



SPARC

**February 4, 2020
3:00 p.m., UC 202C**

Meeting Summary

In Attendance:

Jim Bachmeier

Tony Baker

Jason Bentley

Mike Berghoef

Terri Cook

Jennifer Dirmeyer - chair

Steve Durst

Dave Eisler

Jodi Gardei

Gheretta Harris

Fredericka Hayes

Rodney Larson

Beth Logan

Alex Manga

Tara McCrackin

Suzanne Miller

Bob Murray

Shelly Percy

David Pilgrim

Piram Prakasam

Joy Pulsifer

Steve Reifert

Scott Rossen

Julie Rowan

Kristen Salomonson

Mandy Seiferlein

Spence Tower

Deb Tyson

Lisa vonReichbauer

Dan Wanink

Guests: Ann Breitenwischer, Tracy Bush, Valerie Campbell, Carrie Franklin, Anne Hawkins, Karen Kio, Sheila MacEachron, John Maronney, Karen Royster-James, Steve Schuiling, Danielle Sikovsky, Chris VondeHaar

Chair Jennifer Dirmeyer greeted SPARC members and introduced Piram Prakasam and Lisa vonReichbauer, from the Office of International Education, who will give a presentation on Moving Ferris Forward Globally.

Moving Ferris Forward Globally

The Office of International Education has been working on several components that have contributed to a global ecosystem. The components are:

- BEYOND Initiative which was started in 2012
 - Faculty Engagement/ Innovation
 - Networking, exploration, partnership development
- Lighthouse Symposium Series, started in 2013
 - Professional Development/Program Development
 - Benchmarking and branding

- Networking and partnership development
- Micro-campus summer program, series started in 2013
 - Study abroad/Program development
 - Interdisciplinary and innovation
 - Professional development and partnership development
- GC3 Program, started developing in 2014
 - Three-year program, equivalent to 18 credits of co-curricular experiences
 - Study abroad/Global Competency/Professional Development
 - Community Engagement and Strategic Partnership Development

As part of the 2019-2024 Ferris Forward Strategic Plan a Comprehensive Internationalization Plan is listed as a strategy for student success. The goal of the plan is to strengthen the global ecosystem to be sustainable, innovation-driven, and a differentiator for Ferris.

The question for today's SPARC group is: Building on the global ecosystem that has been developed over the past decade, how can we create innovative solutions to address our challenges?

SPARC members broke into groups to brainstorm ideas to expand on one of the components of the global ecosystem, the micro-campus summer program. Here are some of the ideas they came up with:

- Global implications w/water
- Acclimation of high school exchange students
- Involve students w/implementation/coordination
- Big Rapids and Beyond – modular offerings
- Recognizing diversity in our high schools – global engagement experience
- International business incubator
 - Remote internships
 - Cultural prep for senior citizens, high school students, professionals traveling abroad
- Corporate Retreat or Training – we have amazing conference space
- International Leadership Certificate
- Diversity in General
 - Students, faculty, administration, staff – cultural competency mindset

Chair Dirmeyer adjourned the meeting

Adjourned: 4:47 pm

Next meeting: March 17, 2020, 3pm, UC 202A

Submitted by Terri S. Cook