

GLOBAL Learning *for* ALL

A New Project of the

American Council on Education

(Funded by The Ford Foundation)

The American Council on Education (ACE) is pleased to announce *Global Learning for All*, a new project funded by The Ford Foundation. This two-year project will involve eight institutions that serve a high proportion of “new majority” students¹ and that are committed to providing all of their students with an international/global education. ACE will select the participating institutions through a national competition. Participating institutions will engage with ACE and one another in developing new strategies for ensuring that institutions make international/global learning an integral part of every undergraduate student’s college education. Project participants will provide examples of good practice in setting international learning goals, aligning international activities with learning goals, partnering between two- and four-year institutions, and assessing progress in achieving these learning goals. The Ford Foundation will cover transportation and lodging costs for two project team members per participating institution to attend two meetings at ACE in Washington, D.C. In addition, each participating institution will receive a grant of \$5,000 to fund team members’ travel expenses to other project institutions, as well as the travel costs for additional participants (beyond those directly funded by the grant) to attend the two project meetings in Washington, D.C.

¹ “New majority” students are defined as minority students (African American, Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander, American Indian/Alaska Native, and other), adult learners (25 years and older), and/or part-time, degree-/certificate-seeking students.

Background

Global Learning for All is rooted in the belief that international and global learning is important for all students—not just an elite few—and should be integral to every degree program. Higher education has made significant strides in extending its reach to all segments of society during the past 30 years. Colleges and universities must take similar steps to make international/global learning available to all students, regardless of background or mode of study. To achieve this goal, the curriculum must be the major vehicle for international/global learning. Because institutions cannot rely on opportunities outside the classroom to deliver important knowledge to students, particularly adult learners and part-time students, international/global learning must be embedded in the curriculum.

Today's higher education system includes a wide variety of learners. Only 27 percent of students are "traditional"—that is, 18 to 22 years of age, attending college full time immediately after high school, and financially dependent on their parents. Increasingly, the new majority students are racially and ethnically diverse, 25 and older, attending college part time, and working. In addition, these highly mobile U.S. students will likely attend several colleges before graduating. Institutions play a vital role in helping students integrate the knowledge and skills they acquire through these multiple educational encounters.

In addition, the higher education community is increasingly recognizing the need to identify and assess international learning outcomes. This effort becomes even more important when an institution does not supply all of the learning experiences for students—as is the case for many adult learners and part-time students. While many institutions identify international learning goals for their students, few have developed strategies for assessing these goals. This project will help institutions articulate and develop models for assessing international learning outcomes.

Benefits to the Institution

Global Learning for All will provide selected institutions with the opportunity to:

- Participate in a national effort to improve internationalization in U.S. higher education, especially for the new majority student.
- Focus campus attention on articulating international/global learning outcomes.
- Work with higher education institutions and education associations that are committed to internationalization to identify successful internationalization strategies.
- Collaborate with ACE and peer institutions in developing strategies to determine the extent to which students are developing international/global competencies.
- Solidify cooperative arrangements between two- and four-year institutions around international/global learning.
- Increase the visibility of institutional internationalization initiatives in higher education. ACE will profile these initiatives as examples of good practices on the ACE web site and in various ACE publications.

Project Eligibility

ACE encourages member institutions that serve high proportions of minority, adult (25 and older), and/or part-time (degree-/certificate-seeking) students to apply for this project. Institutions serving a higher proportion of undergraduate students than the national averages* in any two of the following three categories, as detailed below, are eligible:

Four-year Institutions		Two-year Institutions	
Minority	30%	Minority	34%
Adult	28%	Adult	51%
Part-time	20%	Part-time	56%

*The data for these averages are from the *National Postsecondary Student Aid Study: 1999-2000* (U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics). Analysis provided by ACE Center for Policy Analysis, 2002.

Application Process

Applicants should prepare a cover sheet, complete an application form, write an application narrative, and include a letter of support from the president or chief academic officer. Please download the cover sheet and application forms from the ACE web site at www.acenet.edu/programs/international/global_learning. The submission deadline is Friday, February 7, 2003, no later than 5:00 p.m. EST. If you have questions, please contact Christa Olson, project director, American Council on Education, at (202) 939-9739 or via e-mail at Christa_Olson@ace.nche.edu.

Selection Process

A panel consisting of experts in international education and staff members from ACE's Center for Institutional and International Initiatives will review the applications. The panel will select eight colleges and universities that serve a high proportion of new majority students and that demonstrate significant progress in internationalization. ACE will notify selected applicants by Friday, February 28, 2003.

Selection Criteria

- Evidence that the institution serves new majority students.
- Evidence of a demonstrated commitment to internationalization.
- Evidence of success in integrating international learning throughout the curriculum.
- Evidence of a firm institutional commitment of required staff time and resources to ensure full participation and successful advancement of the campus plan that will be developed through this project.
- The panel will give preference to institutions that identify partner colleges or universities located in the state or region with which they have developed, or could potentially develop, articulation agreements.



Project Activities

Through *Global Learning for All*, ACE and its eight partner institutions will work to advance the national dialogue on international learning for all students, and to test and document good practice in internationalization. During this two-year project, participating institutions will review their current goals and activities and develop an action plan that will include new approaches, curricula, and pedagogies for providing international/global learning for all students. The institutions will work together to articulate international learning goals, develop institutional strategies for internationalization, and create models for assessing their progress in these areas. ACE recognizes the importance of relationships between two- and four-year institutions, and as such, one goal of this project is to explore how cooperative arrangements among these institutions can facilitate international learning.

On-campus Activities

Participating institutions will begin by creating an internationalization leadership team (or designating this responsibility to an existing campus committee or task force). The leadership team will meet monthly and shepherd the campus activities related to the project. This team will articulate institutional and student learning goals to guide their efforts. During the project's duration, each institution will take stock of current strategies to achieve the institutional and student learning goals it has specified, prepare a report highlighting the results of that review, and develop and begin implementing an action plan. Participants also will explore how partnering with two- or four-year institutions can advance international learning goals. Each campus will explicitly address the needs of its student body.

Campus Visits

ACE staff will visit each campus twice. The first visit will take place in the first few months of the project, and two ACE staff members will facilitate the launching of the on-campus activities. The second visit will take place toward the end of the project and will include a team leader from another participating campus. This second visit will help the institutions assess their progress and identify future directions for internationalization.

Project Meetings

ACE and its partner institutions will conduct two project meetings in Washington, D.C., during which the institutions will share innovative practices and develop new internationalization approaches and assessment strategies. These meetings will inform project publications and the *Global Learning for All* web page (which will reside on the ACE web site). The first project meeting will be held in April 2003.

Financial Support

Project funding from The Ford Foundation will cover the costs of transportation and lodging for two project team members from each participating institution to attend two meetings that will be held at the ACE office in Washington, D.C. Foundation funding also will cover the costs of transportation and lodging for two campus visits by ACE staff. Each participating campus will receive a grant of \$5,000 to enable cross-institutional visits and travel to other institutions and meetings. Campuses also can use the grants to support the participation of additional campus representatives in the two ACE-sponsored project meetings. Participating institutions will cover the costs of the on-campus activities.

GLOBAL Learning *for ALL*

Application Instructions

Step 1 Share the project description with the appropriate faculty and staff and determine if this is a timely project for your institution. Consider the eligibility requirements and the selection criteria to determine if your institution is eligible.

Eligibility Requirements

ACE member institutions that serve a high proportion of minority, adult, and/or part-time students are encouraged to apply. Institutions serving a higher proportion of undergraduate students than the national averages in any two of the following three categories are eligible:

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Step 2 Download the cover sheet and application from the ACE web site at www.acenet.edu/programs/international/global_learning. Complete the application, which includes: (1) Institutional Demographic Profile, (2) Institutional Internationalization Profile, and (3) Application Narrative.

The application narrative addresses four areas: institutional overview, achievements in internationalization, strategies for ensuring global learning for new majority students, and assessment of student international learning goals.

Step 3 Obtain a letter of support from the president and/or chief academic officer. Complete the cover sheet and compile the full packet. Submit the full packet electronically, either by e-mail or on disk. (If necessary, you can fax the letter of support.)

E-mail your application to global_learning@ace.nche.edu or mail the disk to Christa Olson, Project Director, American Council on Education, One Dupont Circle NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20036-1193. Fax: (202) 785-8056

The deadline for receipt of applications is February 7, 2003, no later than 5:00 p.m. EST.