Why Internationalize? How to Measure Outcomes? What are Best Practices?

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Why Internationalize?

- Global economy -- international trade
- Competitive global food system-- production, processing, marketing, and consumption
- Limited human resource capacity -- in number, knowledge, and skills
- Graduates willing to work globally
- Career ready graduates



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How to Measure Internationalization Outcomes?

- Number of faculty and staff with international competencies and level of international exposure / experience
- Opportunities to expose students to international issues:
 - Campus-based courses
 - Study Abroad and Exchange Programs
 - Internships (research, service, or apprenticeship)
- Support system for internationalization, i.e., staff support to manage study abroad, student exchange programs, and teaching/research/outreach collaboration
- System of reward and recognition -- tenure and promotion



Best Practices for Internationalization

- Requires open and excited faculty and staff who will be rewarded for these efforts
- Requires engaged and interested students who are willing to put themselves outside of their comfort zones and see the benefit in participating (e.g., credits earned and well as personal growth)
- Requires in-country champions/partners (trust is essential)
- Short and long-term planning how do we get it started, what support system is needed to sustain efforts, and how do we shut it down if needed?
- Communication is key different cultural and political experiences impact the way in which we interpret words and agreements; it is critical to be certain that what one party says / intends means the same thing to the other party



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