

International Academic Program Development Fund (IAPDF)

Purpose:

The purpose of the International Academic Program Development Fund is to contribute to the University's internationalization efforts. These funds will support, where appropriate, the development of academic agreements between faculties/schools and foreign institutions that will enhance the presence of international students at the University. As well, they will assist University of Manitoba student participation abroad in these joint academic programs/initiatives.

Examples of academic agreements, the development of which will be supported under the Fund, include those where:

- A portion of an academic program (undergraduate or graduate) is delivered at each of the partner(s) institutions and the UM (e.g., 1+1, 2+2, 1+3);
- A new joint program or degree is developed to coordinate with international partner programs;
- Faculties commit to accept a number of qualified international students whose fees are guaranteed by an international institution (e.g., Itaipú Binacional); and
- Programs where international governments fund qualified students on a competitive basis to study abroad (e.g., China; Vietnam; Kuwait, Saudi Arabia; Azerbaijan).

Nature and Extent of Support:

The Fund will provide seed support to launch eligible academic initiatives until they achieve sustainability, with the expectation that ongoing, 'steady state' expenses will be offset by the unit(s) share of new fee revenue associated with the initiative. The unit(s) revenue share will be negotiated on a case by case basis, and will be sufficient to cover these 'steady state' expenses as well as provide an incremental revenue return to the unit(s).

The level and duration of support will vary as a function of the proposal. It is recognized, for example, that there are different requirements for program recognition and accreditation across faculties/schools, and that these may affect the time lines and steady-state requirements associated with courses offered by partners, program structures and faculty/school requirements. However, support will normally be limited to three years, and may be adjusted on an annual basis to reflect new revenue generated through a given academic initiative.

In developing requests for support, faculties/schools are encouraged to work with and use services already in place, such as the programs offered by the International Centre for Students, the English Language Centre, the Office of International Relations, etc. Accordingly, requests for support should be restricted to expenses which cannot be covered elsewhere.

Examples of activities eligible for funding include:

- Travel to develop linkages, develop proposals and maintain supported partnership programs;
- Exchange of faculty and staff for the purpose of ensuring commonality and/or coordination in program delivery, course content, quality assurance, etc.;
- Ongoing communication with partner institutions (including travel, phone/fax, teleconference and videoconference expenses, printing related materials, etc.);
- Promotion at partner institutions with promotional materials provided by the faculties/schools, coordinated with Enrolment Services and Public Affairs in order to ensure a consistent UM message;
- New staff resources (time) to administer the program and provide program-specific student support (including additional application and acceptance processing, academic advising, orientation and settlement, program evaluation and reporting); and
- Partial support to facilitate participation abroad of UM students in joint academic programs.

Requests:

Requests for support shall be made by deans/directors of faculties/schools or heads of colleges (in collaboration with deans/directors). Funding decisions will be made three times per year, with request deadlines as follows: October 31; February 15; June 15. Funding requests should be forwarded to the Provost's Office (Attention: Vice-Provost (Academic Planning and Programs)).

Requests should fully describe the initiative (i.e., potential partner(s), agreement/program to be developed, alignment with faculty/school and University strategic plans, likelihood of success, expected outcomes and benefits, etc.) and identify key milestones and timelines for the initiative, including:

- Identification of the partner(s);
- Development of an agreement(s) for collaboration;
- Commencement of student mobility; and
- Steady-state expectations for student participation.

Requests should be accompanied by a budget that details and justifies items requiring support (nature, level, and time period) to launch initiative.

Assessment

Funding recommendations will be made to PET by an advisory committee established by the Vice-President (Academic) and Provost. Members will include: Vice-Provost (Academic Planning and Programs), as chair; Associate Vice-President (Research); Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies; Executive Director, Enrolment Services; and Executive Director, International Relations and the University Budget Officer. Final decisions rest with PET.

Requests will be assessed on the basis of:

- Consistency with University and unit strategic plans
- Academic coherence with existing programs
- Administrative and financial plan for development
- Sustainability of the program/relationship in steady state
- If there is a history of such programs, past success.

Priority will be given to requests that have clear objectives and a coherent plan to develop and maintain long term relationships with international partners.

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