A STRATEGY FOR GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

The University of Nebraska is a four-campus, public university which was created and exists today to serve Nebraskans through quality teaching, research, and outreach and engagement. We strive to be the best public university in the country as measured by the impact we have on our people and our state, and through them, the world. There is a strong consensus across the University of Nebraska that strengthening global engagement and building on a tradition of success with international activities will improve the educational outcomes the university seeks. Improving NU’s international capacities will contribute substantially to the knowledge and innovation economy the university is developing to serve its graduates and the people of the State of Nebraska.

VISION

The University of Nebraska shall be a vital partner in global engagement by:

- Preparing students for a global cultural and competitive economic environment;
- Attracting the best talent to Nebraska from around the world;
- Providing opportunities for faculty to engage in international collaboration, teaching and research; and
- Enhancing Nebraska’s economy and our international collaborators’ success through research and innovation for mutual benefit.
GOALS

Goal #1: Significantly increase the number of undergraduates and graduate students studying abroad, with the goal of ultimately providing the opportunity for every undergraduate to study abroad.

- Increase the number of students who have studied abroad by at least 50% between 2011-2012 and 2019-2020.
- Provide a range of financial resources, including an increasing amount of scholarships for students, in order to make education abroad possible for all interested NU students.
- Work with colleges and academic departments to identify the best opportunities in the major when NU students can study abroad and the education abroad programs that meet the needs of academic departments.
- Increase on-campus advising and programming for students to address pre-departure and re-entry needs.
- Assess the impact of education abroad experiences on student development, faculty engagement, and the university as a whole.
- Increase opportunities for students to participate in an internship abroad.

Goal #2: Significantly increase the number of international undergraduates and graduates studying at the university.

- Increase the number of international students enrolled by 100% between 2010-2011 and 2020-2021.
- Develop a NU strategic recruitment effort to recruit the best and brightest international students to study at NU, leveraging partnerships and relationships in priority nations and building on relationships with NU alumni abroad.
- Enhance programming to support international students on campus and to support faculty, staff and community members who support NU international students.
- Establish and promote financial assistance possibilities for international students, including scholarships in key research areas.
- Create programming and services that enhance the international student experience at NU, including stronger engagement between domestic and international students.
Goal #3: Enhance the development of global awareness and intercultural competencies among students, faculty, staff and community members.

- Increase the number of foreign languages taught on campus, to increase students’ exposure to languages spoken around the world.

- Develop courses, programs or activities that introduce global awareness and intercultural competence development among the general student population.

- Create courses, programs or activities that introduce global awareness and intercultural competence development among education abroad students.

- Develop seminars or programs to enhance the intercultural competence and awareness of NU faculty and staff and members of our communities who support NU students and programs.

Goal #4: Encourage faculty to internationalize their courses and programs.

- Establish incentives for faculty who wish to create new courses with substantial international or global content, or to increase the amount of international or global content in existing courses.

- Develop an annual or biannual conference for NU faculty focusing on global engagement and internationalization of the curriculum.

- Establish funding opportunities for faculty who wish to develop new education abroad programs.

Goal #5: Significantly increase opportunities for NU employees to work abroad, collaborate with colleagues and host visiting colleagues from abroad.

- Promote opportunities for faculty and administrators to participate in Fulbright-sponsored programs around the world.

- Establish funding opportunities for faculty to conduct short-term research trips abroad or to visit current or potential partners.

- Establish funding opportunities for faculty or academic departments to host visiting scholars from abroad, and expand services and resources for international scholars wishing to conduct research at NU.
Goal #6: Build on existing agreements and create new strategic partnerships in order to develop mutually beneficial education, research, and other forms of collaboration with institutions, governments and businesses outside the U.S. on key areas of importance to the state of Nebraska and the university.

- Enhance NU’s capacity and research prominence through strategic collaborations.
- Strategically choose country and/or institution-specific collaboration.
- Focus on predominant capacity and high priority themes.

REVIEWED BY:

- Senior International Officers, February 8, 2016
- Chief Academic Officers, April-May 2016
- Executive Cabinet, May 31, 2016
- President and Vice Presidents/Chancellors, June 7, 2016
“TRAVEL, IN THE YOUNGER SORT, IS A PART OF EDUCATION; IN THE ELDER, A PART OF EXPERIENCE.”

FRANCIS BACON