



TIEC GAZETTE

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Newsletter of the Texas International Education Consortium

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University Consulting News

TIEC Workshop Presents Findings and Ideas for Design of Al Saleh University

Representatives of three TIEC task teams designing the new Al Saleh University in Yemen traveled to the country's capital city Sana'a in August to present a report assessing the need for the university, recommending the characteristics that will define the institution, and offering potential land-use scenarios for a new campus.

Team members also gathered information about higher education administrative structures and policies in Yemen for TIEC to use in designing the university's curriculum and administration.

During a daylong workshop focused on TIEC's preliminary findings, participants addressed broad topics such as the need for a private university to serve a public purpose, the institution's mission and vision, and the need for innovation and reform in higher education. Specific functions such as staffing, finance, admissions standards, research, and academic programs were also discussed.

Team member Ned Kock, Professor of Information Systems in the Division of International Business and Technology Studies at Texas A&M International University, was impressed. "The workshop was quite positive," he said. "They seemed to be quite open to new enterprises and new initiatives. The focus seems to be on doing something new."

Approximately 40 people attended the workshop, including the Minister of Education and the Minister of Technical Education and Vocational Training. Other attendees included the Vice Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, the Vice Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, the Rector of Sana'a University, representatives of other public and private universities, and high-level officials from various government ministries.

In addition to Dr. Kock, other TIEC team members on the trip included Dr. Nick Poulton, President Emeritus of TIEC; Dr. Joe Stafford, formerly Assistant



Some 40 attendees discussed TIEC's findings and preliminary recommendations at a workshop in Sana'a, Yemen.



Dr. Ned Kock of Texas A&M International University.

Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Research at the Texas Higher Educational Coordinating Board; and Mr. Lewis T. May, FASLA, Adjunct Associate Professor in the College of Architecture at the University of Houston and Senior Vice President of the architectural firm PageSouthernlandPage.

TIEC Vice President Takes to the Road Promoting Programs for Student Mobility

TIEC Vice President Elyzabeth Joy Holford has begun a series of visits to TIEC-affiliated universities to discuss opportunities for increasing student mobility and international outreach.

“Attracting more foreign students has tremendous benefits for Texas public universities. It increases both enrollment and international understanding,” she said.



Elyzabeth Joy Holford is visiting TIEC-affiliated campuses around Texas.

Ms. Holford's campus visits include updates on the conditional admissions program currently offered by TIEC's subsidiary, the Texas Intensive English Program (TIEP).

TIEP has conditional admission agreements with 12 member and three non-member institutions. The agreements meet each institution's admission standards and requirements. They permit conditional admission to qualified international students who participate in TIEP's university preparation program provided that the students meet academic admissions criteria established by the university.

Conditional admission can enhance student mobility by aiding in recruitment and transition to study at U.S. universities of international students. Recruitment and transition can be important benefits in upcoming sponsored student programs, including the Iraqi Education Initiative and programs from the Saudi Arabian Cultural Mission (SACM), Ms. Holford noted.

The Iraqi Education Initiative will provide international study for up to 10,000 students annually—and TIEC will be working to bring many of these students to Texas. TIEC also is working with SACM staff to continue to bring Saudi scholarship students to Texas.

Other opportunities for TIEC and member institutions include efforts to build capacity in developing countries. “Together, we can join the best of U.S. practices and local culture to create a solution that meets local needs,” said Ms. Holford. Potential opportunities can provide not only educational services but outreach programs in areas such as agriculture, technology, and other research fields in which TIEC-affiliated universities have expertise.

Ms. Holford's first round of trips has taken her to the University of Houston-Downtown, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Texas State University-San Marcos, The University of Texas at San Antonio, and Tarleton State University. She plans additional trips throughout the academic year.

For more information on the TIEP conditional admission program, visit: <http://www.tiec.org/tiep/conditional.php>