

Unit Action Plan
2020-2021 (included in the AY 20 Assessment)

Division: **Academic Affairs**

Unit: **Office of International Education**

Unit Mission:

The mission of the Office of International Education is to provide a high quality services to both international students and study abroad participants and serve as a resource for the Fitchburg State University faculty, community and their partners. Provide leadership in promoting global awareness by enhancing the understanding of our context in a global society.

Goals/Objectives:

- 1. Increase and diversify the number of international students through the use of recruiting agents and**
Develop strategies to partner with English Language schools in Boston area to get more international students to come to Fitchburg State University. Constant communication with prospective students to funnel them to be an applicant. Work closely with international students who are already in the United States. With this population, there is no problem in getting visas. Revise and update the International Student guide to include in the international recruitment flyers.

Submit change of the English proficiency requirement IELTS score from 6.5 to 6.0 for undergraduate applicants and accept Duolingo and additional waivers for the English proficiency requirement to have Fitchburg State a competitive destination for undergraduate international students.

For Study Abroad – Strategize the recruitment of students to peak their interests in participating in study abroad programs.

Looking into new strategies in offering study abroad such as virtual and domestic study away programs in case travelling abroad is not a possibility in the near future.

- 2. Continue the work on establishing partnerships with international high schools, local and international institutions/business organizations, Advising Centers for the purpose of increasing the visibility of Fitchburg State overseas and increase the number of**

Associated Strategic Plan Goals:

Goal 1D3

Increase number of international students buy 20% by the Year 2020.

Goal 1D3, 1D4, 3A1, 4A3
Partnerships

international students and study abroad participants

3. Services for student retention and success:

Collaborate with the Student Services offices in the Hammond third floor to facilitate and encourage virtual student engagement.

Collaborate with student life to develop high-impact programs that integrate international students into the community and expand opportunities for student leadership and involvement.

4. Increase visibility of the Office of International Education through programming and attending/presenting in conferences.

For the Staff:

Continue training/assisting the International Student coordinator in Immigration regulations, updates and workshops.

Encourage Study Abroad coordinator will learn additional ways to give students global experiences through professional development such as virtual webinars, conferences and meeting colleagues.

Participate in the Worcester/Boston area international educators/advisors in the on-going meeting for updates in the field and to learn about how to encourage more engagement of students virtually.

5. Virtual Programming: a. Virtual orientation for new incoming international students; b. virtual global village during the International week; c. Virtual check-in for students to comply with SEVIS requirements and we

Goal 2A4, 3B5

Student retention and graduation rate increase.

Professional development

reminded students to register for the next semester, d. Stuttgart University presentation to prospective exchange students;

6. **SEVIS I-17 updates** and SEVIS recertification.

7. **Submit the English Language program proposal to SEVIS** for approval to accept international students in this program. SEVIS must approved the program before 1 before recruitment starts.

8. **Define the role of the International Advisory Committee** and develop tasks for the IAC to include but not limited to: Evaluating current partnerships and assessing viability of additional partnerships; Working with academic departments to increase exchange partnerships in traditional and non-traditional regions around the globe; Defining and rethinking about the direction of Study abroad program and define the faculty role to promote global learning in their classroom

