

PIC Strategic Plan & Goals Summary, 2008-2016

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PIC Mission

To engage the University community in meaningful international experiences which foster an appreciation and awareness of diverse cultures, people, and ideas.

PIC Vision

The Padnos International Center is committed to providing students, faculty and staff with opportunities that enhance their awareness and understanding of international and intercultural issues. By offering a welcoming environment and developing diverse and substantive programs, we seek to build collaborative relationships that embrace liberal learning and cross-cultural understanding.

PIC Values

The PIC Values...

1. International Students and Faculty in the GVSU community
 - Diversity of perspectives they bring, in and out of class
 - Expertise in academic and non-academic areas of interest
 - Integration into the academic and social culture.

2. Study Abroad experiences that strive to include
 - A sense of global citizenship
 - Integration of participants into the culture of the host country or region
 - Encouragement of participants to learn the language of the country or region
 - Encouragement of participants to learn the history of the host country or region
 - Quality curriculum connected to the study abroad experience and host country
 - Appropriate advising and orientation
 - Concern for participants' health and safety

3. Faculty/staff involvement and input in our programs, through
 - International Education Committee
 - Faculty awareness of and support for study abroad programs
 - Cooperation with PIC on international-related programming on campus
 - Participation in partner-related opportunities
 - International research, teaching, and professional development

4. A warm, welcoming working environment, with people who are respectful and encouraging towards diverse cultures and perspectives.
5. International Education programming on GVSU campuses, designed for students, faculty, staff, and the wider community
6. Advising of students to select the most meaningful and life-enriching international experiences, that match their academic, career, and personal goals and needs.

PIC Strategic Goals: 2008-2016

1. Build and maintain programs that integrate and support international students and scholars across campus.
2. Build and maintain relationships with academic and service departments for planning, implementing, and integrating PIC's efforts and student initiatives.
3. Build and maintain programs that integrate international experiences abroad with academic experiences here at GVSU.
4. Build and maintain sustainable, relevant, and meaningful partnerships.
5. Build and maintain a diverse set of study abroad programs to match the needs and goals of students, faculty, and staff.

PIC Objectives: 2008-10

1. PIC grants for faculty and staff will aim to provide faculty (and staff) with meaningful and transformative international/intercultural experiences that will lead to more internationalized classrooms at GVSU. As part of this, we will shift the focus of funding for faculty development grants towards intercultural and interdisciplinary projects or trips and increase the number of in-bound visitors invited to GVSU from partner institutions.
2. At least 50% of academic majors at GVSU will have a Study Abroad Advising Sheet completed.
3. The international scholars at GVSU will be intentionally integrated into the campus environment, with official and unofficial programming and interaction between visiting scholars and on-campus constituents (e.g., GVSU housing residents).
4. We will aim to continue to increase the number of GVSU students studying abroad for semester-long and year-long periods. Our specific goal is to reach 350 semester/year-long study abroad participation by 2012.

5. We will aim to continue administering 15-18 faculty-led group programs per year, which is the number we've administered each year, from 2002-2008. What we will do differently, however, is to more intentionally develop programs that may involve more disciplines than the current array of offerings. We do plan to try to create a Spring-term program that targets student-athletes as participants, as well as a program to support the international and service-learning goals of the Honors College.

6. We would like to be involved in on-campus curricular and extra-curricular programming that will internationalize the campus and the educational experience for GVSU students. This may involve a certificate program of intercultural or global expertise/competence.

7. Aiming to facilitate even better preparation of international students in academic programs, an effort at improving and formalizing communication for new international students will continue. In the next two years, we hope to facilitate and support the creation of international student advising guides/packets for most graduate programs that have international students, and then begin working towards undergraduate guides.

8. The current array of comprehensive partnerships is solid, but we will be seeking to strengthen them further by broadening the scope of faculty and student involvement. Additional partnerships will be added with the following priorities: 1. Support for the international Area Studies programs (e.g., Latin American Studies, Middle East Studies, etc.), the language programs in MLL, and any particular regional gaps that may exist.

9. We aim to highlight the interdisciplinary nature of meaningful international experiences—through the readjustments of our grants for faculty/staff and other ways.

10. We will seek to raise awareness across the GVSU community of the importance of international education as a component of a liberal education, and as a key element of diversity and a diverse learning community.