

Project Proposal on "FEALAC University Discovery Year (FUDY)"

I. INTRODUCTION

The geographical distance and historical differences between East Asia and Latin America continues to be an obstacle for countries in the two regions, especially in the attempts to explore the wide range of possibilities for comparative studies and academic exchanges.

However, since the inception of the Forum for East Asia-Latin America Cooperation (FEALAC), the expansion of new members and developments of new projects, programmes and actions have assisted in promoting collaborative research and exchanges in many fields of expertise.

In turn, this has also resulted in a more diversified body of research from broader perspectives that have helped in fostering a mutual understanding from both regions.

As presented in a Concept Paper during the Working Group on Science and Technology, Innovation and Education during the 15th Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) in Bangkok, Thailand, several initiatives have been identified that can be pursued in the future, including cooperative projects and activities; exchange of visiting researchers/academics; joint research projects or academic events co-hosted by Latin American Studies Centers and East Asian Studies Centers from both regions.

Following the successful implementation of such initiatives, several notable accomplishments include an increased awareness among students and academics about differences and similarities between East Asia and Latin America; an increase in research on issues concerning both regions; and the establishment of Latin American Studies Programmes in Asia and East Asian Studies Programmes in Latin America.

In light of the above, Brunei Darussalam is pleased to propose the establishment of a mobility consortium known as the <u>FEALAC University Discovery Year (FUDY)</u>.

II. BACKGROUND

Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) is the premier university in Brunei Darussalam that was established in 1985.

In 2009, UBD revamped its curriculum and implemented its new broad-based and trans-disciplinary degree program also known as GenNEXT. Embedded in the 4 years of GenNEXT is the Discovery Year during which 100% of its student are encouraged to pursue one or two of the following activities:

- i. Study Abroad;
- il. Internship;
- iii. Incubation; or
- iv. Community Outreach Programme.

Given that around 70-80% of UBD students leave the country to pursue Discovery Year annually, UBD would like to therefore extend its Discovery Year destination to Latin American countries and concurrently welcome students from Latin America nations to study in Asia, including at UBD.

III. OBJECTIVES

The main purpose of FUDY is to increase student mobility amongst FEALAC member countries. FUDY will operate on a reciprocal basis, where qualified students from UBD and interested universities in East Asia and Latin America will be exchanged with reciprocal tuition fee waiver. The duration of the Project can be one semester (14 weeks).

In the future, the scope of FUDY activities should be expanded to include academic mobility; joint/ dual/ double degree; joint supervision of Masters and PhD programmes as well as joint collaborative research.

Brunei Darussalam is optimistic that FUDY will contribute to strengthening existing relations between East Asia and Latin America; increase people-to-people contact between the two regions; and allow students to experience the diverse culture and unique way of life through this education exchange.

In addition, Brunei Darussalam is also hopeful that through FUDY, this will encourage FEALAC member countries to consolidate their own study abroad programmes and to expand their own network of partners with countries in East Asia and Latin America.

IV. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

FUDY welcomes interested participants from FEALAC member countries, especially universities from the Latin America region to participate in the Project. The following requirements must be met:

- i. For undergraduate programmes, participants must not be over 40 years old;
- ii. For postgraduate programmes, participants over 40 years old are welcome;
- iii. For undergraduate programmes, a good performance of results is required;
- All participants must possess the necessary English proficiency as stated in the student exchange fact sheet; and
- v. All participants must possess a valid passport.

Students of FUDY will enrol in regular courses and permitted to take part in International Summer Campus programme administered by other Host universities. This is to encourage the active exchange of students and balance mobility.

The application for FUDY for Fall Semester 2016 will open on 15 September 2015 and the closing date will be on 15 November 2015. The successful candidates will be notified through their respective International Relations Office (or its equivalent).

Interested participants should submit the following documents for their applications:

- i. Letter of recommendation and academic transcript from the participants' university;
- ii. Proof of English Language Proficiency;
- iii. Valid Health Certificate, with specifications of physical and mental state;
- iv. Copy of a valid passport and of valid visas at the time of the date of travel; and
- v. Completed non-graduating student exchange application form; and
- vi. Security clearance letter.

All documents should be sent to International Relations Office (or its equivalence) in their home institutions, such as the office of international relations. The international office will subsequently communicate directly with UBD's Global Affairs Office to facilitate the exchanges.

V. <u>OUTCOMES</u>

Through FUDY, participants from both regions are expected to undergo regular classes at Host universities. In addition, the Host university is encouraged to arrange cultural activities, field trips etc. to ensure exchange participants have a better immersive experience

For participants of FUDY in UBD, the programme will be as follows:

- i. Attend regular classes/ lectures;
- ii. Complete all required assessments;
- iii. Undergo study trips relevant to their studies;
- iv. Experience cultural activities;
- v. Visits to places of interests in Brunei Darussalam; and
- vi. Possible brief internship stints.

VI. REPORTING LINE

The activities of FUDY will be reported to the Joint Co-ordinator of Working Group on Science and Technology, Innovation and Education Meeting.

VII. CONTACT POINTS

Director of Global Relations
Office of Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Global Affairs)
Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD)
Jalan Tungku Link
Gadong BE1410
Brunei Darussalam

T: +673-2463001 ext.1277

F: +673-2463062/+673-2463015

Emall:

office.gr@ubd.edu.bn/

Website:

http://www.ubd.edu.bn/



Please return your completed form to the following address:-

Office of Admissions and Student Records

Mezzanine Floor, Chancellor Hall Universiti Brunei Darussalam Jalan Tungku Link

Gadong, BE 1410

NEGARA BRUNEI DARUSSALAM.

Tel: +673-2-463001 Ext 1186/1194/1196

E-mail: office.admission@ubd.edu.bn

Fax: 673-2-460062

URL: http://www.ubd.edu.bn

You are required to submit a set of the completed application includes: -

Completed application form (Ex/NG-01)

2. A copy of passport

Certified true copies of academic certificates, transcripts and English proficiency qualification

4. A security clearance letter from country of origin

NOTE: Certified English Translation must be submitted for supporting documents that are not in the English Language. Online application is currently not available.

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Dear International Exchange Partners,

Greetings from Universiti Brunei Darussalam.



We are pleased to announce that nomination for Academic Year 2015-2016 is now open. Please find the information on the student exchange application process as follows:

Contact Person(s):

Dr Abby Tan Director of Global Relations Office of Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Global Affairs)

Office telephone number: +673-2463001 ext.2112/1277

Fax number: +673-2463015/3062

Email: office.gr@ubd.edu.bn or abby.tan@ubd.edu.bn

APPLICATION

Application deadline for Semester 1 (August to December): **June 15th**Application deadline for Semester 2 (January to May): **November 15th**Scanned copies of application forms (including supporting documents) can be emailed to the Director or Global Relations.

Eligibility:

- 1. Completed at least one year full-time study at one of UBD's partner universities;
- 2. Nominated by the international office of home university;
- 3. Achieved a minimum of GPA 2.5 (out of 4.0) or 3.0 (out of 5);
- 4. Meet the language requirements of the modules offered.

Procedure:

- 1. Complete the application form;
- Provide a copy of passport;
- 3. Provide certified true copies of academic certificates, transcripts, English proficiency qualifications including academic references;
- 4. Provide a copy of valid health insurance.

Visa Requirement and Procedure:

Two (2) documents required: a) Student Visa, and b) Student Pass

UBD's International Student Centre (ISC) will assist all exchange/non-graduating student to apply
for student visa and student pass. All successful applicants only need to submit scanned copies
of their passport to UBD at least 2 months before their arrival. Successful visa applicants will
initially be issued entry visa-on-arrival. Thereafter, ISC will proceed to convert this visa-on-arrival
to student visa and student pass.

Note:

Once their studies have ended in UBD, all exchange/non-graduating students must cancel both
the student visa and student pass prior to leaving the university (Student Central can assist on
these matters). The cancellation process can take up to two (2) weeks therefore students must
plan their departure date accordingly.

Dear Distinguished Exchange Partners,

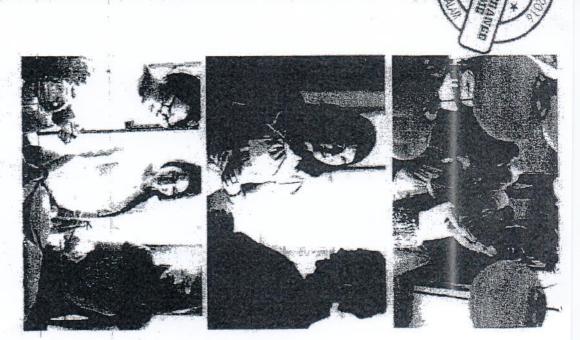
Warm Greetings from Universiti Brunei Darussalam.

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For further enquiries, please contact:

Dr Abby Tan (abby.tan@ubd.edu.bn)

Director of Global Relations
Office tel: +673-2463001 ext.2112/1277

Fax: +673-2463015/3062

CLOSING DATES FOR APPLICATION

November 15 for spring semester,

June 15 for fall semester.

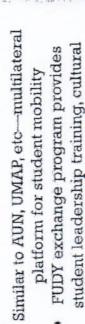
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Open to undergraduates and postgraduates
 Modules offered award academic credits

Host university may offer summer school, research internships, incubation etc



excursions, collaborations with

renowned faculty and more



Fosters global citizenship

Enhances holistic student development
 Promotes mutual understanding & appreciation

of cultures

• Cultivates diverse connectivity

