



## **Report Minutes: Small Group Consultation on Action Plan Development “Campus and Curriculum Internationalization for DIU” FRIENDS Project**

### **I. Purpose**

The purpose of these small group consultations is to develop a draft action plan on fostering internationalization at DIU campus and its curriculum.

### **II. Main Objectives**

The followings were the main objectives set out for these group consultations:

1. DIU staff and management team were actively engaged in preparing DIU and its curriculum for internationalization.
2. DIU students made some invaluable contributions in preparing DIU and its' curriculum for internationalization.
3. Enabling the above participants to agree on a set of preparation of DIU and its curriculum for internationalization and then, frame it into a clear Action Plan.

### **III. Number of Participants**

As was in the plan, 32 people were invited to participate in these small group consultations. The followings are groups of people from DIU management, staff and students who participated in the small group discussions:

- Three persons from DIU management team
- Three persons from Dean/Vice dean
- Five persons from the offices of academic affairs and post-graduated study
- Three persons from the offices of student affairs, marketing, and library
- Four persons from the office staff
- Five outstanding female students from BA class
- Five outstanding male students from BA class
- Four students from MA class

**In total: 32 participants**

### **IV. Methods**

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The followings were the methods employed during these small group consultations:

- A series of small group discussions were organized amongst DIU staff and management team members, where their ideas and thoughts about internationalizing DIU and its curriculum were mobilized and inserted into the action plan.
- Three groups of DIU students<sup>1</sup> were participating in the discussions, where their inputs and thoughts were mobilized into the planning.

## V. Key Questions employed during the small group consultation

1. Introduction to the internationalization of DIU and its curriculum and action plan development in the context of FRIENDS project.
2. Discussion on what were their experiences or questions that students faced when travelling to other countries or outside their homeland?
3. What should students do in order to prepare themselves before they travel or study outside the country?
4. What capacity and knowledge do they need in order to have stronger confidence when they go to study abroad?
5. How would you make DIU an international university?
6. Are there any social or cultural activities that can be organized while they are studying at DIU in order to help them to build their international experiences?
7. Should DIU develop a special course of this subject or just be integrated into DIU existing curriculum? If it is to be integrated, how?

## VI. Steps and Schedule

The small group consultations were carried out, based on the schedule bellow:

No.	Activities	Date	Others
1	Prepare tools and processes for discussions	2/11/2019	
2	Select and then notify the participants on schedule for group discussions	4/11/2019	
3	Organize small group discussions based on the designed schedule	5-8/11/2019	
4	Compile the results of small group works	9-13/11/2019	
5	Organize a consultation workshop with all participants	14/11/2019	

<sup>1</sup> Two groups were selected amongst the outstanding students from BA classes, with separate gender: male and female; and another group were selected students amongst MA classes.

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6	Develop Action Plan on Internationalization at DIU and its curriculum	15/11/2019	
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## VII. Summary of the Key findings

The consultation process placed much emphasis on the areas as follows: 1) Discussions on the key concepts around DIU internationalization, 2) The needs for knowledge and skills building, 3) Engagement in socio, cultural and other DIU events as necessary. Here are the results of these small group consultations, based on the thematic discussion above:

### a) Understand the key concepts of DIU internalization

As was revealed during these small group discussions, all participants had expressed strong interests in the DIU internationalization, and thus, they committed to the process, and willing to take part in any activities that will be developed out of this program. At the same time, they had agreed in principle that, DIU internationalization will enable the university to build, not only the link between DIU and its international partners, but it will help to ensure DIU credibility in the areas of curriculum formulation, staff development as well as to improve the internal quality of student services and digital communication.

### b) Knowledge and Skills

The followings are the main topics suggested by the participants, and these need to be integrated into the DIU existing curriculum. These topics include:

- Intercultural study
- Communication in cultural differences
- Global knowledge relating to world history, some specific countries, regions and international treaties and globalization
- International Banking Systems
- Digital communication system, email, Skype etc.
- Research methodology and research skills
- Academic skills.

### c) Engage in socio cultural and DIU events

- Organize students contests on world cultures and international events
- Display banners and pictures on Internationalization during DIU events etc.
- Organize exchange visits or study tours, between DIU students, staff and students from other universities or institutions in the region and beyond

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- Integrate the internalization activities into the DIU students camping, where team work building, personal development, engagement in cultural diversity and skills in communication can be set as key agendas.

**d) Enhance student confidence in digital communication**

- Reinforce student's professional communication via email, skypes, webpage etc.
- Inclusive access to Internet and knowledge of reliable websites for research purposes.

**VIII. Conclusions**

The group consultations provide participants, including students and DIU staff, opportunities to give their inputs and thoughts into DIU internationalization and planning. As was revealed by these consultations, both students and staff are well aware about the importance of this program and willing to engage further into the process. At the same time, through these group consultations, the participation had put much emphasis on the needs to build more global knowledge and skills where students can use for their searches, communication as well as to have strong confidence in relating to others, who are from different cultures and ethnicities.

At the same time, in the internalization process, the participants suggested that, DIU should also support the students to celebrate world/international events, through student contests and competitions, improve student's capacity in digital communication and exchange visits amongst DIU students and students from other foreign countries. Camping trips was also raised as an important approach where different exercises and reflections can be organized for students to build team work spirits, enhance personal confidence and learning about communication in cultural diversity.

The participants further proposed that these topics and socio cultural events should be integrated into the existing DIU curriculum where students from all majors and subjects can learn together.