



Association of International Education Administrators
Leaders in International Higher Education

Presidential Perspectives Template

College and university presidents face both opportunities and challenges in the internationalization of their institutions. Their task is made more complex by the need to simultaneously educate students and position their institution to contribute to local, regional, national, and transnational needs and priorities.

Outputs - international student enrollments, number of scholars, study abroad participation, research collaborations, dual degrees, etc. - are one way to measure the degree to which an institution has been internationalized. However, more important are the outcomes. For example, are students more capable of communicating across borders? Can they integrate information from different cultural/societal/disciplinary locations? Are faculty members “internationalizing” their teaching and research efforts? If so, how? How do the communities in which institutions of higher learning are located both contribute to and benefit from the internationalization of higher education?

The purpose of this series is to shed light on the internationalization of higher education from the perspectives of the individuals responsible for leading colleges and universities. The series hopes to illuminate college and university presidents’ understanding of the role of internationalization in higher education in general and in the context of their institutions more specifically. The series also aims to capture lessons from both successes and challenges. AIEA hopes that the series will be informative for other university presidents, chief academic officers, and the senior international officers charged with implementing internationalization.

Guiding Questions – Presidential Perspectives

Please respond to at least five of the questions below.
(between 1000 and 1500 words)

1. How would you describe the role of internationalizing higher education today?
2. How do you think internationalization helps students, faculty, and staff?
3. How do you see the role of senior leaders and the president in particular in internationalizing higher education?
4. How is your institution measuring internationalization’s contribution to meeting its institutional mission?
5. What resources are necessary to make internationalization sustainable in higher education?



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6. What might threaten progress toward the internationalization of higher education broadly and at your institution specifically?
7. What do you see as an ideal intra-institutional relationship for advancing internationalization?
8. Is there anything else you would like to share with other college/university presidents and their senior international officers?