GLOBAL VISION AND GOALS FOR 2020
Northwestern University Global Strategy Task Force
NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
Our global vision and goals for 2020

PREAMBLE

November 3, 2015

This vision statement represents the completion of Phase I of the Global Task Force charge. It is intended to serve as a foundation and outline for developing Northwestern University's global strategy -- establishing a shared vision and associated goals that incorporate our rich intellectual resources, historical strengths and aspirations for even greater global impact.

The result of discussions and feedback sessions held with over 150 faculty, administrators and trustees from across the university over a three-month period, this document is inspired by the many global models already developed at the school, department, research center and individual faculty levels. These programs form core assets that will be critical to Northwestern's continued global engagement and increasing impact.

In the next phase of the Global Task Force's work, we will work with our faculty, administrators, students and trustees from across the university to establish priorities across these goals and identify potential areas for deeper investment at the university-level. We welcome your input, ideas and continued engagement.

VISION

To establish Northwestern as one of the world's premier universities.

To develop a culture and an infrastructure that link our intellectual communities to larger international idea and innovation networks and enable our faculty, administrators and students to lead advancements in global health; sustainability; social, political and economic vitality; scientific, artistic, and cross-cultural understanding; and other critical areas.
GOAL 1  EXPAND AND DIVERSIFY THE UNIVERSITY’S GLOBAL ACTIVITIES, LOCATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS FOR FACULTY AND STUDENTS.

A. Establish new research projects, creative activities and educational collaborations through partnerships with leading universities and other institutions around the world that mutually benefit the faculty, students, communities involved and Northwestern as a whole.

B. Consider establishing physical sites for Northwestern in select global cities that would serve as bases of operations and local partnerships, resource centers and convening sites for students, faculty and administrators to advance our intellectual activities and reputation.

C. Build the infrastructure and capabilities needed to energize, coordinate and support international activities and partnerships across the University's schools, centers and institutes while helping to connect scholars with counterparts abroad.

D. Create significant research prizes and greater visibility for faculty research aimed at studying global, international and regional issues.

E. Foster new interdisciplinary research in Chicago/Evanston focused on solutions to critical global issues.

F. Establish metrics for measuring Northwestern's global research profile, international academic reputation, student cultural competencies and the diversity of our global community.

GOAL 2  AMPLIFY THE UNIVERSITY’S INTERNATIONAL VISIBILITY AND ENHANCE OUR GLOBAL REPUTATION FOR INTELLECTUAL AND ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE.

A. Identify and promote a select group of signature research and education projects for major institutional investment in strategically important international locations that involve multiple schools.

B. Encourage the development of new educational models, online courses, digital assets, health care and legal services to enhance global exposure to Northwestern and engage more people around the world.

C. Promote Northwestern’s specialized resources and the accomplishments of our faculty, students and alumni in key international media and markets.

D. Engage our international alumni to build a greater sense of global community and promote the University’s programs and reputation.
GOAL 3  PREPARE OUR STUDENTS TO LIVE AND THRIVE IN A DIVERSE, COMPLEX AND INCREASINGLY INTERCONNECTED WORLD.

A. Infuse student cultural and educational experiences with an appreciation for diverse global perspectives on scholarship, arts and humanities, media, physical sciences, commerce and public policy.

B. Invest in creating new research, educational programs and courses in global, regional, national and comparative studies for students across our schools, centers and institutes.

C. Provide a robust set of well-coordinated opportunities for high quality, intellectually-rigorous study abroad and international learning opportunities, drawing connections to the challenges of diverse communities at home.

D. Expand foreign language educational opportunities through greater course continuity, online instruction programs and language-centered residential life options.

E. Increase funding for faculty and student travel abroad and enhance support for identifying and promoting international internship and job opportunities for our students.

F. Identify and leverage new assets to enrich student learning opportunities; integrate the global assets of the city of Chicago and attract new visiting scholars and distinguished practitioners to augment faculty expertise in key global and regional subject areas and policy topics.

GOAL 4  GLOBALIZE AND DIVERSIFY OUR COMMUNITY BY RECRUITING THE WORLD’S MOST TALENTED FACULTY AND STUDENTS TO NORTHWESTERN.

A. Create programs and leverage global partnerships to attract outstanding international scholars, post-docs and students from around the world to each of our schools.

B. Increase funding for need-based financial aid for international undergraduate and professional school graduate students and for graduate student fellowships; create programs targeted to attract and support first generation college students from overseas.

C. Identify existing barriers and enhance orientation activities, language programs and support services for international students and scholars as they transition to Northwestern.

D. Create programs to deepen integration across our diverse communities on campus; promote greater cohesion among all our scholars, including international students, with distinct activities, cultural skills training and community support throughout the year.

E. Advocate for US immigration policies that make Northwestern University and the United States a more attractive faculty and student destination.