



WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY
Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research

Memorandum

TO: Faculty and Staff
FROM: Gary L. Miller 
DATE: October 13, 2008
RE: Globalization Initiative: next steps

Over the past 18 months a group of extremely dedicated faculty and staff have undertaken a comprehensive study of the global orientation of our academic and research programs. The Globalization Task Force conducted extensive studies of our curriculum and academic organization, held broad discussions with advisory groups and other friends of the university, discussed globalization with business and industry partners and engaged a consultant in higher education globalization strategies. In addition to their analysis of our current situation, the Task Force made nine specific recommendations. The consultants also provided an analysis and made some recommendations of their own.

It is now time to engage the broader university community in this discussion. Over the next month, I will be asking groups of faculty and friends to examine the task force report and the summary of the report of the globalization consultant along with my charge to the committee and provide detailed feedback to both the observations in the reports and to the specific recommendations put forward. Marty Shawver, Ravi Pendse or I will work to schedule time with any group who wants to have an open discussion about the globalization effort. I have asked Larry Spurgeon to schedule some time for me to discuss the results with the Faculty Senate.

With this memo, I invite all faculty to make comments directly to me or Laura Manning via email. You may find a link to the materials on the Provost's web page (click on the globe).

In addition to this general call for discussion, I am inviting the following faculty, staff and administrative groups to provide an analysis of the task force recommendations.

- Faculty Senate Executive Committee
- Faculty Senate Planning and Budget Committee

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- Tilford Diversity Group
- International Programs Office
- Graduate Council
- Research Council
- Academic Operations Council
- Individual College/School Councils/leadership groups
- Honors Study Group
- General Education Committee
- Various College/School Advisory Boards
- Athletics
- Campus Life – Office of the Dean of Students
- Campus Life – Office of Admissions and Financial Aid

Obviously, many of you serve on more than one of these groups. Participate as appropriate.

All input will be very helpful but comments regarding the recommendations or suggestions of other approaches will be very useful.

Beginning immediately after the Thanksgiving break, a small group of faculty from the task force will help me sift through the campus discussion and develop a response to the recommendations of the task force.

I am extremely pleased with the work of the Globalization Task Force. I very much look forward to your thoughts on their report.

GLM/lcm