

Phase One Report  
**Task Force on Reflecting and Expanding a Global Perspective**

Role of Taskforce on Reflecting and Expanding a Global Perspective

The role of the Task Force on Reflecting and Expanding a Global Perspective is to oversee the development of that part of the campus strategic plan that addresses the nurturing of a global perspective in the campus community. The world in which we live and in which our graduates work is increasingly connected to other parts of the globe, other cultures, and other political and economic systems. To be good citizens in this world and to be successful in it will require knowledge about this global system to a degree not known in the past.

Toward that end, the taskforce set out to draft a proposal that would initiate a campus wide discussion on the extent and role of a global perspective in the mission of the campus and how it can be fostered. After input from the various constituencies, the taskforce will prepare a strategic plan to present to the Campus Directions Committee for incorporation into the larger campus plan.

Scope and Boundaries of Taskforce Effort

The 2001 ACE report found that the public and the current generation of students both believe in the crucial importance of international education. They know that their success as persons and as professionals depends on how well they understand other people, nations, cultures, and languages. However, the study reports that most of the students do not get much of an international education at their colleges. This finding suggests that higher education institutions should increase courses and offer more international experiences.

Created by Taskforce on Reflecting and Expanding a Global Perspective

“That is what the public expects of higher education.”

IUSB’s students come with relatively little international experience and it must be one of our most important jobs to provide them with the international education they need for survival in the 21st century. We need to combine career training with a liberal arts education and offer an international experience that crosses disciplinary boundaries and equips students both for their careers and for their lives as citizens of the world. At the same time, this expansion of interdisciplinary international education is another opportunity to distinguish ourselves’ as an institution.

The taskforce has identified five crucial areas we might explore with the campus community that could enhance the international perspective of our students. First, one area is how we might internationalize the curriculum to maximize student’s exposure to the world beyond the U.S. and give every student opportunities to gain a global perspective on issues. Second, in addition to the curricular perspective, we want to engage the campus community in a discussion about how we might expand student opportunities to travel and study abroad. Third, we think that it is crucial to discuss and consider the role of international students on campus and how to make our campus experience an attractive one for them. Fourth, we want to explore ways the campus can support faculty exchanges. Finally, we want to explore ways that the campus can foster international understanding in the community. We want to identify with the faculty those goals, objectives and activities that will move the campus toward providing the kind of international perspective that our students need. The taskforce must then identify the resources that we need to accomplish each of the aforementioned goals and the individuals and positions

that would be central in moving the campus forward.

### The Context

IUSB has many strengths in terms of its international resources: a faculty with international interests and expertise, an international office with a director, associate director, and secretary, an international center --the only one in IU outside Bloomington--international students, and study abroad programs and exchanges, as well as an International Studies Certificate and a Minor in Latin American Studies.

We also have an Advisory Council of community leaders, who help us with connections and financial support.

*Faculty:* the international interests of the faculty are listed in the International Directory which shows considerable faculty strength in international experience and research. Since 1995, 45 faculty members have received international awards from IU; there have been 5 Fulbright fellowships, both Scholars and Scholars in Residence.

*International Students:* we currently have 248 international students from over 60 countries. 154 are undergraduates and 94 are graduate students. The international office provides admission, immigration, and advising services for these students and the Jordan International Center serves as a home away from home for them.

*IUSB Study Abroad Programs:* Language, Culture, and Society in Mexico. Since 1993, 119 students have participated in this our most successful summer program.

Marine Biology in Jamaica: spring interim program, which runs every other year and attracts about 20 students each time.

Social Action Project in South Africa: Dr. De Bryant's program involves students in service learning activities in Durban.

Created by Taskforce on Reflecting and Expanding a Global Perspective

*IUSB Exchanges:*

University of Ulster: on average 1 IUSB a year participates

Universidad del Valle de Atemajac, Guadalajara: we have more students coming from UNIVA than we are sending, but we have had faculty participate.

Katholische Universität Eichstaett/Ingolstadt, Germany: a new addition, we have sent 2 students since 2001.

*International Studies Certificate*

Since we started in 1996, we have had 57 students graduate with a certificate.

*Minor in Latin American Studies*

1 student graduated with the minor and 4 are working towards one.

Work Completed to Date and Information Still to be Gathered

The taskforce has gathered information on existing programming and the opportunities for study abroad, international students on campus and faculty involvement in international activities. To this point we have not yet calculated the revenue generated from international students, and the cost of new programming which might be initiated as a result of the planning process. The Taskforce might also identify potential sources of funding for new international initiatives. The taskforce also need to gather information about how other universities assess their efforts in internationalizing their campus and curriculum.

### Obstacle to be Over-come

The major obstacles to further developing an international perspective on campus depend on the goals. In internationalizing the curriculum, the major difficulty will be competing demands for time and coverage of topics in the curriculum. Other units and programs may also have goals for knowledge and skills that they want delivered through the curriculum. However, the identification of an enhanced international perspective as a campus priority will make the case easier. For the other areas we have identified above, the obstacles are likely to be resources. Encouraging study abroad, making the campus more attractive to international student, and encouraging faculty exchanges will all require that resources be generated. Here too there will be competition for those resources. Lastly, fostering an international perspective will require developing a campus culture in which faculty members will consider this as part of their job for which they will also be compensated.

### Assessment Issues

For the most part the campus should find it fairly straightforward to assess success in enhancing and expanding an international perspective. However, the taskforce would need to work with the assessment committee to devise measures of success in internationalizing the curriculum. On the other hand, measures of success in students going abroad and in international students enrolled at our campus might be improvements over the numbers now in those categories. Likewise, we might judge success in faculty exchanges by the number of faculty so involved compared to present numbers. Success in communication an international perspective to the community will be more difficulty to determine. Again, measures of success in this area would have to be developed

by the taskforce.

Results of work to date

**International Task Force**

4-18-02

Goals identified by task force:

I. Further internationalize the curriculum

A. Specific Objectives

1. Encourage faculty to internationalize their courses
2. Encourage the General Education Committee to include an international component in the core curriculum, such as language study or study abroad
3. Develop a minor in international studies by 2005 and a major by 2010
- 4.

B. Activities

1. Develop an award on international contribution to the campus
2. Reward faculty for their international efforts
- 3.

C. Resources Required

## II. Increase study abroad participation

### A. Specific Objectives

1. Develop affiliations with institutions abroad
2. Maximize flexibility in study abroad options including credit assignment and length of study
3. Develop scholarships for study abroad
4. Set goal of 1% of students going abroad by 2006 and 2% by 2010
- 5.

### B. Activities

1. Sponsor yearly study abroad fair
2. Include international study options in orientation materials
- 3.

### C. Resources Required

## III. Increase international students enrollment

### A. Specific Objectives

1. Provide resources for recruitment
2. Develop international scholarship fund
3. Have international students compose 5% of student body by 2006
4. Develop housing opportunities on campus
5. Develop affiliations with international institutions abroad

6. Increase interaction between international and domestic students
- 7.

B. Activities

1. Improve web page to showcase international opportunities
- 2.

C. Resources Required

IV. Encourage and support international faculty exchanges

A. Specific Objectives

1. Develop opportunities for faculty research and travel
2. Develop a grants office
3. Increase support for Fulbright scholars
4. Allocate one floating position on campus for an international exchange scholar
- 5.

B. Activities

1. Sponsor annual Fulbright workshop
2. Sponsor annual grant workshop fore international grants
- 3.

C. Resources Required

V. Foster international understanding in the community

A. Specific Objectives

1. Increase interaction between IUSB and the community
- 2.
- 3.
- 4

B. Activities

1. Develop a Afriendship program@
2. Develop a speakers bureau
3. Sponsor panels on topical international issues
4. Sponsor workshops for teachers, businessmen, and other professionals on current international issues
- 5.

C. Resources Required

## **Appendix**

### Task Force Members

J. Paul Herr Co-Chair, SPEA & Political Science

Gabrielle Robinson Co-Chair, International Programs and English

Neovi Karakatsanis, Political Science

Peter Aghimien, Business & Economics

Melchor DeGuzman, SPEA

Kwadwo Okrah, Education