The International University of Grand-Bassam

UIGB
Côte d’Ivoire
West Africa
Overview of Presentation

- The Need for UIGB
- Potential for Impact in West Africa
- An Overview of UIGB: Location, History, Mission, Operations, Degrees, Facilities
The Need for UIGB:  
World Bank Observations  

“…developing countries are at a risk of being further marginalized in a highly competitive world economy because their (higher) education systems are not adequately prepared to capitalize on the creation and use of knowledge.”  

*Constructing Knowledge Societies, 2002*  

“…urgent action to expand the quantity and improve the quality of higher education in developing countries should be a top development priority.”  

*Peril and Promise: Higher Education in Developing Countries, 2000*
The Need for UIGB: Results from a GSU Regional Marketing Study

- Data from 24 focus groups in Burkina Faso, Cote d’Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, & Nigeria in 2002

- Strong support for a “different kind of higher education opportunity”: emphasis on combination of theoretical, entrepreneurial & practical education; costs tailored to regional standard of living; admissions criteria fair & transparent

- Broad support for an American model of higher education
Potential for Impact in West Africa

- Provision of qualified and skilled personnel capable of addressing key issues for regional development
- Training in problem resolution, intercultural cooperation
- Modeling excellence in university training in the region
- Offering a case study in transparency, accountability, and results-based budgeting

UIGB Students packing up donations for an orphanage
Location

- Centrally located in the region
- Easily accessible by air, road
- Developed city & beach amenities nearby

33 km from Abidjan
UIGB History

- Created by The Association for Education and Development (AED), an international organization formed in 2002 and recognized by the government of Côte d’Ivoire.

- Established within the framework of collaborative educational agreements which have existed since 1994 between the government of Côte d’Ivoire and the University System of Georgia in the United States.

- Former GSU Associate Provost served as interim UIGB Provost; GSU & UIGB staff jointly developing academic and operational plans; GSU providing guidance for US accreditation.
UIGB History

- Authorization to open received from the Ministry of Higher Education of the government of Côte d’Ivoire
- Inaugural Preparatory Year offered January-August 2005
- Inaugural undergraduate classes started January 2006
- Dr. Saliou Toure named first UIGB President, 2007
- Successful UIGB students have access to courses at GSU as exchange students
To provide internationally recognized higher education through technology-enhanced English medium instruction in fields critical to regional development, international success and life-long learning.
Principles of Accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges & Schools (USA), which mandates quality in terms of:

- Faculty credentials
- Student preparation
- Course content and instruction
- Budgetary adequacy and financial due-diligence
- Policy transparency
- Programmatic accountability
Operations: Policy Infrastructure

- Transparent budget process
- Results-based resource allocation
- Systematic academic and operations evaluation procedures
- Student Handbook completed
- Faculty Handbook under development
- Grading system normed across faculty
Initial Majors and Degrees

- B.A. Economics, Finance and Management
- B.Sc. Computer Science
- B.A. International Relations and Strategic Studies

Preparatory Year available prior to University entrance
- Residence Building
  (70 single rooms)
- Classroom building
  (for 150 students)
- Computer Center
- Food Service
- Guard Service

Facilities

Classroom Building
Residences
For more information contact JPI

In the USA:
410-244-0667