

# VU/UTEP PARTNERSHIP



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# VU/UTEP PARTNERSHIP

## BACKGROUND

- Relationship identified in 2006 with MOU signed in 2007
- Various visits and delegations - largely in isolated pockets of each university
- April 2008 visit by UTEP to VU identified the need to move from 'Conversation to Action'
- June 2009 delegation by VU to UTEP focused on 5 tracks and visits by Executive Deans, Business and Law and Health, Engineering and Science and VUI.



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# VU DELEGATION JUNE 2009

- **FIVE TRACKS**
  - Student leadership
  - Students as staff
  - Entering students program
  - The library as a learning centre
  - Technological innovation in teaching and learning
- **PLUS**
  - SWIRL student exchange
  - Business Studies visit
  - Science and Engineering visit



# VU DELEGATION JUNE 2009 USING TECHNOLOGY

MONDAY 4.00 PM  
in El Paso



TUESDAY 8.00 am  
in Melbourne

# DEVELOPMENTS FOLLOWING THE JUNE 2009 VISIT





- VU Diploma of Liberal Arts students and UTEP 1301 Entering Students' Program:  
Topic: Imagining Nations, Imagining Regions: The Making of Cultural Diversity in Australia and on the US-Mexico Border.





# Victoria University and UTEP

GLOBAL LEARNING COMMUNITY



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<a href="#">Imagining the US - México Border</a>	12	18 hours ago Reply by Matthew Love
<a href="#">Imagining Australia</a>	24	11 hours ago Reply by catalina camacho
<a href="#">Collaborative VU - UTEP</a>	10	Sep 24 Reply by Matthew Manriquez

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# STUDENT ACTIVITIES

## Students as Staff

- Exchanges combining employment and study in 2010 in Student Life, Peer Career Advisors (PCA)
- Exchanges in other areas eg. CILT, Library planned
- Exchange agreement developed
- Joint development of resources and guidelines to support supervisors in 2010
- Joint strategies to evaluate and benchmark impact of PCA's being explored



# STUDENT ACTIVITIES

## Student Leaders

- Video networking between student leaders from VU and UTEP
- Video or online link to the UTEP Student Leadership Conference for VU Student leaders to be involved in real time.
- A trained student leader from UTEP on exchange to VU to work with our student leaders.

# BUSINESS PROGRAMS

Agreement to 'start small' and generate interest in sustainable joint activities

- Focus on internationalising curricula
  - Joint participation in business simulations
    - Visit by UTEP staff member in September '09
  - Agreement on student mobility program
    - Initially for MBA students
    - First step: Inclusion of joint partner in France and possibly Italy
    - UTEP interest in expanding to include one or more of VU's partners in China
- Sharing of expertise
  - VU to provide training for UTEP academic staff on International Financial Reporting Standards

# LIBRARY COOPERATION AND RESOURCE SHARING – LEARNING COMMONS

- Exchange of design data, best practice to inform refurbishment projects at the UTEP Library and VU Learning Commons
- Explore service models and connect educational services staff to improve collaborative service delivery
- Share learning space assessment practices



# **LIBRARY COOPERATION AND RESOURCE SHARING**

- Share expertise to develop library systems common to VU and UTEP including Serial Solutions ERM and Lib guides
- Explore ways of sharing consortia intelligence derived from the CAUL Consortia and the University of Texas Consortia
- VU and UTEP to explore joint training opportunities for student employees and share models for student job design, deployment and project work
- Determine protocols for students across the two universities to gain access to each universities information resources in support of joint programs such as the Global Learning Environment

# EVALUATION AND MEASUREMENT

- Evaluation is an underpinning element of all tracks
- Most recent visit progressed understanding of respective approaches in each track for measuring activity, quality and impact
- Discussion continues on how we can align our respective evaluation approaches in the various projects with the aim of increasing the usefulness of comparing evaluation data

# EVALUATION AND MEASUREMENT

- Other specific areas being progressed include:
  - comparison of student engagement survey data (UTEP: National Survey of Student Engagement / VU: Australasian Survey of Student Engagement)
  - exploring approaches for the diagnostic testing of students
  - UTEP has a sophisticated approach to identifying students at risk. We are exploring the applicability of this to VU which needs to include consideration of how the new SMS can support this work.

# SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

8 - 9 September 2009

## Border Biomedical Research Centre (BBRC)

Community Health

Health Disparities – Border Community

Diabetes

Informatics

Herpetology

Infectious diseases

Heavy Metal Contamination

## College of Health Sciences

Health Promotion

Nutrition

Obesity

Cardio-vascular Disease



# ENGINEERING

*Texas Board of Professional Engineers & the Institute of Engineers Australia* Agreement signed 2008 -- mutual recognition for licensure and registration and initiated under the auspices of the Australia/US Free Trade Agreement.

Activities to be development

- student success initiatives
- undergraduate student exchanges
- Postgraduate research student exchanges

Common areas of interest

- Desalination
- Telecommunications and microelectronics and their applications
- Biotechnology and biomedical engineering







# DISCUSSION



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