

INTERNATIONALIZATION AND GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT PLAN



MESSAGE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION TEAM

Internationalization in the classroom and across our campus is important, now more than ever. As the world's markets become increasingly interconnected, Durham College (DC) must integrate international and intercultural dimensions in our curricula, teaching and learning practices and on our campuses so that our students gain the skills and abilities to thrive in a global economy. With this in mind, we are pleased to launch DC's 2020-2025 Internationalization and Global Engagement (I&GE) Plan. It enables goal three of the college's 2020-2025 Academic Plan - establish and augment internationalization and global engagement initiatives.

This launch marks only the second time DC has initiated an I&GE Plan. The first was established in 2017, and it helped the college realize significant growth in enrolment and partnerships while increasing opportunities for faculty and students to engage in global opportunities. We are incredibly proud of that, but there is still work to be done. This plan paves the way to ensure that DC is a culturally and globally engaged community through identified, measurable and ambitious internationalization goals and objectives.

The voices of our students, faculty, employers and administrators are reflected in this plan. During 2020 we gathered their valuable feedback to ensure our goals and objectives are informed and relevant to our community's and students' needs.

Through this plan, DC will continue to support our graduates, ensuring they excel as they live and work in the global economy, making effective and meaningful contributions to society while harnessing innovation to help solve societal challenges at home and abroad. We are excited about where this plan will take us. Together, we're leading the way.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Durham College is situated on the Traditional Territory of the Mississaugas and the territory that is covered by the Williams Treaties. We are thankful for the opportunity to teach and learn on the lands of the Peoples of Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation.

This Land Acknowledgement should not function as closure, resignation, or acceptance of the structural conditions of settler colonialism that remain in effect today. We hope that it sparks a desire to learn about our shared history, provoke thought, reflection and change which are the starting point of creating respectful, reciprocal, relationships.





Many of the photos in this publication were taken prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.





INTRODUCTION

The Durham College (DC) International Education team has achieved many incredible accomplishments since 2017, when the first Internationalization and Global Engagement Plan was launched. These initial goals and objectives provided a foundation for the college's international work, which has grown in scope, complexity and impact ever since. We are proud of the many successes of the International Education team.

WHY ARE INTERNATIONALIZATION AND GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT SO IMPORTANT?

International students make Durham College (DC) better. Through thoughtful student engagement initiatives, individuals of varying backgrounds enhance each other's learning experiences. The different educational experiences international students bring to our campus push our employees to think differently and connect us in new ways to global networks. The global insights brought to DC from our international community also spark new ideas, strengthen innovation and create people-to-people ties. They are an important part of our campus and community.

These connections also foster global competence. As our society becomes more interconnected, our graduates need these durable skills, which will encourage an expanded mindset and commitment to cooperate and appreciate our shared humanity.

We have come a long way at DC, and the opportunities for the future are endless.



GOAL 1: WE WILL BE THE POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTION OF CHOICE FOR STUDENTS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE

Durham College (DC) has built a solid foundation for international student recruitment and has established DC as the destination of choice for many students. We differentiate ourselves from other colleges by focusing on DC's high-quality programs, the excellent customer service provided by the International Education team and the sense of community created by exceptional international student experiences. As competition intensifies, our focus on this goal will continue.

STRATEGY 1:

Grow international enrolment, in support of DC's Strategic Mandate Agreement 3 (SMA3), from 1,477 international students in fall 2020 to 2,200 international students in fall 2023.

STRATEGY 2:

Review and update admissions processes while developing an admissions approach that ensures processes are efficient, incorporating innovative technology where possible.

STRATEGY 3:

Continue to manage enrolment holistically by aligning the work of domestic admissions and international admissions teams.

STRATEGY 4:

Continue to focus on diversity and market development in our international recruitment strategies, increasing the number of countries from which we have students enrolled from 80 in 2020 to 90 in 2023.



GOAL 2: WE WILL SUPPORT THE SUCCESS OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS THROUGH A SENSE OF BELONGING AS VALUED MEMBERS OF OUR INTERCULTURAL COMMUNITY.

International students are valued and recognized for their contributions to DC, including the contributions they make to the campus community and educational experience of all students. By coming to Canada, international students bring unique and varied backgrounds and experiences.

Our strategies for supporting students will include better connecting international students to broader DC support services, such as physical and mental health and placement, but also developing supports specific to the needs of international students. We will focus on ensuring that international students are prepared to enter the workforce, whether in Canada or elsewhere, by providing on-campus work opportunities for students and creating graduating pathway experiences tailored to international students.

STRATEGY 1:

Continue to deploy the initiatives in the Framework for International Student Persistence, including:

- » A revised approach to Orientation
- » International Peer Mentorship program
- » More opportunities for ongoing drop in support
- » Tailored graduation support

STRATEGY 2:

Continue to collaborate with Student Affairs to develop programs and activities that bring students of varying backgrounds together.

STRATEGY 3:

Develop a renewed and sustainable service delivery model for international student support that integrates virtual and face-to-face supports, as well as space for our community of international students.

STRATEGY 4:

Work with the Office of Research Services, Innovation and Entrepreneurship (ORSIE) to develop mechanisms to measure international student satisfaction, set benchmarks and track achievement towards those benchmarks.

STRATEGY 5:

Expand the social activities program for international students that promotes student engagement, community awareness, physical and mental health and personal professional development.





GOAL 3: WE WILL CREATE A COMMUNITY THAT SUPPORTS THE DEVELOPMENT OF GLOBAL CITIZENS AND LEADERS.

As a part of an interconnected global society, all DC grads must have global competence to prepare them to be successful global citizens. We will continue to focus on providing all DC employees with the tools, resources, understanding and experiences required to prepare our students to succeed in this ever-increasing global world.

STRATEGY 1:

Fully launch the Global Competency Framework to ensure that every DC student has the opportunity to obtain a Global Competency badge.

STRATEGY 2:

Provide opportunities for students, employees and our community at large to benefit from and celebrate DC's international community by organizing campus-wide internationalization opportunities.

STRATEGY 3:

Continue to expand the global mindset of employees by increasing participation in the Intercultural Awareness modules. Our goal is to garner 50 per cent employee participation in all modules by 2023.



GOAL 4: WE WILL CONNECT STUDENTS TO LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES AROUND THE GLOBE.

DC had grown its impact and reputation in global partnerships. Through the last Internationalization & Global Engagement Plan, processes and resources were developed and refined. We are now ready to expand our efforts.

We recognize the value to students of an immersive international experience, yet only a small percentage of DC students participate in global opportunities. Our post-COVID-19 environment has opened up the possibility of global learning through virtual education abroad experiences. This plan will continue to focus on traditional learning opportunities but will also develop innovative opportunities to broaden the reach of these experiences.

STRATEGY 1:

Expand awareness of education abroad opportunities and develop strategies to expand student participation through various tactics, including promoting funding opportunities.

STRATEGY 2:

Develop strategies to increase the number of virtual and face-to-face faculty-led classrooms abroad (FLCAs), by engaging more faculty and partners. Our goal is to have completed at least two FLCAs in each school by 2023.

STRATEGY 3:

Work with the Manager, Experiential Learning, to expand international work-integrated learning opportunities for students.

STRATEGY 4:

Work with ORSIE to develop international applied research opportunities for faculty and students. Our goal is to complete two international applied research opportunities by 2023.





GOAL 5: WE WILL ENHANCE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS.

International projects and partnerships offer enriching professional development and applied learning opportunities for DC employees and students. The college has developed a reputation for being a strong partner in this arena, and this plan focuses on continuing and expanding our leadership in international partnerships.

STRATEGY 1:

Maintain and diversify networks involving Canadian and international funding sources.

STRATEGY 2:

Build processes to manage proposal development, human resource management, finance and budgeting, risk management and capacity development.

STRATEGY 3:

Continue to foster new externally funded project opportunities.

STRATEGY 4:

Expand the impact of projects with DC faculty by expanding participation to diverse faculty from different schools and programs.





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