

MOVING BEYOND BORDERS

A GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY



"Globalization is the movement of people, ideas, goods, capital, services, pollution, and diseases across borders, and internationalization is higher education's engagement with that reality."

American Council on Education (ACE)

BACKGROUND

In the fall of 2021, LSU joined the American Council on Education's Internationalization Lab, which provides customized guidance and support to universities seeking to establish a **global strategy framework**. Our participation in the ACE Lab is consistent with the university's drive for excellence, which is primarily rooted in our mission to impact and **serve Louisiana and the world**. We believe that Louisiana faces many of the world's core challenges. Thus, as a high-profile public institution of higher learning, we know we have a **unique responsibility** to create solutions essential to the future of our state, the nation, and the world.



STRATEGY FRAMEWORK

This global strategy document is intended to support and complement the **university's strategic goals**, which are grounded in five critical pillars: Agriculture, Biotechnology, Coast and Coastal Challenges, Defense, and Energy (ABCDE).

- A ADVANCING Louisiana State University's position as a leader in the field of International Education.
- BRING the best and brightest students and scholars from around the globe to further enrich LSU's academic and cultural reputation.
- CATALYZING innovative programs and initiatives to support global learning for the entire LSU community.
- DEVELOP and nurture mutually beneficial global partnerships for sustainable development.
- ENGAGING purposefully and equitably with the Global South to address today's most pressing problems.



GLOBAL INITIATIVES

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Recognizing that Louisiana faces many of the world's problems, and given our strategic location and cultural heritage, we can create a unique opportunity to **serve as thought-leaders** in global education. This can be achieved through intentional collaborations with institutions and organizations around the world.

- **a1.** Implement programs and initiatives that **connect and bring together leaders** in addressing today's most pressing problems. This includes conferences, speaker series, workshops, and seminars at LSU.
- **a2.** Collaborate with institutions in the Southeastern Conference (SEC) and local partners to create and **strengthen the impact of global programming** and ensure institutional capacity and sustainability.
- **a3.** Create **professional development opportunities** for LSU faculty and staff to be leaders and champions of global education.

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Positioning ourselves as a reputable global institution will influence our ability and desire to attract from a pool of **highly qualified students**, **faculty**, **and staff** from around the world. This effort will require substantial programming, campus partnerships, and a reliable infrastructure that aims to promote inclusive excellence on campus and in the community.

- **b1.** Partner with the Office of Admissions to create a comprehensive **international student recruitment plan** in 5 strategic markets for undergraduate enrollment and invest in personnel and staffing dedicated to international enrollment management.
- **b2.** Leverage the work of the **SEC Africa recruitment initiative** by developing mutual and inclusive collaborations with institutions and organizations in Sub-Saharan Africa to create a pipeline for undergraduate and graduate enrollment.
- **b3.** Invest in **scholarship opportunities** for undergraduate students from markets that align with our global and university strategic goals, and where Louisiana State University already has a competitive advantage due to our geographic location and cultural heritage.
- **b4.** Collaborate with campus partners and community organizations to create a **diverse student and scholar success infrastructure** to better integrate and prepare our international community into campus life and career advancement.





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Expanding upon our underpinning values and commitment to teaching and learning, research, and social responsibility at a global scale, gives our students the skills and knowledge necessary to live and thrive in today's interconnected and interdependent society. This will be achieved when we prioritize **global learning for all** as a tenet of the institution.

- **c1.** Build a **comprehensive infrastructure** (personnel, processes, policies, programs, and finances) that facilitates the full functioning of Academic Programs Abroad and ensures alignment with best practices in the field, and the needs of our diverse student and faculty demographic.
- **c2.** Create a comprehensive **global scholarship fund** to better support all experiential learning opportunities for our students. This includes study abroad, national exchanges, undergraduate research, international internships, virtual exchanges, and other high-impact programs happening locally or internationally.
- **c3.** Minimize risk and create resilience by investing **institutional funds in faculty-led programs** to ensure maximum support and sustainability for program development, student recruitment for education abroad, and emergencies.
- **c4. Incentivize and reward faculty and staff** members who are globally engaged and are willing to bring global perspectives into their own work. This includes campus-wide annual internationalization awards, tenure, merit increases, honorariums, and promotions.
- **c5.** Leverage the communication across the curriculum (CxC) model by incorporating international, multicultural, and global dimensions into the **content of the undergraduate curriculum** and intentionally assess students' learning outcomes.
- **c6.** Encourage community global engagement by creating and facilitating **inclusive intercultural programming** that fosters a culture of open-mindedness, understanding, and cultural respect across the entire campus community.



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As the primary drivers of teaching and knowledge production, faculty play a pivotal role in learning, research, and service. Our faculty and staff hail from almost all corners of the globe, and that diversity of knowledge and backgrounds allows us to **expand upon the scholarly work** that has been achieved locally and internationally to further connect knowledge and ideas.

- **d1.** Bring synergy and coordination to the university's global scholarship efforts by creating and effectively managing **a research and partnerships hub** that supports all global engagement activities at LSU.
- **d2.** Develop **strategically mutual and equitable global partnerships** and research collaborations with a few institutions and organizations around the world whose interests align with the university's strategic goals and capitalize on LSU's faculty and staff connections or alumni.
- **d3.** Nurture partnership engagement with institutions and organizations around the world by creating **a communication plan** that highlights global activity and campus awareness of internationalization initiatives.
- **d4.** Utilize **data-driven analytical tools** to better support decision-making processes involving partnership development and resource allocations. This includes an adequate and reliable data clearinghouse.



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Our public image as a comprehensive flagship university that promotes academic excellence comes with a social responsibility to make an impact on society and people. Louisiana's strong ties with Central America and Sub-Saharan Africa call for a more **intentional engagement and action in the Global South**.

- **e1.** Move beyond the traditional Western European programming to encourage and foster the **development of curriculum and co-curriculum initiatives** in the Global South and in places where LSU already has a geographic and cultural advantage.
- **e2.** Work with government entities, industry, and the private sector to develop multifaceted inbound and outbound programs to **support capacity building for local communities** in the Global South.
- **e3.** Collaborate with the SEC to form **a research and exchange alliance** with no more than 5 universities in the Global South and intentionally engage faculty and staff with ties in these regions.
- **e4.** Invest in **professional development programs** tailored specifically to engagement in the Global South to ensure faculty are better positioned to seamlessly engage meaningfully and effectively.

ACE LAB COMMITTEE MEMBERS

This **internationalization roadmap** is the result of the outstanding work and recommendations from the ACE Lab sub-committees, representing all sectors of the university community.

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