The University of Texas at Dallas
International Education Development Committee
(IEDC)
Meeting – January 31, 2019
Minutes


Absent: Jessica Murphy, Sanaz Okhovat, Jane Salk, and Anvar Zakhidov.

Guests: Marilyn Kaplan and Michele Lockhart

1. Welcome remarks
Diego welcomed IEDC members, thanking them for their time to participate in the meeting. Also, Diego welcomed Juan Gonzalez to his first IEDC meeting as member, congratulating him as the new Dean of Graduate Studies. Diego announced that the International Center will now report to academic affairs with the supervision of Juan Gonzalez.

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

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

3. Announcements / updates
Diego invited IEDC members to share announcements / updates.

i. Student Government: Study Abroad Survey

Tiancheng shared and presented the Student Government Study Abroad Survey Results, highlighting

- 619 undergraduate students participated in the survey, 3.15% of the total undergraduate student population on campus.
- The survey was administered over the course of November and December 2018.
- ECS, JSOM, and BBS students had the highest participation.
- 89.7% of the students that participated in the survey had not studied abroad. From them, 89% of the students expressed their willingness to participate in study abroad.
- 1) Cost, 2) fit with degree plan, and 3) need more information were the three most common causes that prevent students from participating in study abroad.
The two choices of destinations by continent were Europe and Asia.
The five top destinations by country were Japan, U.K., Germany, France, and Spain.
Students preferences of mobility were 1) exchange, 2) internship, 3) faculty led, 4) third party, 4) research, 5) volunteer, and 6) independent studies.
The most common cause of concerns to pursue study abroad programs was cost and safety, followed by language, time, credits.

**Discussion:** IEDC members thanked Tiancheng for sharing the outcomes of the survey, sharing perspectives and interpretations of the results. **Action item:** IEDC members requested to segregate responses per school to the question “Why are you not interested in going on a study abroad?

Diego thanked Tiancheng.

ii. 2.5 articulation of transfer of credits review

As an action item from the IEDC November meeting, Serenity, Jennifer, and Rodolfo, followed up conversations regarding the revision of articulation of transfer of credits. As a result, Rodolfo presented a benchmarking, which was obtained from the Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA) with the participation of 7 institutions. The results were shared with IEDC members. Thus, a memo draft was proposed to request UT Dallas sponsors of international academic agreements with articulation of transfer of credits the revision of such articulation at the middle point of the existence of the agreement, usually 2.5 years after execution.

**Discussion:** IEDC questioned if the benchmarking should be done with peer institutions instead of AIEA members. IEDC members acknowledged that this topic required additional analysis and discussion to find a systematic manner to elaborate and review articulation of transfer of credits.

Diego thanked Rodolfo et al.

No further announcements / updates.

4. **Consent Agenda**

i. IEDC Minutes – November 2018
ii. Agreement of Cooperation between UT Dallas EJS and the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) – Sponsor: Dr. M. Quevedo
iii. Memorandum of Understanding between UT Dallas JSOM and Universitas Pertamina, Indonesia - Sponsor: Dr. M. Peng.
iv. Agreement of Cooperation between UT Dallas and Global Experiences, Inc., USA – Sponsor: Dr. D. Garcia
v. Affiliation Agreement between UT Dallas JSOM and University of Economics in Bratislava, Slovak Republic – Renewal - Sponsor: Dr. M. Kaplan

Diego invited IEDC members to submit a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Andy submitted the **motion** to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Ria. All in favor, no abstentions, nobody opposed. The Consent Agenda was approved unanimously. Diego thanked IEDC members.
5. **International Partnerships**

i. **Affiliation and Master Degree in Finance Program Agreement between UT Dallas JSOM and Shandong University, China**

Marilyn presented the proposal, sharing the successful approach from similar program agreements to recruit international students. It was requested to align the agreement with current IPD templates, including FERPA language. Marilyn agreed.

Ria submitted the **motion** to recommend the approval and implementation of the program agreement proposal, seconded by Serenity. All in favor, no abstentions, nobody opposed. The proposal was approved unanimously.

ii. **Student Exchange Program Agreement between UT Dallas JSOM and University of Economics in Bratislava, Slovak Republic - Renewal**

Marilyn presented the renewal proposal. IEDC members acknowledged the affordability of this destination for UT Dallas JSOM students, but recognizing that only few students have been participating. It was requested the revision of clause 18 by the Attorney and to strategize the promotion of the SEPA to increase participation.

Andy submitted the **motion** to recommend the approval and implementation of the SEPA, seconded by Serenity. All in favor, no abstentions, nobody opposed. The proposal was approved unanimously.

**Action item:** Rodolfo will communicate the IEDC’s recommendation to execute and implement the two proposals the corresponding sponsors.

6. **UT Dallas Strategic Plan discussion – Implementation**

i. **Historical data review**

Per guidance of the IEDC, Diego, Lisabeth, and Rodolfo presented 2015-18 illustrations per type of mobility and regions to contextualize current institutional trends of international education. In addition, a benchmarking was presented. General conclusions:

- Mobility has been static.
- Central Europe is number one destination, followed by East Asia, North Europe, and Oceania.
- JSOM leads mobility, followed by NSM, EPPS, and EJS.
- Faculty led programs mobilize the highest number of students.
- From pre-approval course forms, the transfer of credits in AY2018 was related mainly to the curricula of majors, followed by major electives, and language & culture.
- From Honors Students, AES leads mobility, followed by NSM, MCD, and Terry.
- In general, the distribution of the International Education Fund Scholarship (IEFS) was even among students participating in full semester (33%), summer / partial semester (4-10 weeks) (33%), and less than 4 weeks (34%).
- The UT Dallas percentage of mobility with respect to total population is about 1.6%, significantly
IEDC members shared perspectives about the how to create and implement a systematic approach to enhance growth and sustainability, particularly:
- Formula funding for international education
- How to enhance effective communication within and among schools about UT Dallas internationalization, acknowledging unique cultures in each school.
- Consideration of students’ business travel into the quantification of education abroad mobility.

ii. Low hanging fruit implementation objectives:
   - Framework for articulation of international partnership courses
     Lisabeth presented a framework for creating an articulation procedure, including examples from UT Austin – Univ. of Sheffield, U.K., and University of Colorado Bolder – Univ. East Anglia.
     IEDC members recognized the potential for the existing data in Terra Dotta to elaborate systematically the articulation of transfer of credit to populate people soft and considering replicating the UT Austin approach. **Action item:** IEDC members will continue conversations.
   - OPT Working Group
     This topic was postponed.
   - Strategic Plan Framework – International Center Strategic Plan
     Diego shared the framework among IEDC members. **Action item:** IEDC members requested an overall benchmarking with peer institutions to determine the best approach to increase the number of students pursuing study abroad programs.

iii. Other business – N/A

**Adjournment.**

Diego adjourned the meeting, appreciating the guidance and the support of the IEDC members.