

Campus Directions International Task Force

"Our ignorance, which extends to countries around the globe, seriously compromises our position in the world. Colleges and universities in the past twenty years have been partly to blame for this problem; they must now become part of the solution" (John Brademas).

The 2001 American Council on Education 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 can increase the level of knowledge and understanding about the rest of the world by internationalizing more courses and offering more international experiences—on and off campus. That is what the public expects of higher education. The ball is now in our court."

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 from the community colleges.

Where we are now

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. 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. Of these students, 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.

IUSB Exchanges:

University of Ulster: on average one IUSB a year participates

Universidad del Valle de Atemajac, Guadelajara: we have more students going to UNIVA than we are sending, but we have had faculty participate.

Katholsiche 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

The program is overseen by the following faculty: Linda Chen, Political Science; Eleodoro Febres, Foreign Languages; Leda Hall, SPEA; Tammy Morgan, Foreign Languages; Cristina Rios, Education; Scott Sernau, Sociology. One student graduated with the minor and 4 are working towards one.

Strategic Planning:

The Task Force on Reflecting and Expanding a Global Perspective

Task Force Members: Peter Aghimien, Business and Economics, Melchor Deguzman, SPEA, Paul Herr (co-chair), SPEA, Neovi Karakatsanis, Political Science, Kwadwo Okrah, Education, Gabrielle Robinson (co-chair), English and International Programs.

In meetings during the Spring 2002 semester the task force members have come up with the following suggestions:

Promote the internationalization of the curriculum:

Specific Goals

- *Encourage faculty to internationalize their courses
- *Encourage the General Education Committee to include an international component in the core curriculum, such as language study or study abroad
- *Develop an International Studies Minor by 2005
- *Develop an International Studies Major by 2010

Activities

- *Reward faculty for international initiatives with merit
- *Develop an award for international contributions and services to the campus

Increase Study Abroad Participation

Specific Goals

- *Develop further affiliations with institutions abroad
- *Maximize flexibility of study abroad options, including credit assignments and length of study
- *Develop scholarships for study abroad
- *Set a goal of having 1% of IUSB's students study abroad by 2006 and 2% by 2010.

Activities

- *Include study abroad in orientation materials
- *Sponsor a yearly study abroad fair

Increase International Student Enrollment

Specific Goals

- *Provide resources for international recruitment
- *Develop international scholarship fund
- *Set goal of international enrollment as 5% of students by 2006
- *Develop more on-campus housing
- *Develop further affiliations with institutions abroad
- *Create increased interactions between domestic and international students

Activities

- *Improve web page showcasing our international opportunities

Encourage and Support International Faculty Exchanges

Specific Goals

- *Develop opportunities for faculty research and travel
- *Develop an international grants office
- *Increase support for Fulbright Scholars and Scholars in Residence
- *Allocate one floating position on campus dedicated to an international exchange scholar

Activities

- *Sponsor annual grant writing workshop for international grants
- *Hold annual Fulbright workshop

Foster International Understanding in the Community

Specific Goals

- *Increase interaction between the campus and the community

Activities

- *Establish a speaker's bureau on international issues
- *Sponsor panel discussions on current topics
- *Institute short summer workshops for teachers, businessmen, and other professionals on international issues

4/19/02