The University of Texas at Dallas

International Education Development Committee

(IEDC)

Meeting – October 25, 2018

Minutes

Attending: Andrew Blanchard, Diego Garcia, Ria Ghosh, Edward Harpham, Rodolfo Hernandez, Tiancheng Hu, Lisabeth Lassiter, Michel Lockhart (on behalf of Serenity King), Jessica Murphy, Michael Seeligson, and Anvar Zakhidov.

Absent: Varghese Jacob, Jennifer Mcdowell, Sanaz Okhovat, Manuel Quevedo, and Jane Salk.

Guests: Avery Ausborne and Leticia Zamarripa.

1. Welcome remarks
Diego welcomed IEDC members, particularly Ria Ghosh, the new graduate student representative and who was attending an IEDC meeting for the first time. Also Diego welcomed Michael Seeligson as new member of the IEDC, congratulating him for his new position as Senior Director of Admission.

2. Introduction of guests
Diego introduced and welcomed guests: Avery Ausborne and Leticia Zamarripa.

He invited All to review the agenda and share recommendations regarding the order of the meeting. IEDC members requested to move agenda items 5 (Consent Agenda) and 6 (Other business) after the agenda item 3 (Announcement / Updates). Thus the agenda item 4 (UT Dallas Strategic Plan discussion – II) will be covered during the last part of the meeting. Diego agreed and thanked IEDC members for their guidance.

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

i. IEDC Annual Report
Rodolfo announced that the IEDC 2017-18 Report has been submitted to Academic Governance Administrator.

No further announcements / updates.

4. Consent Agenda
Diego requested a submission of a motion to approve the consent agenda.

ii. IEDC Minutes – September 2018
Action item: It was requested to update the attendance of the IEDC members and guests: Avery Ausborne represented Wray Weldon and Leticia Zamarripa attended as a guest.

iii. Agreement of Cooperation between UT Dallas and Global Engagement Institute (GEI), USA.
iv. Memorandum of Understanding between UT Dallas and Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham University, India.

IEDC members discussed the importance of measuring the success of the international partnerships. Rodolfo explained that the international partnership’s sponsor is requested to include evidence of success for renewal purposes, but having the freedom to determine the definition and measure of success. Diego welcomed the recommendation to formulate a systematic measure to enhance objectiveness of the success of international partnerships, inviting IEDC members to continue this conversation in future meetings.

Ria questioned how IEDC reviews and formulates recommendations for the execution and implementation of proposed partnerships. Action item: Rodolfo invited Ria to schedule a meeting to review IPD’s and IEDC’s practices, sharing perspectives.

Andy submitted the motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Ted. All in favor. No abstention. Nobody opposed. The Consent Agenda was approved unanimously.

Action item: Rodolfo will communicate the IEDC’s recommendation to execute and implement the two proposed partnerships (GEI and Amrita) to the corresponding sponsors.

Diego thanked IEDC members.

5. Other business

i. Ad Hoc (electronic) reviews

Diego requested a motion to formalize the electronic (ad hoc) review of international partnership proposals by IEDC members when necessary. It was explained that this practice has been a continuation from the IPDC, the predecessor of the IEDC, to honor last minute requests from the schools to meet partner’s expectations and/or UT Dallas officers’ travel – time to participate in signing ceremonies or similar.

Rodolfo submitted the motion, seconded by Michael. Discussion: IEDC members responding favorably, but requesting that this practice should be an exception, not the rule, based on a strong rationale of the petitioner for the Ad Hoc review. All in favor. No abstention. Nobody opposed. The motion was unanimously approved.

ii. Adoption of FERPA language into IPD templates

Rodolfo requested motion to adopt the proposed FERPA language per recommendation of the UT Dallas Attorney and the Registrar into IPD templates:

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. Personally identifiable information from students’ education records shall be disclosed only in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). [Partner Institution] and its officers, employees and agents may use
information from education records only for the purposes for which the disclosure was made. [Partner Institution] shall not disclose information from education records to any other party without first having received written consent of the student and having obtained assurances that the other party will fully comply with the provisions of FERPA and that no further disclosure by such party shall be permitted.

Failure to comply with the provisions of FERPA will result in the cancellation of this agreement and the eligibility for [Partner Institution] to receive any student information from UT Dallas for a period of not less than five (5) years. In addition, the [Partner Institution] agrees to indemnify and hold UT Dallas harmless for any loss, cost, damage or expense suffered by the UT Dallas as a direct result of the [Partner Institution]’s failure to comply with the requirement not to release information, except for the sole purpose stated above. The [Partner Institution] agrees to either destroy the student information in a manner that completely protects the confidentiality of the student information or return the information to UT Dallas upon the expiration of this agreement.

Ted submitted the motion to adopt proposed FERPA language, seconded by Andy. No further discussion. No abstention. Nobody opposed. The motion was unanimously approved.

Action item: Rodolfo will update IPD templates incorporating the adopted FERPA language.

iii. Vetting process for third party providers
iv. IC guidance for the sustainability of faculty led programs

These two topics were postponed for the next IEDC meeting.

Diego thanked IEDC members for their guidance and discussions.

6. UT Dallas Strategic Plan discussion – II

Diego thanked IEDC members for the rich and inclusive discussion regarding the IEDC’s vision for the new UT Dallas Strategic Plan, Theme Three: Engage Globally, supporting initiatives I, II, and III during the last IEDC meeting. Thus, Diego invited IEDC members to continue this discussion.

IEDC members finalized discussing their vision for supporting initiatives i – iii from the last meeting:

i. Increase the number of students in study abroad programs.
ii. Encourage all four-year undergraduate students to complete one course in a topic related to globalization or diversity of traditions.
iii. Grow the geographic diversity and scope of partnerships with other universities for additional study abroad and exchange opportunities.

• Length of time of study abroad programs
• Number of students participating versus quality of the programs.
• Education Abroad (EA) in alignment with the curricula (academic space).
• How to engage the core curricula with the global curricula.
• Central versus decentralized approach to present EA opportunities to students.
• The role of IEDC to formulate the next level of institutional action in its internationalization.

IEDC members discussed supporting initiatives iv – v:

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

• UT Dallas scale operation to host thousands of international students.
• Capacities of the local, national, and global industries.
• Distinctions of the needs of each schools.
• The availability of using third parties, particularly for global opportunities.
• Recognizing current international partners offering internships abroad such as Monterrey Tech. (ITESM), Mexico.
• The relevance of benchmarking, e.g. TAMU
• To balance institutional capacity and expectations.
• Intentionality to offer guidance, service, and choices to the students.
• Recognition of existing relevant efforts, but space to improve such as career fairs, workshops on how to succeed, design of resume, etc.
• Distinction of audiences: domestics versus international students.
• Research opportunities.
• Input from external stakeholders.

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

Michael submitted a motion to acknowledge that this supporting initiative was beyond the capacity of the IEDC, recommending the International Center to formulate the vision and implement this supporting initiative. Jessica seconded the motion. Discussion: IEDC members clarified that this committee will be available to provide guidance and perspectives for the implementation of this supporting initiative under the leadership of the International Center. IEDC members recognized the significance of this initiative to offer alternative methods of internationalization for those students who are not able to pursue global experiences abroad. Action item: Leticia will follow up, including alliances with campus stakeholders and the creation of a working group. No abstentions. Nobody opposed. The motion was unanimously approved.

Adjournment.

Diego adjourned the meeting, recognizing the guidance and support of the IEDC members during this meeting. He thanked All.