

Globalization Thematic Team Introduction 12.19.06

Globalization is good for Texas. In 2002, 50% of the national doctoral degrees in engineering and math and 40% in computer science went to foreign scholars. Many of those scholars will choose to stay and contribute to their state's economy. Those who return home will take with them an excellent educational and training experience, and a new understanding of life and culture in the US.

Creating globally focused Texas universities is central to the growth and development of the regional and state economy. International students contribute more than \$13 billion to the U.S. economy each year in the form of living expenses and educational costs incurred during the duration of their studies.

While the world is rapidly becoming "flat" and compressed in terms of time and space, challenging and deep linguistic and cultural divides await anyone aspiring to work in the global setting. Thus, an international, cross-cultural approach to teaching, research, and community outreach must be the hallmark of any 21st century university striving to reach high levels of excellence and competitiveness.

A successful, holistic approach to creating a global campus engages the traditional forms of international program services, including study abroad activities, supporting and collaborating with foreign students and scholars, and assistance with visa processing. The global university will send students and faculty abroad for enriching and developmental experiences, and also create a global campus by attracting high quality international students and scholars who will help create a new form of campus community – intellectually and experientially. Also, it must provide faculty with access to a wide range of internationally connected research opportunities and partnerships. Finally, a global university achieves robust levels of outreach and collaboration with a wide variety of internationally focused constituencies within the larger city and state communities.

In sum, it is incumbent upon UTSA to educate its students to be full-fledged global citizens and provide its faculty with the opportunity structure to access a wide range of research activities and partnerships with foreign scholars and institutions.

The ten-year benchmarks to measure the achievement of globalization at UTSA are:

- Graduates who are internationally knowledgeable, skilled and culturally aware in order to be successful in a global setting.
- Faculty who are actively engaged in globally focused international research, collaboration, teaching, and outreach.
- A university infrastructure and environment that value, integrate, and support global perspectives and initiatives.

UTSA will achieve this globalization ethos and process through:

- The identification and dedication of adequate infrastructure and resources necessary to implement the global objectives of the UTSA strategic plan.
- The achievement of international focus and prominence in our research activities.
- The infusion of global perspective and global enrichment opportunities throughout the curriculum.
- International career development opportunities for all students.
- The recruitment of top quality international students and scholars.
- The leveraging of technology to enhance the exchange of globally focused initiatives and information.

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