The University of Texas at Dallas

International Education Development Committee

(IEDC)

Meeting – September 27, 2018

Minutes

Attending: Avery Ausborne (on behalf of Wray Weldon) Diego Garcia, Rodolfo Hernandez, Tiancheng Hu, Varghese Jacob, Serenity King, Lisabeth Lassiter, Jessica Murphy, Manuel Quevedo, Michael Seeligson (on behalf of Edward Harpham), and Anvar Zakhidov.

Absent: Andrew Blanchard, Jennifer Mcdowell, Sanaz Okhovat, and Jane Salk. The appointment of the graduate student representative is still in process.

Guests: Michel Lockhart, Marilyn Kaplan, and Leticia Zamarripa.

1. Welcome remarks
Diego welcomed IEDC members, particularly Tiancheng Hu, undergraduate student representative and who was attending for the first time an IEDC meeting.

2. Introduction of guests
Diego introduced and welcomed guests: Michel Lockhart and Marilyn Kaplan.

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. Dual Degree Program Agreement (DDPA) between UT Dallas NSM and Department of Chemistry of College of Science, Sungkyunkwan University (SKKU), S. Korea – Bachelor of Science in Chemistry. Renewal and Dual Degree Program Agreement (DDPA) between UT Dallas NSM and Department of Biological Sciences of College of Science, SKKU, S. Korea – Bachelor of Science in Biology | Biological Sciences.

      Jessica explained that these DDPA proposals were already reviewed by CUE and ready for the evaluation of CEP, followed by the final revision of the Faculty Senate. Jessica explained that the sponsor had to pursue changes in the correlation of courses and consult SKKU to provide in order to meet CUE’s guidance for a successful review.

   b. 2.5 review of articulation of transfer of credits.

      Rodolfo explained that the first 2.5 review of articulation of transfer of credits was accomplished for the DDPA between JSOM and Dongguk, S. Korea, BS Business Administration. He noted that in adherence to SACSCOC Principles of Accreditation: Foundations for Quality Enhancement on the evaluation of collaborative academic arrangements and best practices, the IEDC recommends that UT Dallas international
academic agreements that include the transfer of credit must be subject to review at the middle point of the duration of the partnership. Hence, the IEDC recommends re-evaluation 2.5 years after implementation. He thanked Dr. Kaplan for her support to meet this requirement.

c. Exchange outbound students
Lisabeth announced that about 60 UT Dallas (outbound) students would participate in exchange programs in the Spring 2019, a solid institutional sign to continue enhancing efforts to promote long-term programs.

d. Study Abroad Fair
Lisabeth welcomed IEDC members to attend the UT Dallas Study Abroad Fair on October 3, 2018 in the Visitor Center Atrium.

Diego invited IEDC members to share additional announcements / updates. No further updates.

4. IEDC Annual Report

Diego thanked Rodolfo for preparing the IEDC 2017-18 Report, requesting him to share an executive summary. Rodolfo reported

- The inclusion of the report in the meeting’s material.
- During the AY2018, the IEDC met nine (9) times, including two (2) virtual meetings, and pursued three (3) Ad Hoc reviews of international partnership proposals. The IEDC reviewed fifty-eight (58) proposals, approving fifty-four (54) with thirty nine (39) partners, an increase of twenty three percent (22.7%) with respect to the partnership proposals reviewed and recommended for execution and implementation by the International Partnership Development Committee (IEDC predecessor) in the AY2017 (54/44). This included five (5) renewals and four addenda for three Student Exchange Program Agreements (SEPAs) and one for a Cotutelle Agreement. Seventy percent (70.3%) from the approved fifty-four (54) proposals have been executed.

IEDC recommendations, among others

- The evaluation of the 30-semester credit hour requirement for Education Abroad in collaboration with CUE.
- The inclusion of the semester of summer into Student Exchange Program Agreements.
- The revision of the articulation of transfer of credits for international academic partnerships such as Student Exchange Program Agreement and Dual Degree Program Agreements, to enhance the partnership in the implementation of the programs among the UT Dallas schools, the IC, and the Registrar’s Office.
- The distinction between Erasmus + Agreements and Students Exchange Program Agreements (SEPAs), indicating that exchange mobility defined in the Erasmus + should be subject to the particular terms of the bilateral agreement (SEPA).
- Guidance to strategize the efforts of the Task Force on International Recruitment, particularly regarding diversity.
- Discussing principles of internationalization: 1) inclusiveness and equality for sustainable international programs, 2) the importance of strategic partnerships with local industry, embassies, and consulates to
strengthen the leadership and visibility of UT Dallas, 3) to engage with strategic partners that would bring added to the existing UT Dallas curricula, 4) the relevance to measure the internationalization of UT Dallas, particularly the success of international partnerships, 5) the development of students’ labor skills to enhance their success with U.S. industries and corporations though internships, OPT, etc., 6) strategic recruitment to enhance diversity, 7) the relevance to offer competitive scholarships and fellowships to retain international talent.

- The publication of IEDC minutes in UT Dallas web.
- The 2.5 (middle point) revision of academic partnerships that include the transfer of credits.

Based on IEDC Survey in Spring 2018, IEDC members shared perspectives of the character and mission of the committee, including

- Recognition of the forthcoming UT Dallas Strategic Plan and the opportunity of the IEDC to recommend guidance for the design of an implementation plan.
- The consideration of drafting an implementation paper of the UT Dallas Strategic Plan regarding UT Dallas internationalization.
- Need to clarify the IEDC’s vision, objectives, and corresponding measures to ensure reality in its performance.
- The recognition of the importance of the operational | transactional capacity of the IEDC to ensure legitimacy, accountability, and accreditation of institutional international decisions such as partnerships and education abroad practices.
- IEDC as pro-strategic, preventing a reactionary institutional attitude.
- The relevance to consider the IEDC’s adoption of UT Dallas Task Force of International Recruitment recommendations, facilitating their implementation.
- The need to revise the IEDC charge to define the IEDC’s scope.
- The institutional climate of limited resources to creatively maximize capacities and outcomes.
- The importance of developing strategic partnerships, particularly to recruit international students on sustainable basis in collaboration with foreign governments.
- The forthcoming participation of the UT Dallas President in the IEDC to learn more from his vision of internationalization.

In addition, the IEDC hosted and shared perspectives of internationalization with the EJS Interim Dean, Poras Balsara; the EPPS Dean, Denis Dean; and the Chair of the Task Force for International Recruitment, Juan Gonzalez.

Rodolfo thanked IEDC members for their participation during the AY18, acknowledging the solid progress of UT Dallas internationalization based on IEDC’s guidance. **Action Item:** Rodolfo indicated that the report will be submitted to the Academic Governance Administrator.

5. **UT Dallas Strategic Plan**

Based on the new UT Dallas Strategic Plan, Diego invited IEDC members to discuss and elaborate the IEDC’s vision around the Strategic Theme Three: *Engage Globally* and its five supporting initiatives. He explained that after elaborating IEDC’s vision, IEDC members will be invited to discuss the priorities and actions to define an implementation plan for the relevant supporting initiatives with respect to international education.
IEDC members discussed the first three supporting initiatives:

i. Increase the number of students in study abroad programs.

- To strengthen strategically existing programs.
- To create new programs.
- Define actions based on facts | data
- Long term programs versus short term programs
- Quality versus quantity
- Allocate academic support, closing gaps between international education and schools, e.g. schools’ liaisons.
- Benchmarking
- Consideration of accreditation to prevent vulnerability of prestige and quality
- Geographic diversity based on students’ preferences
- Academic and financial sustainability
- Inclusion of one section of required courses with the EA component, for example faculty led with the international component in the spring break.
- How to engage curricula in EA
- Distinction of capacities among IEDC (providing guidance), the International Center (implementing guidance), and schools (adopting IEDC’s guidance such as incorporating EA into academic programs, liaisons, etc.).
- The relevance of EA recruitment: motivation > EA application > participation
- How to engage schools’ curricula into EA
- Effective communication to present EA programs to students, e.g. marketing, promotion, etc.
- To amplify the portfolio of EA models – offers.
- Customized the inclusion of service learning programs based on school’s needs.
- What to measure and how to measure success
- To create a working group

**Action item:** Student Government will issue a survey to consult students.

ii. Encourage all four-year undergraduate students to complete one course in a topic related to globalization or diversity of traditions.

- Peace Corps as a mechanism to accomplish this supporting initiative.
- What is the reason behind this initiative? Interculturalism and globalization on campus
- How to engage the curricula into interculturalism and globalization
- How to empower the schools for them to discuss and implement
- The guidance from Student Government
- The need of organic leadership
  - CUE
  - President > Provost | Vice Presidents > Deans > Schools
  - Support from the bottom
- Ultimately, this initiative may not belong to IEDC
iii. Grow the geographic diversity and scope of partnerships with other universities for additional study abroad and exchange opportunities.

- To enhance intellectual and geographic diversity
- Recommendations based on facts | data
- Adoption of technology to manage partnerships such as Terra Dotta, enhancing visually the destinations of the partnerships and type of mobility in an interactive map.
- Institutional capacity. For example, if sending more students abroad, to ensure protection for them.
- IC to present prospective strategic partnerships to the schools.
- How to be institutionally flexible for the transfer of credits without jeopardize accreditation.
- To enhance a common language (culture) of international education across campus
- To pursue conversations with aspirational partners.

Diego thanked IEDC members for the rich conversation and contribution, inviting them to continue this conversation in the next IEDC meeting, particularly discussing the last two supporting initiatives:

iv. Provide additional internship and job opportunities through partnerships with companies in North Texas, the United States and abroad.

v. Enhance intercultural competence programs for students, faculty and staff to encourage greater understanding, interaction and collaboration within the UT Dallas community.

6. Consent Agenda

a. IEDC Minutes – August 2018
b. Affiliation Agreement between UT Dallas JSOM and Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (“NMIMS”), India.
c. Affiliation Agreement between UT Dallas JSOM and the University of Lima, Peru.

Diego requested IEDC members to submit a motion for the approval of the consent agenda. Varghese submitted the motion, seconded by Tiancheng. No further discussion. All in favor. No abstention. Nobody opposed. The consent agenda was approved.

7. Partnership proposals

a. Student Exchange Program Agreement between UT Dallas JSOM and the University of Lima, Peru.

Marilyn presented the proposal to renew the exchange program, highlighting the relevance to maintain this partnership to continue offering to UT Dallas students a destination in South America on exchange basis. IEDC observed the low number of students participating in the program, recommending strategizing promotion of the program, and IPD analysis.

Varghese submitted the motion to recommend the approval and implementation of this proposal, seconded by Anvar. No further discussion All in favor. No abstention. Nobody opposed. The
b. Affiliation Agreement between UT Dallas and Global Engagement Institute (GEI), USA.

Lisabeth presented the proposal, indicating the EA vetting system to select study abroad third party providers. IEDC members observed IPD recommendations, particularly the adoption of the IPD AOC template with appropriate editing for the purpose of the partnership.

Serenity submitted the **motion** to recommend the affiliation with the proposed study abroad third party provider, but subject to the use of the correct template to establish the affiliation, including appropriate editing for the purpose of the proposed partnership such as the inclusion of the “liability statement. Jessica seconded the motion. No further discussion All in favor. No abstention. Nobody opposed. The proposal was approved.

**Action item:** Lisabeth will follow up with the guidance of IPD.

c. Affiliation and Direct Billing Agreement between UT Dallas and The Foundation for International Education (FIE), U.K.

The revision of this proposal was postponed due to time. **Action item:** this proposal will be included in the next IEDC meeting.

8. **Other business** – this section was postponed due to time.
   a. Vetting process for third party providers
   b. Emergency fund
   c. IC guidance for the sustainability of faculty led programs

**Adjournment.**

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