

Task Force 5. Reflect and Expand a Global Perspective

“International and cross-cultural awareness and understanding on the part of U.S. citizens will be crucial to effective U.S. leadership, competitiveness, prosperity, and national security in this century.” Policy statement “Toward an International Education Policy for the United States,” *International Educator*, Summer 2003.

The internationalization of learning in its broadest sense is becoming a key element of IUSB’s “signature.” This means that we are in the process of connecting all the various elements that are essential for a thorough international education: creating an internationally focused curriculum, supporting faculty to do research on international topics, adding more flexible study abroad options, increasing the percentage of international students on campus, and reaching out to the community. To be a campus that educates its students for the future will require that we succeed in all these areas. Given the high proportion of students with limited international exposure and experience, this poses a challenge as well as a particular urgency for IUSB.

What follows are the goals, activities, costs and assessment mechanisms that the taskforce recommends for bringing an international perspective to the campus.

I. Further internationalize the curriculum

A. Since the curriculum serves as the blueprint that validates what is taught and learned in educational institutions, it is the appropriate vehicle through which we can channel any appreciable reform. The internationalization of the curriculum is based on the understanding that global literacy is a basic skill needed to live and work in the 21st century. At present, the campus curriculum focuses predominantly on the United States and Europe and is not representative of the diverse regions of the world.

B. Specific Objectives:

1. Encourage faculty to internationalize their courses (immediately)
2. Encourage the schools and disciplines to include an international component in the core curriculum, such as language study or study abroad (immediately)
3. Increase by 2006 the coverage of underrepresented regions of the world and develop courses and hire faculty to address these curricular deficiencies

C. Suggested Activities:

1. Make greater use of the International Programs/Chancellor's fund for internationalizing the curriculum
2. Deans and chairs should reward faculty on their international efforts (to start forthwith)
3. Bring international speakers to campus on a regular basis.
4. Establish an excellence award for students with international minors or certificates (by 2005)

D. Resources required:

1. A budget allocation to pay for the cost of course development
2. An annual budget of \$5,000 for bringing international speakers to campus (by 2005)
3. An expanded International Programs Office that promotes international opportunities
4. A budget line to cover the costs of international events and activities.

E. Assessment:

1. Evaluate annually the curriculum coverage of under-represented areas of the world
2. Evaluate annually the number of courses that have a primary international focus and those that have some international component
3. Evaluate annually the number of international speakers and events on campus
4. Evaluate annually the numbers of students enrolled in international studies majors, minors, and certificate programs

II. Increase study abroad participation

A. While internationalizing the IUSB curriculum will encourage global citizenship and better prepare students to live and work in an increasingly globalized world, nothing can substitute for the educational benefits of sustained personal contact with societies, cultures, and peoples in their native land.

B. Specific Objectives:

1. Develop affiliations and partnerships with institutions abroad that will enable our students to study at those institutions with a minimum of expense and difficulty
2. Maximize flexibility in study abroad options, including credit assignment and length of study
3. Develop more scholarships for study abroad by 2005 and readily circulate information on such scholarships to students (finances are the major obstacle to domestic students studying abroad)
4. Set goal of 1% of students studying abroad for credit by 2006 and 2% by 2010 (NAFSA recommends 20% by 2010 and 50% by 2050)

C. Suggested Activities:

1. Make contact with institutes abroad for possible partnerships
2. Sponsor yearly study abroad fair by 2005
3. Include international study options in orientation materials by 2005

D. Resources Required:

1. A scholarship fund of \$50,000 to supplement student study abroad opportunities (by 2008)

E. Assessment: The following information should be gathered annually:

1. Number of students who study abroad
2. Growth in the scholarship fund that supplements student study abroad

3. Number of study abroad programs and affiliation programs on campus

III. Increase International Students Enrollment

A. International students provide a first hand international experience for the IUSB community. Through interaction with international students, domestic students, faculty and staff learn about other cultures. Their participation in the classroom provides an avenue for faculty to internationalize their courses as well as promotes cross-cultural understanding. International students are also viable marketing and promotional tools for the university. Positive experiences shared with fellow citizens will help recruit additional students.

B. Specific Objectives:

1. Continue to make IUSB a safe and welcoming environment for international students
2. Increase opportunities for interaction between international and domestic students
3. Enhance and provide alternative means of recruitment by 2007
4. Enhance the international scholarship fund by 2007
5. Have international students make up at least 5 % of the entire student body (by 2008)
6. Develop more articulation agreements with institutions abroad by 2007 (see goal II B 1 above)
7. Develop improved housing opportunities on campus (by 2008)

C. Activities:

1. Continue to support the international student organizations on campus
2. Complete the updating of web pages that showcase and address the needs of international students
3. Use international students and alumni as recruiters for IUSB
4. Internationalize IUSB Fest: include a representative from the International Students Organization on the planning committee
5. Develop a host family program for international students (by 2005)
6. Promote a mentorship and support network for international students
7. Develop a strategic plan for inclusion or engagement of international students in cultural, social and other campus events.

D. Resources Required:

1. Staffing and funds for the International Programs office and the Office of International Student Services to promote IUSB programs abroad, to recruit and to develop connections and partnerships
2. Resources for an IUSB webmaster;
3. Funds to finance scholarships for international students

E. Assessment:

1. Assess annually means and success of recruitment
2. Assess annually the growth of the international scholarship fund
3. Assess annually the international student percentage of the total student body

4. Assess annually the progress toward improved housing opportunities on campus
5. Assess annually the number of articulation agreements with institutions abroad
6. Assess annually the degree of interaction between international and domestic students
7. Assess annually the security and service needs of international students
8. Assess annually the additional revenue generated through international student enrollment
9. Conduct a satisfaction survey of international students on campus (by 2005)

IV. Encourage and support international faculty exchanges

A. To add an international perspective to the campus requires that we maximize the international experience and contacts of the faculty. A faculty with extensive international experiences will do much to internationalize the curriculum, bring international students to campus, and provide opportunities for domestic students to travel abroad. Furthermore, a faculty with extensive international experience will be a potential resource to the community.

B. Specific objectives:

1. Continue to develop affiliations with institutions abroad (See goals II and III above)
2. Further develop opportunities for faculty research and travel abroad
3. Increase support for Fulbright scholars and Fulbright Scholars In Residence
4. Develop a grants office that can assist in international faculty exchanges by 2005

C. Activities:

1. Sponsor annual Fulbright workshop
2. Sponsor annual workshop for grants for international travel, research and teaching
3. Allocate one floating position on campus for an international exchange scholar (by 2006)

D. Resources Required:

1. A fully staffed grants office
2. Additional funding and staffing for the international programs office to support international scholars, develop affiliations with universities abroad conduct grants workshops for international grants and sponsor and organize an annual Fulbright workshop
3. Salary for one faculty position that is at least the average for IUSB faculty to fund the floating position
4. A house on campus for one visiting international faculty member

E. Assessment:

1. Assess annually the number of faculty visiting IUSB from abroad and the number of IUSB faculty who go abroad to teach and do research at foreign universities
2. Assess annually the number of grant applications for international activities

V. Foster understanding in the community

A. We believe that IUSB's mission rightly extends beyond the classroom and into the community. To better inform and prepare this community to understand the world around it, to more fully equip its workforce with the skills and knowledge required in an increasingly globalized world, and to help it attract businesses that produce and market products for the international market, IUSB must foster greater international understanding not only in the classroom but in the community at large.

B. Specific Objectives:

1. Increase interaction between IUSB and all segments of the Michiana community
2. Increase visibility of departments and offices dealing with internationalization on campus such as the International Programs Office, the Center for Global Education and the Office of Campus Diversity
3. Increase the involvement of the International Programs Advisory Council
4. Increase interaction/cooperation between Office of International Programs and Office of Community Links (by 2005)

C. Activities:

1. Connect members of the IUSB community with Michiana international groups
2. Create a speakers bureau (by 2005)
3. Sponsor additional panels on topical international issues (by 2005)
4. Sponsor workshops for teachers, business persons and other professionals on current international issues (by 2005)

E.. Assessment:

1. Assess annually the number of programs, panels, and workshops taking place as well as the quality of those programs as measured by the anonymous evaluations of participants
2. Assess annually the amount of resources generated through credit workshops on international topics