The University of Texas at Dallas

International Education Development Committee

(IEDC)

Meeting - Thursday, March 29, 2018

Minutes

Attending: Andrew Blanchard, Rodolfo Hernandez, Lisabeth Lassiter, Michel Lockhart (on behalf of Serenity King), Jennifer Mcdowell, Jane Salk, Michael Seeligson (on behalf of Edward Harpham), Anvar Zakhidov, and Leticia Zamarripa.

Absent: John Van Der Schans, Sravya Boppuri, Jessica Murphy, Sanaz Okhovat, Manuel Quevedo, Marion Underwood, and Wray Weldon.

Guests: Juan Gonzalez and Denis Dean.

1. Welcome remarks

Rodolfo welcomed IEDC members and guests to the fourth IEDC meeting. He thanked IEDC members for their participation and invited them to review the agenda and share recommendations regarding the order of the meeting. No further comments regarding the order of the agenda.

2. Introduction of Guests

Rodolfo introduced and welcomed guests.

3. Announcements / Updates

i. Publication of minutes

Based on IEDCs guidance, Rodolfo announced the publication of approved minutes of the IEDC: https://www.utdallas.edu/ipd/iedc/

ii. Taskforce for International Recruitment

Juan Gonzalez shared updates of his taskforce, particularly some recommendations to overcome some gaps to enhance the institutional hospitality of UT Dallas for international students such as international recruitment has not been a priority, weak efforts to promote UT Dallas as an international education destination, weak involvement of alumni, the need to better use databases to identify potential new students, among others.

Discussion: IEDC members and Juan shared perspectives of the institutional implications to offer practical training programs to international students after their graduation, generating expectations among constituencies, particularly students. It was recognized that, in many instances, international students attend U.S. universities as a path to pursue practical trainings toward more permanent immigration status. Pros and cons were
discussed regarding these expectations, mentioning the distinction of the university’s capacity to offer knowledge to the students, while pointing out limitations of the application of this knowledge in the labor market.

iii. The Forum on Education Abroad

Lisabeth shared notes regarding her attendance to the Forum on Education Abroad Conference: Building on Strong Foundations: Best Practices for an Evolving Field. Particularly, Lisabeth shared notes regarding sessions on global engagement and intercultural competencies. Also Lisabeth had the opportunity to share best practices with counterparts from other U.S. universities.

iv. IEDC charge and purpose survey

In consultation with the Provost’s Office, Rodolfo announced that he will send a survey to IEDC members to collect their perspectives regarding the charge and purpose of the committee. **Action Item:** Results will be processed and presented in the next IEDC’s meeting.

v. 2.5 review: DDPA BSBA between UT Dallas JSOM and Dongguk University, S. Korea

In collaboration with the Provost’s Office and the Registrar’s Office, Rodolfo announced the first middle point review of an international partnership that include the transfer of credits: UT Dallas JSOM – Dongguk, S. Korea, Dual Degree Program Agreement (DDPA) – BS Business Administration. The revision is due in August 2018 and in alignment with SACSCOC Principles of Accreditation (foundations for Quality Enhancement on the evaluation of collaborative academic arrangements and best practices) and IEDC’s recommendation.

vi. UT Dallas International Week

Leticia invited IEDC members to promote and participate in the several events of the iWeek and to donate in Comets Giving Day for the two causes of the International Center:

- Study abroad scholarships for underrepresented students
- Global engagement opportunities.

**Action item:** Rodolfo will send an invitation to IEDC members to participate in the Comets Giving Day.

Rodolfo requested IEDC members to share questions or observations regarding the announcements / updates. No further discussion.

4. Consent Agenda

i. IEDC February 2018 meeting minutes
Rodolfo invited IEDC members to submit a motion for the approval of the Consent Agenda. Andy submitted the **motion**, seconded by Michael (on behalf of Ted Harpham). All in favor. No further discussion. Unanimously approved.

5. **Partnership Proposals**
   i. Agreement of Cooperation between UT Dallas and the National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research (CONICYT), Chile.

Juan Gonzalez gave an overview of CONICYT to IEDC members, explaining the long negotiation to replicate, in general, the UT Dallas – CONACYT partnership, particularly to co-sponsor Chilean doctoral students. He explained the structure of the co-sponsorship:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>CONICYT – UT Dallas Partnership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1st Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>Sponsorship: out-state tuition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Insurance</td>
<td>Support for health insurance: $900 per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living Expenses</td>
<td>Monthly stipend for living expenses: $1,496</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Discussion:** IEDC members compared notes between the UT Dallas – CONACYT partnership and this proposal, while contextualizing the size and potential of the Chilean market with respect to the Mexican market. IEDC members recommended intentionality to develop and continuously strengthen personal relationships between UT Dallas and CONICYT officers, replicating the case of CONACYT, to enhance the successful implementation of this agreement.

Andy submitted the **motion** to approve the proposed partnership, seconded by Michael (on behalf of Ted Harpham). All in favor. No further discussion. Unanimously approved.

6. **Dr. Denis Dean, Dean, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences (EPPS): International Education: Vision from EPPS’s perspective.**

In collaboration with IPD, Dr. Dean gave an overview of the existing portfolio of partnerships of EPPS, highlighting

- In general 12 partnerships: 5 in Europe, 5 in Asia, and 2 in the Americas.
- In particular
  - 1 degree program agreement with the East China Normal University, China.
  - 1 dual degree program agreement with Philipps-Universitat Marburg, Germany.
  - 5 student exchange program agreements with City University of Hong Kong, China, University of Orleans, France, University of El Pacifico, Peru, University Jaume I in Castellon, Spain, and University of Sheffield, U.K.
In addition, Dr. Dean emphasized on

- the importance of win – win cooperation.
- clear partnership structure to add value to the curricula of EPPS and partner institutions.
- the articulation of credits based on faculty – faculty communication.
- the relevance of meaningful partnerships to recruit strategically international students.
- international partnership as method to create, transfer, and disseminate knowledge.

**Discussion:** IEDC members welcomed Dean Dean’s vision, identifying best practices to engage in mutual beneficial partnerships, particularly highlighting the relevance of faculty – faculty cooperation to enhance the intellectual sustainability of the cooperation, while impacting students to be mobilized between institutions, e.g. exchange, internships, research, etc.

Rodolfo thanked Dean Dean and invited him to consider IEDC as resource to assist in the internationalization of EPPS. Also he was invited to share additional perspectives and/or topics that can contribute to IEDC’s debates and deliberations in the future.

7. **Discussion Items**
   
   i. **Articulation of transfer of credits / tables / process**

   Lisabeth invited IEDC members to continue the discussion of this topic from the previous IEDC’s meeting, including how to validate the tables of transfer of credits for student exchange program agreements.

   IEDC members shared pros and cons about the levels of responsibility to formulate the articulation of transfer of credits, e.g. faculty, associate deans, deans, registrar’s office, education abroad, etc. IEDC members agreed on the importance of formulating the articulation of transfer of credits based on faculty – faculty communication, highlighting the UT Dallas EPPS – Marburg DDPA IPOEC as a model. IEDC members agreed that the design of a systematic process based on the existing institutional capacity would be fundamental to enhance the success of the transfer of courses between UT Dallas and exchange partners.

   **Action item:** It was recommended to improve the instructions on how to formulate the articulation of transfer of credits and the inclusion of a section to endorse the articulation by the faculty elaborating such articulation and the corresponding associate dean in the template of the articulation of transfer of credits. Rfo will follow up in collaboration with Jennifer and other relevant stakeholders.

   **Action item:** Lisabeth will continue this conversation individually with relevant campus stakeholders to formulate a proposal to the IEDC.

   ii. **Number of credit hours for short term programs:** max of 15 c/h per week per course, no more than two courses

   Due to time this topic was not discussed and will be included in the next IEDC meeting.

   iii. **Length of time to execute a partnership after IEDC’s recommendation for approval and implementation**
Due to time this topic was not discussed and will be included in the next IEDC meeting.

8. **Other business**
   Rodolfo invited IEDC members to present any additional topics for this meeting. No further topics.

**Adjournment**
Rodolfo thanked IEDC members for their time and guidance and adjourned the meeting.