The University of Texas at Dallas  
International Education Development Committee (IEDC)  

Meeting – Thursday, September 26, 2019  
MINUTES  

Present: Avery Ausborne, Andrea Diaz, Simon Fass, Juan González, Edward Harpham, Michele Lockhart, Elisabeth Samuel, Josephine Vitta, Yexiao Xu  

Absent: Bill Hefley, Rodolfo Hernandez, Serenity King, Jennifer McDowell, Ayoub Mohammed, Jessica Murphy, Joseph Pancrazio, Farial Rahman, Michael Seeligson, Conor Wakeman, Anvar Zakhidov  

Guest: Marilyn Kaplan  

1. Welcome Remarks  
Dean González let everyone know that Dean Murphy was out of town. He asked everyone to introduce themselves by giving their name and the department or school they represented.  

2. Introduction of IEDC Guests  
Dean González introduced and welcomed guest, Dr. Marilyn Kaplan. He noted that Dr. Ho was invited to present an MOU at the meeting.  

3. Consent Agenda  
i. The agenda was amended to start the meeting with Dr. Karl Ho to present the (MOU) Memorandum of Understanding between UT Dallas School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences, and National Chung Hsing University College of Law and Politics, Taichung, Taiwan ROC.  

Dr. Karl Ho gave a short presentation and said that National Chung Hsing University College of Law and Politics is comparable with a school such as A&M because it started with agricultural and engineering. The school is famous for its Engineering and Law School. They have a college of Law and Politics, which is comparable with UTD’s School of Economic,
What is proposed in order for both sides of faculties to get to know each other is to start with an academic exchange program, which will allow collaborative research and teaching. Our faculty will be invited to teach at the new International Studies, the first program to be taught in English at the university. Another proposal is for us to start a center of US Taiwan Relations. A joint effort between both sides. Next week Dean Holmes and Dr. Ho will attend this conference.

Dean González asked if there were any questions. The only question asked was if this exchange was only at the faculty level. At this time, the focus is on faculty relations.

Dean González requested IEDC members to submit a motion. Dr. Harpham submitted the motion for the approval of the consent agenda, seconded by Josephine Vitta. No further discussion. All in favor. No abstention. Nobody opposed. The consent agenda was approved.

ii. Dean González asked that names listed under the “absent” section of August 29, 2019 minutes be amended to not include new members from the FY20 list of members, as this meeting took place during FY19. Dean González proposed that a motion be made to accept the minutes with this change. Dr. Fass submitted the motion, seconded by Josephine Vitta. No further discussion. All in favor. No abstention. Nobody opposed. The minutes were approved.

4. Announcements / Updates
Andrea Diaz gave a presentation on last years’ Faculty-Led Abroad Programs.

Faculty-Led 2018-2019

• 20 programs offered
• 303 students enrolled
  o 53% of all study abroad participants
• 92 (30%) on scholarship (NMS/AES/TRY)
  o Majority of students on non-JSOM programs

**Faculty-Led 2019-2020**

• GEOS course on water sustainability in S. Africa
  o Summer 2020 - Cost is approximately $3,000 for 2 weeks
• EPPS ECS community services in Uganda
  o Spring 2nd session / May 2020
• Doctoral Audiology humanitarian project in Yucatan, Mexico
  o Spring 2020
• Spanish and Culture in Seville, Spain
  o Summer 2020
• Career Center looking to bring back customized internship program: Barcelona, Dublin, Buenos Aires
• Art History graduate program in Naples, Italy
• No Medical Spanish & Internship program (Spain)
• No Switzerland program in Lugano this year
  o Will continue in summer 2021

Andrea let the committee know that students want to go on longer programs, one month or longer. They also want to earn credit for major required courses or upper-level courses and electives.

Students want to go to developed countries over under-developed countries. That does not mean we do not offer both programs, but this is what Education Abroad is hearing from the students who come to their Study Abroad Fairs.

Discussion ensued between IEDC Members.

Look at the policy on allowing freshman to take faculty-led trips.

5. **Discussion Item**

  i. MOU and transfer of credit review surrounding GEI.
Josephine Vitta gave an update on this topic and welcomed comments from any members who had information to support the conversation.

- Affiliated partner
- University level agreement, not specific to JSOM
- No allowance for how credit transfer would occur
- Which credits would be acceptable coming in
- Look at the cost of transcripts
- **Action Item**: Most common courses UTD students have taken, work with the registrar office, and add addendum to agreement.

ii. Amicus Brief

Among International Students who attend UT Dallas, approximately 87% apply for (OPT) Optional Practical Training. This is a big incentive for international students to study in the United States.

What would be the impact on UT Dallas of losing these students?

- 20% of our budget would be gone
- Equivalent of losing 110 million dollars
- If international students do not have the option of doing OPT, there really is not an incentive for them to pay for an expensive education in the United States.
- UT Dallas is currently #6 in the nation in the number of students on OPT.
- IEDC Committee previously voted unanimously to support the Amicus Brief.
- October 11, 2019, is the deadline to join the Amicus Brief.
- Presented at the UTD Senate, and they have written a resolution of support.

Dean González asked if there were any comments. A question was asked if there was data on the percentage of international
students that take loans to pay for their education. No known data at this time.

6. **Topics for Next Meeting**

   Dean González asked for topics for the next meeting.

   Conor Wakeman will give a presentation on the role of the Office of Research making sure the people we partner with are the right people that UT Dallas wants to partner with.

   Report on MOU and transfer of credit review.

   Dean González to invite Monica Rankin to join us at the next meeting to present on her positive experience with faculty-led programs.

   Josephine will attend the recruiting coordination group tomorrow, and report back to the group.

   Discussion on university rankings.

   **Meeting Adjourned**