehl, Chair	Anthropology, College of Arts and Sciences
	Oscar Budde (ex officio)	UB Immigration Services
	Barbara B. Bunker	Psychology
	Yu-Ping Chang	Nursing
	Filomena Critelli	Social Work
	Colleen Culleton	Romance Languages and Literatures
	Kathy L. Curtis	English Language Institute
	Stephen C. Dunnett (ex officio)	International Education
	David M. Engel	Law
	Jessica Ereiz	International Student and Scholar Services
	Christian Flaugh	Romance Languages and Literatures
	Graham Hammill	Educational Affairs, Graduate School
	Christopher Hollister	University Libraries
	Junhao Hong	Communication
	Maria S. Horne	Theatre and Dance
	Mara Huber	Undergraduate Education
	Christine Human	Engineering and Applied Sciences
	Shaun Irlam	Comparative Literature
	Wei Loon Leong	Alumni Engagement
	Meredith Kolsky Lewis	Law
	H. Lorraine Oak	College of Arts and Sciences
	Mary Odrzywolski (ex officio)	Study Abroad Programs
	Mulchand S. Patel	Biochemistry
	Trevor Poag (ex officio)	International Education
	Steven L. Shaw (ex officio)	International Admissions
	Dorothy Siaw-Asamoah	Management
	John J. Wood, Secretary	International Education
 Guest:	 Hilary Kahn	 Indiana University, AIEA
 Excused:	 Janina Brutt-Griffler	 Graduate School of Education
	David Fertig	Linguistics
	Daniel Hess	Architecture and Planning
	Joseph J. Hindrawan (ex officio)	International Enrollment Management
	EunHee Lee	Asian Studies
	Zhiqiang Liu	Economics, Confucius Institute
	Donald McGuire	Classics
	Jessie P.H. Poon	Geography
	Pavani Ram	Community for Global Health Equity
	Othman Shibly	Dental Medicine
	John H. Stone	Public Health and Health Professions
	Claude E. Welch, Jr.	Political Science
	Lillian S. Williams	Transnational Studies