TCU’s Mission is to “educate individuals to think and act as ethical leaders and responsible citizens in the global community.” In keeping with the Mission, all undergraduate students are required to enroll in a Cultural Awareness, a Global Awareness, and a Citizenship and Social Values course as part of their TCU Core Curriculum Requirements (see Appendix B for a description of the TCU Core Curriculum). In addition, approximately 24% of undergraduate students study abroad prior to graduation and roughly 6% of undergraduate students come from other countries. The purpose of TCU’s Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), Discovering Global Citizenship: Building the Foundation for Comprehensive Internationalization, is to provide more structured opportunities for TCU students to enhance their international perspectives and skills in order to move students from a foundational level of global citizenship through an increasingly complex taxonomy to the advanced application level. This approach to the development of global citizenship brings students from an ability to identify global issues to the ability to make responsible decisions about these issues and to take action.

The mission statement for the QEP is “to engage TCU with the world by providing international and comparative experiences for students.” The project has four student learning outcomes, presented in sections III and VII. Building on the already existing foundation of global and cultural experiences, this QEP will include six Global Citizenship Initiatives (CGI’s). These initiatives include Virtual Voyage (a program that uses technology and social media to offer students entrée and insight into countries for which study abroad is not feasible), TCU Global Academy (a multi-disciplined academic experience in which students analyze a global issue in the classroom coupled with a visit to a country in which the issue is of paramount importance), an expansion of the TCU Abroad program (TCU students studying abroad), Global Innovators (short term campus visits from international experts from developing countries who will participate in curricular and co-curricular programs), Visiting Scholars (drawing on a variety of sources, including the U.S. State Department’s Scholar Rescue Fund (SRF), TCU will bring leading international scholars to its campus to conduct research, guest lecture in classes and help plan QEP programming for future semesters), and Local-Global Leaders (student interaction with international and global expert-leaders who live in, or are passing through the Ft. Worth-Dallas area). A description of the initiatives is presented in Section VIII.

Assessment of the outcomes will occur on two levels. The first of these levels is the program level. TCU believes that this QEP will change the culture of the campus and will impact students in a wide variety of ways. Thus, some of these measures will look across the students’ experiences at TCU. The second level of assessment will occur at the initiative level. With six specific initiatives that will add to the already existing opportunities for Global Citizenship, TCU will ensure that students involved in the specific initiatives are meeting the learning outcomes. As students enter TCU as freshmen, they will take the Intercultural Effectiveness Scale (IES) to determine their overall intercultural effectiveness score. If this QEP is successful in providing students with “international and comparative experiences”, students should show growth in this score when they retake it as a senior. TCU has set a goal of a 50% increase in the number of students who move up at least one level on the IES scores from first year to senior year. In addition to the IES, students who participate in each of the initiatives will respond to a prompt, measured by a rubric. A joint faculty/staff Advisory Committee will rate the student responses on a 25% sample of the submissions. In addition, faculty who are teaching courses in which they are implementing an initiative will provide data on student work relating to the four QEP student learning outcomes and the student movement up through the Global Citizenship taxonomy. In addition to these measures, TCU expects that student participation in intentional international and comparative activities will reach 80% of the student body by the fifth year of the project (2018). TCU has a firm budget commitment of $2.89 million for the five year QEP with a full expectation that this program will continue far past the five-year QEP timeline.

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