



# International Partnerships: Joint and Dual Degree Programs, Faculty/Student Exchanges, Joint Research Projects and More

Dale LaFleur, Ph.D.

Senior Director, International Partnerships, University of Arizona

Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities

33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference

October 5-7, 2019



# What are they?

## **International partnerships:**

agreed upon collaboration between institutions in different countries

### ▶ **Academic collaboration - teaching**

- ▶ Study abroad - outbound (Exchange, Faculty-led, Locations or Hubs abroad)
- ▶ Study abroad – inbound (Set program or customized)
- ▶ Dual Degree programs (Main campus and Microcampus)
- ▶ Pathway Programs (2+2, 3+1, 3+2)
- ▶ English Language Training

### ▶ **Research collaboration**

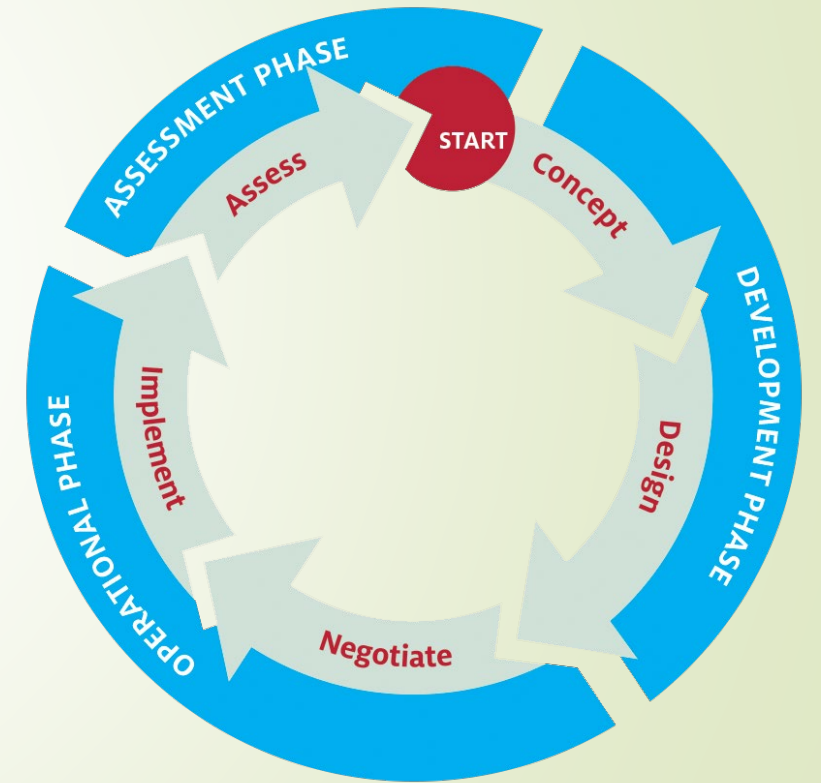
- ▶ Research projects
- ▶ Mentoring programs
- ▶ Internships
- ▶ Fieldwork


### ▶ **Service or practical experience opportunities**

- ▶ Service learning
- ▶ Internships

# Process: International Partnership Lifecycle

- ▶ **The international partnership lifecycle has three primary phases:**
- ▶ Developmental: focuses on conceptualizing and designing opportunities
- ▶ Operational: focuses on negotiating and implementing the initiatives being pursued
- ▶ Assessment: allows for a review of data and program activity and informs both the development and operational phases of development





# International Joint and Dual Degree Programs Defined


- ▶ **International joint degree programs:** “a degree program that is designed and delivered by two or more partner institutions in different countries issuing a single qualification endorsed by each institution” ACE (2014)
- ▶ **International dual degree programs:** “a degree program that is designed and delivered by two or more partner institutions in different countries where a student receives a qualification from each of the partner institutions” ACE (2014)



# When did international joint and dual degree programs become active?

- ▶ More popular in **Europe** initially – promotion of academic collaboration between institutions in the European Union in the last two decades beginning around the year 2000
- ▶ **Asia** – particularly interested in various articulation and pathway program models to expand capacity and increase prestige
- ▶ **USA** – reacted to these changes abroad and requests for collaboration – more common at doctoral and master granting institutions beginning around the year 2005

(ACE, 2014)



# What are the primary motivations for US institutions pursuing international joint and dual degree programs?

- ▶ **Recruitment mechanism** to attract new international students
- ▶ Part of an **institutional level strategic plan** for internationalization
- ▶ **Expansion of an existing international partnership** – trying new program models with known partners


(LaFleur, 2018)



# Challenges

- ▶ **Garnering institutional support** across campus and creating an appropriate **infrastructure**
  - ▶ leadership, administration, faculty
- ▶ **Academic challenges**
  - ▶ Language of instruction, cultural differences, course equivalencies, grading/evaluation differences
- ▶ **Quality and Accreditation of the partner institutions**
- ▶ **Sustainability**
  - ▶ Assessment results – data collection
  - ▶ Continued commitment to program and investment of resources
  - ▶ Leadership changes
  - ▶ Communication challenges between partner institutions

(ACE, 2014)



# Strategies being used at U.S. public institutions of higher education

- ▶ Include internationalization goals in institutional strategic plans
- ▶ Garner support of key administrative leaders
- ▶ Identify faculty champions
- ▶ Develop materials and/or workshops
- ▶ Collaborate with college liaisons focused on international efforts
- ▶ Hire on-site liaisons to work at locations abroad
- ▶ Establish a comprehensive centralized administrative infrastructure

(LaFleur, 2018)





# Areas of intersection between HACU goals and internationalization goals

- ▶ Mutual goals – **provide global experiences to a more diverse body of students**
- ▶ **Create awareness and opportunities** to promote global experiences
- ▶ Provide **access to adequate financial support** to support student participation
- ▶ **To do! Identify the appropriate units and people on campus to work collaboratively on these goals.**



# Resources for U.S. Institutions

- ▶ **American Council on Education (ACE)**
  - ▶ Center for Internationalization in Action, Four Part Article Series on International Partnerships
  - ▶ Internationalization Lab
  - ▶ Mapping Internationalization assessment (2-year, 4-year, public, private institutions)
- ▶ **Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA)**
  - ▶ Leadership Academy for Senior International Officers (SIO's)
  - ▶ Workshops and publications
- ▶ **Association of Public Land Grant Universities (APLU)**
  - ▶ Commission on International Initiatives
- ▶ **Institute for International Education (IIE)**
  - ▶ Publications on International Partnerships and International Dual Degree Programs
  - ▶ International Academic Partnership Programs
  - ▶ Gilman Scholarship Program
  - ▶ Fulbright Programs
- ▶ **NAFSA: Association of International Educators**
  - ▶ International Partnership article series and many more publications
  - ▶ Workshops at annual conferences



# References



- ACE. (2014). *Mapping International Joint and Dual Degrees: U.S. Program Profiles and Perspectives*. Retrieved from Washington, D.C.: <http://www.acenet.edu/news-room/Documents/Mapping-International-Joint-and-Dual-Degrees.pdf>
- ▶ LaFleur, D. (2018). *Transnational Partnerships and Dual Degrees: Entrepreneurial Strategies for Internationalization*.