The University of Texas at Dallas

International Education Development Committee

(IEDC)

Meeting – Thursday, May 31, 2018

Minutes

Attending: Andrew Blanchard, Rodolfo Hernandez, Serenity King, Lisabeth Lassiter, Manuel Quevedo, Michael Seeligson (on behalf of Edward Harpham), Marion Underwood, and Leticia Zamarripa.

Absent: Sravya Boppuri, John Van Der Schans, Jennifer Mcdowell, Jane Salk, Jessica Murphy, Sanaz Okhovat, Wray Weldon, and Anvar Zakhidov.

Guests: N/A

1. Welcome remarks

Rodolfo welcomed and thanked IEDC members for their participation.

Rodolfo shared farewell remarks for Dr. Marion Underwood, recognizing her positive and critical impact on the UT Dallas international agenda and wishing her success in her new professional capacity at Purdue University.

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

2. Introduction of Guests

N/A

3. Announcements / Updates

   i. IEFS updates

   Lisabeth presented historical allocation of resources from the International Education Fund Scholarship (IEFS), highlighting the significant increase of not only the allocation of IEFS resources in the AY18 with respect to AY17 and AY16, but also the number of benefited students (AY18: 151, AY17: 136, AY16: 127). Lisabeth recognized that the use of the IEFS has not been exhaustive, maintaining a relevant positive balance throughout the last three years or so.

   IEDC members asked about the creation of a fund for students’ international emergencies. This permanent IEFS fund for emergencies used to be in existence before the fusion of the ISSO and the Office of International Education (OIE), effectively assisting students in international emergencies. Action item: IEDC members recommended consulting the
International Risk & Safety office to further evaluate this recommendation.

Also IEDC members recommended the allocation of funds to support new faculty led programs, enhancing the institutional support of new faculty led proposals until they become self-sustainable. **Action item:** Lisabeth will consult the IEFS committee and present a proposal to IEDC for its review and endorsement.

ii. UT Dallas – Mexico Research Summer Program 2018

Rodolfo reported on the selection of the 15 Mexican students from more than 170 applicants for this program, announcing their arrival during the first Saturday of June. The program is designed, he explained, to recruit students for Ph.D. programs in the U.S., particularly for UT Dallas in collaboration with the U.S. Embassy in Mexico and the Association of Mexican Universities (ANUIES). He thanked UT Dallas mentors, Office of Graduate Studies, International Center, and Provost’s Office for their support to host these students during 8 weeks on campus. The final presentations of the students are scheduled on the last Wednesday and Thursday of July 2018. Students will return to Mexico to finish their Bachelor’s degrees.

iii. Annual review of IPD templates

Rodolfo explained that he has received feedback and guidance from several IEDC members and campus officers to improve IPD templates, including agreements and fact sheets. **Action item:** Rodolfo will incorporate this guidance into the annual review of the IPD templates and present final drafts to IEDC for final review and endorsement with the intention to publish the new templates in the IPD web on September 1, 2018. The templates will be effective for their use during the AY19. The revision will include the participation of relevant campus offices such as the Attorney’s Office and the Office of Research.

iv. Cotutelle Agreements

Serenity and Marion reported on their Graduate Council consultation regarding the use of Cotutelle Agreements in countries other than France. The Graduate Council acknowledged that the Cotutelle Agreement is a French practice and, therefore, recommended that Cotutelle Agreements must remain as a practice only between French institutions and UT Dallas.

Rodolfo requested IEDC members to share other updates and/or questions | observations regarding the announcements / updates.

v. European Union’s new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

IEDC members acknowledged that the GDPR went into effect on May 25, 2018. **Action item:** the International Center will facilitate a meeting with campus stakeholders to further discuss UT Dallas diligences to determine the scope of the GDPR implementation on campus, emphasizing on a central approach to prevent duplication of institutional efforts. The result of this meeting will be communicated to IEDC.
4. **Consent Agenda**

**Action item:** IEDC members agreed to review and vote electronically the consent agenda:

i. IEDC April 2018 meeting minutes
ii. Agreement of Cooperation between UT Dallas and University of Havana, Cuba
iii. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between UT Dallas JSOM and Arche Information Inc. (Arche Information), Japan
iv. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between UT Dallas JSOM and Rödl & Partner (Rödl), Poland
v. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between UT Dallas JSOM and Kanvic Consulting (Kanvic), India
vi. Affiliation Agreement (AA) between UT Dallas JSOM and the School of Accounting at Dongbei University of Finance and Economics (DUFE), P.R. China.

5. **International partnership proposals**

**Action item:** IEDC members agreed to review and vote electronically the international partnership proposals:

i. Student Exchange Program Agreement between UT Dallas and Technological University of Munich (TUM), Germany
ii. Program Agreement (PA) between UT Dallas JSOM and the School of Accounting at Dongbei University of Finance and Economics (DUFE), P.R. China.
iii. Student Exchange Program Agreement (SEPA) between UT Dallas JSOM and Istanbul Kültür University (IKU), Turkey – Renewal

6. **Discussion Items:**

i. **IEDC survey – follow up**

Rodolfo shared a summary of perspectives and recommendations from the previous IEDC meeting discussion regarding the IEDC survey:

- Recognition of the forthcoming UT Dallas Strategic Plan and the opportunity of the IEDC to implement its international components such as education abroad, and partnerships.
- 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’s vision and objectives must include both the strategic institutional approach, while enhancing the institutional governance of decisions.
Discussions and recommendations should focus on the university as a whole, rather than the predominance of one or two schools.

- Recognition of the limited resources: maximizing outcomes based on scarce resources.
- The importance of enhancing the prestige, reputation, and sustainability of UT Dallas globally. For example, selecting partners strategically.
- To strengthen and replicate existing successful partnerships such as UT Dallas – CONACYT.
- To consider the tactical considerations of the implementation of IEDC’s vision and goals such as school level strategic plans of internationalization.
- The relevance of the organizational connectivity of IEDC with respect to the institutional performance, while invigorating a good climate of the UT Dallas organizational structure.
- To allow the voices of other significant campus champions such as international students, who provide about 37% of the UT Dallas annual budget.
- IEDC as an entity to enhance campus creativity and sustainability, facilitating grants and/or fiscal opportunities.
- IEDC as pro-strategic, preventing a reactionary institutional attitude.
- To narrow down priorities to ensure the realistic institutional global engagement on and off campus.

Discussion: IEDC members discussed:

- IEDC as a plural and inclusive body to draft institutional strategic, sustainable, and organic efforts of university’s internationalization in collaboration with campus stakeholders.
- the relevance to further 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.

Action item: After the publication of the new UT Dallas Strategic Plan, Rodolfo will draft a document identifying the components of UT Dallas internationalization to further discuss among IEDC members to start designing an implementation plan of internationalization with measures of success.

Rodolfo thanked IEDC members.

ii. Transcript notation

Lisabeth requested guidance from IEDC members regarding the transcript notation. IEDC members suggested:
- the creation of a simple and efficient systematic practice.
- to add the notation into the syllabi.
- the opportunity to report off-campus extracurricular activities.
- to compare practices between domestic and international internships.
- the consideration of the zero credit courses.
- a benchmarking to determine an appropriate campus practice.

**Action item:** Lisabeth will do a benchmarking during the summer and present a proposal to IEDC for further consideration.

iii. Access to EA reports (systematic | sustainability | campus resources)

Lisabeth requested guidance from IEDC members regarding campus access to EA reports. IEDC members suggested:

- the prevention of generating information that nobody is requesting.
- considering exporting data from EA’s software (Terra Dotta) to UT Dallas platforms, sharing discretionarily with EA’s constituencies.

Lisabeth thanked IEDC members and committed to present outcomes to IEDC.

7. Other business

i. Cotutelle Agreements.

IEDC members continue discussing the pros and cons of Cotutelle Agreements, questioning the capacity that is required to draft proposals and their implementation with the corresponding accreditation implications for one student per agreement. IEDC members discussed the credibility of pursuing two doctoral degrees to demonstrate that the student is capable to do independent research on a scientific level. **Action item:** Rodolfo will submit the annual revision of the UT Dallas IPD Cotutelle Agreement template to IEDC members for further discussion and voting to terminate or to continue offering this template.

**Adjournment**

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