The University of Texas at Dallas

International Education Development Committee

(IEDC)

Meeting – August 29, 2018

Minutes


Absent: Sanaz Okhovat, Manuel Quevedo, Jane Salk, Wray Weldon, Anvar Zakhidov, and Student Government representatives. 1

Guests: Juan Gonzalez and Michel Seeligson

1. Welcome remarks
   Rodolfo welcomed IEDC members to participate in the last IEDC meeting of the Academic Year 2017-18. Particularly Rodolfo welcomed Dr. Varghese Jacob, Interim Dean of Graduate Studies, and Dr. Diego Garcia, International Center Senior Director, who were attending for the first time an IEDC meeting.

2. Introduction of guests
   Rodolfo introduced and welcomed guests: Juan Gonzalez and Michel Seeligson.

He invited All to review the agenda and share recommendations regarding the order of the meeting. No further comments regarding the order of the agenda.

3. Announcements / updates
   a. Resources | support for new faculty led program
      Lisabeth reported the continuing Education Abroad efforts to enhance the support for the formulation of new faculty led program proposals, while consulting campus stakeholders on how to support new programs. **Action item**: Lisabeth committed to share progress of this endeavor.

   b. Publication of IPD templates for AY19
      Rodolfo informed that the publication of the AY2019 templates of international agreements will be published in the [IPD web](#) on September 1, 2018, based on the IEDC’s guidance during the IEDC virtual meeting of July 2018. Rodolfo thanked the Provost’s Office, the Registrar’s Office, the Office of Undergraduate Studies, the Office of Graduate Studies, the Vice Presidency of Research, the Office of Contracts Administration, and the Attorney for their guidance during the annual revision of IPD templates.

1 Appointment of Student Government (SG) representation in IEDC is in process due to new SG leadership (graduate and undergraduate student representatives).
Rodolfo invited IEDC members to share announcements / updates. No further updates.

4. **International student enrollment task force report and recommendations**

Rodolfo invited Dr. Juan Gonzalez to present the report and recommendation of the International Student Enrollment Task Force.

Dr. Juan Gonzalez presented:

- Task Force members
- Task Force mandate
- Current trends of international students in the U.S.
- UT Dallas trends of international students
- UT Dallas dependency on international students
- Comparison of UT Dallas with respect to other similar U.S. universities
- Dallas as destination
- Challenges for incoming international students
- Prospective student gaps and recommendations
- Current student gaps and recommendation

Dr. Gonzalez and IEDC members engaged in an enthusiastic conversation, including:

- The reality of the market competition.
- Strategies and best practices of international recruitment, e.g. scholarships, services, marketing, etc.
- Recruitment of quality versus quantity
- Gaps of institutional services to transition from graduation to professional experiences, e.g. Career Center, OPT, etc.
- To diversify the portfolio of services and mechanisms to transition from UT Dallas to professional opportunities, e.g. fair, etc.
- Alignment of efforts with respect to the new UT Dallas Strategic Plan.
- Institutional ranking to enhance our institutional attractiveness and competitiveness in the market.
- Guidance and vision from UT Dallas senior leaders, facilitating decision making process and resources.
- Consistency of the message to recruit international students, e.g. why? where? how?
- The challenge to overcome the dependency of two countries: India and China.
- The distinction of audiences to recruit: Ph.D. versus Master’s students.

Dr. Gonzalez thanked IEDC to allow him to present the Task Force report, inviting IEDC members to share the report (included in the meeting’s material) with other campus stakeholders. Also he offered to participate in other relevant campus groups to continue sharing the results and recommendations of this Task Force on campus.

Rodolfo thanked Dr. Gonzalez and IEDC members for the fruitful conversation, inviting all to continue elaborating as needed in the next IEDC meetings and in alignment with the new UT Dallas Strategic Plan.
5. **IEDC Annual report**

Rodolfo postponed the presentation of this report to the IEDC September 2018 meeting.

6. **Consent agenda**

a. IEDC July 2018 virtual meeting minutes.

Rodolfo invited IEDC members to review the minutes and submit a motion for the approval of the IEDC July 2018 virtual meeting minutes. Andy submitted the motion, seconded by Ted. All in favor. No further discussion. Unanimously approved.

7. **Partnership proposals**

a. Agreement of Cooperation between UT Dallas and National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research of the Republic of Chile – Revision

Rodolfo requested IEDC members to review the request from the Chilean government to amend the agreement, observing that the agreement proposal was already recommended for approval and implementation by IEDC in its March 2018 meeting. He explained that the changes were not impacting the content of the agreement, basically format changes.

Ted submitted the motion to accept the amendments of the Chilean government, seconded by Andy. No further discussion. Unanimously approved.2

8. **New IEDC Chair: International Center Senior Director**

Rodolfo introduced Dr. Diego Garcia as the new IEDC Chair, sharing his gratitude with IEDC members for their support and guidance during his tenure as IEDC Interim Chair. Rodolfo acknowledged the responsibility and privilege to lead the IEDC during its first year operation, while recognizing the collective and inclusive guidance from IEDC members to formulate the internationalization of UT Dallas.

Diego thanked Rodolfo for his leadership and appreciated the opportunity and honor to serve as IEDC Chair with the support and guidance of its members.

9. **Discussion items**

a. Support when required for student’s emergencies

As part of the action items from the IEDC’s May 2018 meeting, Diego informed that funds to resolve student’s emergencies beyond the capacity of existing mechanisms of protection such as ISOS and required UT international health insurances are available with the support of the VP of Student Affairs.

For a long term sustainability, Diego invited IEDC members to consider other approaches such as a decentralized allocation of emergency’s resources, for example at the school level.

**Discussion:** IEDC members shared perspectives of existing protocols for student’s

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2 Dr. Quevedo submitted his vote in favor via email before the meeting.
international emergencies, distinguishing different levels of emergency and interventions, acknowledging the role of the International Oversight Committee (OIC), and recognizing the relevance of a central point of contact and resources to resolve effectively any emergency.

Diego thanked IEDC members for their guidance, inviting them to continue this conversation in future meetings as needed.

b. UT Dallas Strategic Plan
   • IC Presentation

   Diego, Lisabeth, and Rodolfo shared some general International Center statistics.
   - International student historical trends, Fall 2014 - Fall 2018
   - Students and faculty in risks and safety trends, 2014 – 2017
   - Safety issues trends, 2014 – 2018
   - Student participation in education abroad, 2015-2018
   - International partnership trends, 2014-2018

   • Discussion | Recommendations

   Based on the presentation, Diego invited IEDC members to discuss in alignment with the UT Dallas Strategic Plan. In order to facilitate the conversation, Diego shared some recommendations:
   - IEDC as primary campus entity to formulate the design of the implementation plan of the campus internationalization.
   - Global engagement liaisons from the schools.
   - Creating working groups to generate action plans for intra-institutional efforts such as OPT outreach working group, etc.
   - To strength the structure of the IEDC with sub-committees.
   - IEDC co – chair / vice – chair from academic affairs.

   Discussion: IEDC members acknowledged the relevance of the IEDC role in the formulation of the implementation plan of the UT Dallas internationalization, while recommending cautiousness to ensure the inclusion of the academic leadership in this exercise. Due to time, Diego invited IEDC members to continue this conversation in the next IEDC meeting.

Adjournment.

Diego adjourned the meeting, thanking All for their participation and guidance.