

Towards An AU International Education Policy, 9/14/2004

It is proposed that for AU the following priority goal be established:

- International education will become an integral component the AU curriculum with at least 25 percent of AU students receiving college degrees each year having studied, worked, or interned abroad for credit by 2010, and 50 percent by 2040.

AU academic units:

In Academic Year 2004-2005, AU colleges and academic units will:

- Identify curricular components that address the IE policy and area mechanism for enhancing and strengthening curricular content and linkage to the IE policy
- Articulate and identify the appropriate Auburn Abroad experiences relevant to the pertinent majors, minors and electives within each degree program
- Articulate and publish in the AU Bulletin (catalog) college international education policy for students and faculty within the college and departments.
- Articulate and identify faculty and institutional support initiatives to foster IE integration and implementation
- Establish a provosts and deans level IE coordinator for policy and implementation within each college

In Academic Year 05-06, AU colleges and academic units will:

- Review and articulate an AU and associated academic units strategic plan for international education
- Identify financial support requirements for IE policy implementation and specifically for AA student/participant support with an emphasis on students with significant financial need
- Establish as a college AND institutional goal a fund raising priority for endowments and contributions towards BOTH a college and university wide fund raising campaign for Auburn Abroad support

In Academic Years 2006-2008:

- 10% of each semesters graduating class will have studied, worked, interned or participated in an Auburn Abroad experience

In Academic Years 2008-2010:

- 25% of each semesters graduating class will have studied, worked, interned or participated in an Auburn Abroad experience

In Academic Years 2010-2015:

- 30% of each semesters graduating class will have studied, worked, interned or participated in an Auburn Abroad experience

In Academic Years 2020-2030:

- 35% of each semesters graduating class will have studied, worked, interned or participated in an Auburn Abroad experience

In Academic Years 2030-2040:

- 50% of each semesters graduating class will have studied, worked, interned or participated in an Auburn Abroad experience.

Mechanisms for support

1. comprehensive assessment of international course content
2. college statements and publications on IE in bulletin and academic program literature
3. AU wide documentation of AU international scope = annual publication – online and hardcopy (for use in fund raising, etc.) (includes research, AA programs, international faculty and students, linkages, etc..)
4. University wide endowment for scholarships – include at a minimum a \$1 or \$2 per student per semester international AA fee (similar to the TEXAS plan), to be matched with endowment contributions from colleges and administration – to provide direct student support to ensure broad scale participation especially those students who are financially needy and to promote diversity in AA. Also to create a fund source for novel AA program development including classroom integration through use of technology and abroad experiences.
5. Create an AU master plan for internationalization outlining short and long term areas of concentration and expansion

Excerpts adapted for Auburn University from the US International Education Policy Guiding Documents published by NAFSA: Association of International Educators

An overall International Education policy should:

- Set an objective that international education become an integral component of U.S. undergraduate education, with every college graduate achieving proficiency in a foreign language and attaining a basic understanding of at least one world area by 2015. New technologies should be employed creatively to help achieve this objective.
- Promote cultural and foreign language study in primary and secondary education so that entering college students will have increased proficiency in these areas.
- Through graduate and professional training and research, enhance the nation's capacity to produce the international, regional, international business, and foreign-language expertise necessary for U.S. global leadership and security.
- Encourage international institutional partnerships that will facilitate internationalized curricula, collaborative research, and faculty and student mobility.

To achieve these goals the following specific priorities and objectives should be considered.

An International Education International Student and Scholar policy should:

- Outline a comprehensive strategy to enhance the ability of legitimate international students to pursue higher education opportunities in the United States.
- Ensure that the university attracts and provides opportunities for students from strategically important regions of the world to study in the United States, including those from predominantly Muslim and Arab countries.
- Facilitate entry into the United States for bona fide short-term and degree students, treat those who observe the terms of their visas as valued visitors while they are here, and adopt training and employment policies and regulations that enable students and scholars to maximize their exposure to American society and culture through internships and employment.
- Promote the study of English by international students at the university, and promote the United States as the best provider of English training services and materials.

An International Education Study Abroad Policy should

- Set an objective that 20 percent of American students receiving college degrees will have studied abroad for credit by 2010, and 50 percent by 2040.
- Promote ethnic, socioeconomic, and gender diversity in study abroad.
- Promote the diversification of the study abroad experience, including: increased study in nontraditional locations outside the United Kingdom and Western Europe; increased study of major world languages—such as Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Portuguese, and Russian—that are less commonly learned by Americans; and increased study abroad in under-represented subjects such as mathematical and physical sciences and business.
- Promote the integration of study abroad into the higher-education curriculum, and increase opportunities for international internships and service learning.
- Promote the international exchange of scholars in order to enhance the global literacy of U.S. scholars, ensure that the university builds relationships with the best scholarly talent from abroad, and improve the international content of American curricula.
- Ensure that exchanges with strategically important regions of the world – such as predominantly Arab and Muslim nations – receive adequate priority.

An Institutional international education policy should:

- Clearly articulate the institutional interest in international education and set a strong policy direction to which citizens can relate their own efforts.
- Dedicate resources that are appropriate for the institutional interests served.
- Stimulate involvement by, and leverage funding from, the state and the higher education, business, and charitable communities.
- Announce the international education policy in a major address, decision memorandum, or message to the students and faculty, and propose appropriate funding.
- Appoint a senior institutional official who will be in charge of the policy and responsible for meeting its targets.
- Convene a summit of college and university representatives, other academic leaders, international education professionals, state and business leaders to map out the specifics of the policy.
- Assign specific roles to appropriate institutional agencies.

- Create an institutional working group, chaired by the director of international education, to ensure that policies and regulations affecting international education are consistent and coherent and to offer advice and guidance on program implementation.