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**Listserv Summary: International Education Structures: Justifications for Reporting to Academic Affairs**

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**March 31, 2017**

An inquiry was made to the AIEA Listserv asking for insight as to how international education departments justify remaining a part of Academic Affairs, as opposed to Enrollment, Student Services, or Student Affairs departments.

**Summary of responses:**

There were 14 responses to this inquiry, which fall under the following categories:

- International Education Office is aligned with Academic Affairs (12)
- International Education Office has moved to Enrollment (1)
- Institutions facing similar issues and concerns (1)

**International Education Office: Justifications given for reporting to Academic Affairs**

- Academic affairs aligns better with the mission of supporting Global Learning and educating global citizens (which is part of the university's mission and vision statements).
- International education was moved under Academic Affairs to signal its centrality to the mission of the university.
- The provost chose a faculty member to lead international education at one institution to work towards a more academically rigorous and substantive study abroad program, and to better integrate study abroad into the academic strengths of campus.
- International Programs is key to strengthening the international goals of academic programs/colleges, joint/dual degree programs, transfer degree programs (e.g., 2+2), English proficiency, etc.
- International programs facilitates a number of scholarly research activities of value to faculty; works with international internships or practicum for students, and manages visiting scholar research collaborations. All of these demonstrate that our office belongs in Academic Affairs.
- Study abroad and student exchange programs are academic in nature, so it should fall under the purview of Academic Affairs.
- International programs offices work with academic programs in globalizing or internationalizing the curriculum.

- At one institution, International Programs cross-collaborates with Enrollment Management in undergraduate student recruiting and with the Graduate School on graduate student recruiting. Enrollment Management deals with undergraduate recruiting only, so it would not be an effective alignment.
- Both study abroad and support for international students rely heavily on strong engagement with faculty, and that makes the Academic Affairs connection essential. Our work with faculty is also needed when working with international agreements (MOU's and student exchanges) and when working in support of international research opportunities.
- More than half of what one SIO oversees has a curricular/academic component, therefore remaining in Academic Affairs enables the Provost and the Dean of Faculty to have influence on the internationalization of the curriculum and overall campus-wide initiatives.