Report to Faculty Senate
Ad Hoc University Internationalization Committee

Background
The Ad Hoc University Internationalization Committee (Ad Hoc UIC) was created by Faculty Senate in Spring of 2013. The purpose of the committee is to assess, recommend, and provide strategic guidance to the comprehensive internationalization of our university. Specifically, the committee is charged to:

- Review UW-Platteville’s current international activities.
- Develop global learning goals and a plan for assessment.
- Develop strategic goals that will sharpen UW-Platteville’s global presence and help expand its effectiveness in international education.

The Ad Hoc UIC presented a midterm report to Faculty Senate, summarizing our review of current international activities, on September 23, 2014.

Definition of Internationalization
Based on the American Council on Education’s “Mapping Internationalization on U.S. Campuses: 2012 Edition”, the committee developed the following definition of internationalization:

**Internationalization** is the process of incorporating global perspectives into teaching, learning, and research to meet the university’s obligation to prepare students for productive and responsible citizenship in the world.

This includes:

- building intercultural skills and competencies among students, faculty and staff;
- establishing relationships and collaborations with individuals and institutions abroad;
- promoting respect of religious, cultural, and linguistic differences; and
- developing strategic, coordinated processes that align and integrate policies, programs and initiatives.

Recommendation for changes to the University International Education Committee (UIEC)
The process of internationalization is ongoing, and the University of Wisconsin-Platteville should have strong leadership in guiding the continuing growth in its many internationalization initiatives. The International Programs Office (IPO) does great work, but it is important to have faculty involved in decisions, particularly those that affect curriculum. Therefore, the Ad Hoc
UIC recommends the following changes to the charge of the University International Education Committee.

From Faculty Bylaws:

SECTION 11: UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

a. **Function**
   i. The purpose of the University International Education Committee (UIEC) shall be to foster international education on the University of Wisconsin-Platteville campus. **Internationalization is the process of incorporating global perspectives into teaching, learning, and research to meet the university’s obligation to prepare students for productive and responsible citizenship in the world.** The UIEC serves as an advisory committee and advocate, especially in matters related to internationalizing the curriculum.

b. **Responsibilities**
   i. Provide vision and leadership for new and ongoing internationalization efforts.
   ii. Facilitate and assist faculty in internationalizing the curriculum.
   iii. Serve as an advisory committee on international education initiatives, including the international studies major and minor.
   iv. Serve as a liaison between the International Programs Office and the faculty.
   v. Review proposals and recommend disbursement of funds earmarked for internationalization.
   vi. Review and recommend new international programs, including education abroad and short-term faculty-led, as well as inter-institutional agreements.
   vii. Inform faculty about University of Wisconsin-Platteville’s international initiatives for graduate and undergraduate students.
   viii. Facilitate faculty experience abroad by providing information on current initiatives and through the development of new opportunities.
   ix. Provide a venue for sharing international information, understanding, and knowledge across campus.

c. **Membership**
   - Six faculty, two from each college, elected by the college to three-year, non-consecutive terms, with at least some of the terms staggered to ensure continuity.
   - Voting:
     - Six faculty, two from each college, elected by the college to three-year, non-consecutive terms, with at least some of the terms staggered to ensure continuity.
     - Representative from the University Undergraduate Curriculum Commission
     - One Instructional Academic Staff Member
     - One student (one-year term, appointed by the Student Senate)
   - Ex-officio (non-voting):
     - Director of International Programs
     - Director Representative of the Teaching and Learning Center
     - Advisor(s) to the Program Coordinator of International Studies major and minor
The University International Education Committee is established by Faculty Bylaws. Therefore, the Ad Hoc UIC recommends that the proposed changes be forwarded to the Bylaws Committee.

A continuing obstacle to effective functioning of the UIEC is a lack of consistent meeting time. Each semester, a meeting time has to be arranged around the schedules of close to a dozen members. This sometimes leads to inconsistent participation. Therefore, the Ad Hoc UIC recommends that the UIEC establish a standard meeting time each semester. This time should be made available to faculty, who should consider it before standing for election.

**Recommendation for further steps**

The Ad Hoc UIC established the following goals for further internationalization. The Ad Hoc UIC recognizes that this is an extensive list. Some projects are already under development. Others may take considerable time and effort to be realized. The Ad Hoc UIC hopes that the UIEC will take the lead in prioritizing these goals and pushing them forward.

**Goal 1: Increase funding opportunities and provide more resources for students to participate in short- or long-term programs abroad.**

- The UIEC should champion initiatives to establish department and/or college scholarships and grants. UIEC representatives should approach department and/or college heads, either in writing or at department/college meetings, to promote the importance of international education and demonstrated institutional commitment to it across campus.
- The UIEC should champion initiatives to establish foundation and/or alumni scholarships and grants. UIEC representatives should work with the UW-Platteville Foundation Office to establish awards funded by education abroad alumni or those with vested international interests.
- The UIEC should champion initiatives to establish exchange program-specific scholarships and grants. UIEC representatives should identify funding sources to help increase enrollment and assist those with financial need.
- The UIEC should support the IPO in its efforts to establish short-term faculty-led refund policy for scholarship and grants. The UW-Platteville Education Abroad staff recommends establishing a policy where leftover funds under a certain amount, either per program or per student, will not be refunded. Instead, funds will be added to a fund to sponsor scholarships and grants for future short-term faculty-led program participants.

**Goal 2: Increase student involvement in curricular and co-curricular activities with an international component**

- The UIEC should champion initiatives to promote virtual international collaborations. UIEC representatives should identify resources and opportunities to encourage guest lecturers, group project work, team teaching, etc.
- The UIEC should assist in increasing awareness of the international studies major/minor and international studies emphases across majors. UIEC representatives should endorse the marketability of this add-on to any area of study to faculty, staff, students, parents, and other stakeholders.
• The UIEC should support the development of opportunities for undergraduate research and creative endeavors (URCE) abroad. UIEC representatives should recommend curricular and co-curricular (i.e. independent studies) opportunities.

• The UIEC should contribute to the development of opportunities for community engagement and service learning abroad. UIEC representatives should facilitate opportunities which can be utilized by living and learning communities, student teams and organizations, as an “alternative spring break” option, etc.

• The UIEC should support the IPO in assembling and promoting a calendar of international activities and events going on across campus. UIEC representatives should help demonstrate the institutional commitment to international perspectives across campus.

• The UIEC should support the IPO in its efforts to showcase how faculty and teaching academic staff are incorporating international perspectives, activities, etc. into their classes. The IPO would like to find ways to promote the endeavors of these instructors, and to advertise their courses to students interested in global perspectives, etc. in new and visible ways (e.g. on the International Programs website, in a monthly International Programs newsletter, etc.)

• The UIEC should support the IPO in its efforts to publicize how student teams and organizations are incorporating international perspectives, activities, etc. into their group. The IPO would like to raise awareness and direct other interested teams and organizations to resources.

Goal 3: Assessment of student learning regarding global perspectives

• The UIEC should assure assessment of the global perspectives of students takes place and evaluate the outcomes of this assessment. UIEC representatives should determine if assessment is most appropriately done using a home-grown assessment or using the NSSE Global Perspective Module (http://nsse.iub.edu/html/modules.cfm).

• The UIEC should work with the Academic Standards Committee in the assessment of courses carrying International Education designation for General Education.

• The UIEC should inventory courses and sections that include an international component, which are not necessarily designated as International Education courses. The UIEC should encourage the instructors of such courses to assess their impact on the global perspective of students.

Goal 4: Increase the number of international students and visiting scholars coming to Platteville.

• The UIEC should support the IPO in its efforts to utilize existing partnerships with universities in other countries and to continue to seek new partnerships. The UIEC should encourage more faculty and staff to support internationalization efforts. The UIEC should establish policies that recommend that that faculty or staff going abroad on university business inform the IPO (or Admission Office) before leaving so that they can (i) gather information about the trip to identify areas where partnerships/collaboration could be enhanced; (ii) provide faculty/staff with a promotion guide and a small promotion pack (brochures, t-shirts, pens, pendants and a PPT); and (iii) request debriefing upon return.

• The UIEC should encourage UW-Platteville students studying abroad, especially those who receive grants, to serve as ambassadors by promoting the University to prospective international students.

• The UIEC should work with the Alumni Office to utilize alumni email lists to inform alumni about how to promote UW-Platteville abroad to prospective international students.
• The UIEC should support the IPO in its efforts to increase awareness across campus about the benefits of hosting visiting scholars.
• The UIEC should work with the Web Development Office to increase the web presence of UW-Platteville on-campus programs.
• The UIEC should assist staff members from IPO in getting on the agenda for school/departmental meetings once a year, in order to keep faculty and staff abreast of internationalization efforts and opportunities.

Goal 5: Improve processes and services to help these individuals to integrate into the university and community.

• The UIEC should champion initiatives to improve academic advising for international students. The UIEC should ask academic departments to identify advisors who will work with the Academic Advisor for International Students to provide more effective academic advising to international students.
• The UIEC should champion initiatives to improve course offerings that impact internationalization. The UIEC should investigate the possibility of providing credit-bearing ESL classes for international students. The UIEC should lead efforts to offer Intercultural Communication (SPEECH 2300) and tie it to Gen Ed for International Education. The UIEC should initiate efforts to redesign courses intended to provide support for new international students (UWP Study 3010/UWP Study 1010) and align them with best practice.
• The UIEC should support the IPO in its efforts to involve the entire campus community in the effort to retain international students. The UIEC should emphasize the importance of using Beacon and contacting IPO concerning international students who may be struggling academically.
• The UIEC should support the University of Wisconsin-Platteville in its efforts to improve transportation. Lack of transportation is one of the biggest issues for international students. IPO is aware of this and is piloting a shuttle service to neighboring municipalities. In addition, IPO staff is working with the Office of Sustainability in exploring car sharing programs through Enterprise. However, the Ad Hoc UIC recommends that the issue of transportation at UW-Platteville be revisited by the whole campus community. In order to effectively improve transportation options on campus, the Ad Hoc UIC believes support in terms of policymaking and funding needs to be obtained from the entire campus community including but not limited to Faculty Senate, Academic Staff Senate, Student Senate, the Residence Hall Association, and the International Student Advisory Board.

Goal 6: Provide incentives and resources for faculty and academic staff to increase internationalization in and out of the classroom.

• The UIEC should promote and support the International Education Engagement Grant which has been developed by the IPO. The UIEC should evaluate applications and assess the effectiveness of the award. The UIEC should encourage the faculty or academic staff member’s home department to provide additional funds. The UIEC should identify additional sources of funding to supplement the existing award.
• The UIEC should promote and support the International Education Professional Development Grant which has been developed by the IPO. The UIEC should evaluate applications and assess the effectiveness of the award. The UIEC should encourage the faculty or academic staff
member’s home department to provide additional funds. The UIEC should identify additional sources of funding to supplement the existing award.

Summary
The Ad Hoc UIC recognizes that internationalization is an open-ended goal, which requires the continued support and participation of stakeholders across the campus. It is not our expectation that all of these initiatives will be realized in the short-term. Our immediate recommendation is to renew the charge of the UIEC, and to ask them to review these goals, and to set priorities for which should be addressed first.

Membership
The following people served on the Ad Hoc UIC during all or part of the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 academic years:

Melissa A. Adamski (Student), Mohammad Amin (Admissions), Jen Artz (Student Affairs), Donna Anderson (Director of International Programs), Swagata “Ban” Banerjee (BILSA Faculty), Melissa Beegle (International Programs), Rebecca Brown (International Programs), Teresa Burns (LAE Faculty), Sabina Burton (LAE Faculty), Benjamin V.C. Collins (Chair, EMS Faculty), Kristin Dalby (English Language Program Coordinator), Rebecca Gottlieb (Teaching Academic Staff), Susan Hansen (BILSA Faculty), Yuanyuan Hu (LAE Faculty), Annie Kinwa-Muzinga (BILSA Faculty), Jennifer R. Krahn (International Programs), Elizabeth J. Kruse (International Programs), Travis Nelson (Advisor to the International Studies Major), Louis Nzegwu (BILSA Faculty), Lisa Riedle (EMS Faculty), Kim Schmelz (Alumni Office), Paige Thomas (Distance Education), Krista Uhrig (International Programs), Irfan Ul-Haq (Teaching and Learning Center)