



—a Ferris State international education newsletter

Campus Internationalization 2.0

Greetings from the Office of International Education. Ten years ago, we started a conversation on campus about globalization and the challenges and opportunities it brings to our community. The work we have done as a university community has created a thriving global ecosystem and was recognized by the prestigious Institute of International Education this spring in New York City.

In my travels, I have come to appreciate how globalization, aided by the use of technology and trade, has influenced the reorganization of societies around the world. Globalization has helped to move more than a billion people out of poverty in a short period of time. At the same time, we have come to realize how digital technologies and automation have created disruptions and discourse that have amplified our differences. We are pushed to build walls and to seek solutions that divide us.

How do we respond to these challenges to our growing multicultural world? How do we strengthen our social fabric? The answer lies in the work we can do collectively in response to these challenges. The work we do should prepare our students to live harmoniously in our interconnected, complex, and diverse communities and thrive in the ever-changing global economy. This would move us into the second phase of our efforts, and can be captured as Campus Internationalization 2.0

In the next decade, we need to push for synergizing our resources to enhance global competencies for learners while at the same time addressing legacy systems and issues that prevent us from moving forward. We need to go beyond embracing diversity to advocating for inclusion in order to build a cohesive community of learners who are prepared for our global economy and society. How do we achieve this here at Ferris State? In the next pages, you will learn about a new program we have developed that can help our students gain global knowledge, skills, and abilities. In the meantime, we continue to advocate for a comprehensive internationalization plan that can support OIE's holistic approach to campus internationalization efforts. Connect with us if you would like to be part of the Global Competency Collaborative Certificate program.

Dr. Piram Prakasam
Executive Director, Office of International Education





The Global Competency Collaborative Certificate (GCC) Program: A Global Approach

Campus Internationalization 2.0 at Ferris will require intense focus on internationalization to foster excellence in localization, meaning our campus and students must develop abilities to navigate globally and influence locally. With the support of the Provost's Office, the OIE has embarked on an ambitious project to build a new co-curricular certificate called the Global Competency Collaborative (GCC) Certificate. This program is designed to be a vehicle that connects and synergizes our local and global resources to prepare our students for a global economy and society. Faculty, staff, and community partners play active roles in supporting the program and our students.

The GCC Certificate program was designed to connect local and global partnerships to create a robust sustainable ecosystem that expands awareness, engagement, and networking. By completing this three-year program, students will have acquired global knowledge, skills, and abilities that prepare them to succeed professionally in a global economy and self-actualize in a global society. The approach is to focus on building 21st century skills through co-curricular engagements that complement the general education curriculum and major coursework, bringing all of the elements and resources together to prepare our students for our global economy and society.

By collaborating with industry and community partners, the program connects students to potential future employers interested in helping them leverage their network to support their future plans.

Program participants will gain global competency through co-curricular engagements and selected academic experiences, including study abroad and internships. However, in order to take full advantage of the study abroad and internship opportunities, students require systematic development of knowledge, skills, and abilities over time. The three-year program incorporates the following five components to help students enhance their understanding of the global landscape, develop global skills, and strengthen their ability to navigate complex environments.

- 1. Mentorship**, beginning with academic mentorship by faculty with global experience moving to career mentorship by professionals from globally connected industry partners and organizations
- 2. Learning**, focusing on developing global awareness and knowledge through targeted coursework and learning engagements
- 3. Engagement**, involving guided interactions with multicultural communities on campus, in West Michigan, and around the world and deliberative dialogues on difficult topics in multicultural groups
- 4. Experiential Learning**, participating in high impact study abroad programs and globally centered internship opportunities
- 5. Assessment**, measuring progress in the development of global knowledge, skills, and abilities, resulting in global competency

The first cohort of 17 students began in the fall 2018 semester, and a new cohort will start each fall with up to 40 students. Through this cohort model designed to foster the development of global competency over a three-year period, our students will be prepared to succeed in a global economy and society and help strengthen an inclusive global ecosystem on our campus. Connect with us if you or your organization would like to be a partner in our Global Competency Collaborative Certificate program. Together we can work to achieve excellence as we transition into Campus Internationalization 2.0.

Lisa vonReichbauer
Assistant Director, Office of International Education



In Context

1. **Read:** [Teaching 21st Century Skills for 21st Century Success Requires an Ecosystem Approach – Forbes Magazine](#)



2. **Watch or Listen:** [Barack Obama on the Value of Bringing Together a Community to Make a Difference – Now This News](#)



Upcoming Events:

1. **May 8** at 6:00 pm in UCB 202 –Second Annual Study Abroad Endowment Banquet. Tickets can be purchased and donations can be made in the Office of International Education, IRC 134 – international@ferris.edu or (231) 591-2450





Moments In Time:



Dixie Anderson (center), Executive Director Emeritus at the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan pictured with President Eisler and Trustee Ana Ramirez-Saenz after receiving an inaugural Ubuntu Award from the Office of International Education at the first annual Study Abroad Endowment Banquet in April 2018. (Not pictured – Dr. Christine Vonder Haar, Professor of English, who also received an Ubuntu Award) Dr. Tracy Busch (left), Professor of History, receiving the Distinguished Teacher Award and the International Educator of the Year Award from Provost Paul Blake at the Ferris State University Service Awards Celebration in April 2019. Lisa vonReichbauer (right), Assistant Director of the Office of International Education receiving the Diversity Enhancement Award from Provost Paul Blake at the Ferris State University Service Awards Celebration in April 2019.



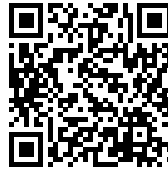
Ferris hosted several visitors last month. Dr. Philipp Schorn and Dr. Anne Temple visited us from our partner school Rhein-Waal University of Applied Sciences in Germany to discuss our double degree in Business Administration and potential grant collaborations. Dean Guo joined us from Zheng Zhou University of Aeronautics in China to speak at the Ferris Fulbright lecture series and also discuss collaborations and student exchanges. Ferris has built many strong relationships around the world!



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