Internationalization Initiative

Auburn University joins 11 other colleges and universities across the U.S. in the 16th cohort of the American Council on Education’s Internationalization Laboratory. Auburn’s Committee for Strategic Internationalization co-chairs participated in the opening meeting of the lab in Washington, D.C. on August 24 and will lead a comprehensive effort to develop strategies and goals for Auburn’s internationalization efforts.

What is the Internationalization Laboratory?

The ACE Internationalization Laboratory convenes a cohort of universities for a 20-month intensive strategic development process for campus-wide internationalization with the goal of long-lasting institutional change. Auburn joins the 138 universities who have participated in the lab since 2002. Auburn will work with a designated ACE lab advisor who will visit campus, conduct monthly check-ins and provide guidance and context throughout the lab process. Auburn’s steering committee members will travel to Washington, D.C. to meet with ACE representatives and other members of the cohort several times throughout the process.

What is the American Council on Education?

ACE is a membership organization that mobilizes the higher education community to shape effective public policy and foster innovative, high-quality practice. As the major coordinating body for all the nation’s higher education institutions, ACE represents more than 1,700 college and university presidents and related associations.

www.auburn.edu/international/ace
Areas of Focus for Committee:
ACE’s model for comprehensive internationalization includes:
- Articulated institutional commitment
- Administrative leadership, structure and staffing
- Curriculum, co-curriculum and learning outcomes
- Faculty policies and practices
- Student mobility
- Collaboration and partnerships
Auburn’s committee will consider each of these areas during the planning process.

What comes next?
The full committee will meet at the beginning of September to receive an official committee charge from Provost Bill Hardgrave, and Heather Ward, ACE advisor, will visit campus to meet with leadership across the university later this fall.