Metrics of Internationalization: A Strategic Approach to Excellence

Charge
Address the need for obtaining data and information to evaluate internally the quality and impact of internationalization at the University and to compare externally with peer institutions in the U.S.

Key Guiding Principles
The model should:
1. Reveal possible areas of success or concern and areas for further exploration, not provide or imply the high level of precision necessary to draw hard conclusions.
2. Serve as a tool aiding both purposes of assessment: accountability and improvement.
3. Align with the University’s metrics framework.
4. Apply broadly to the University system-wide; campuses, colleges, and units should adapt the framework for their own priorities in internationalization.
5. Align with the four-point assessment criteria: meaningful, useful, workable, reasonable.

Process
1. Identify the subcommittee’s mission, goals, and purpose.
2. Brainstorm for conceptualization: What would an internationalized University look like?
3. Develop strategic variables related to internationalization.
4. Identify the ideal indicators and their measurements that might suggest the University’s success among the strategic variables.
5. Identify currently existing measures and data sources.

Next Steps
1. Make recommendations for the development of future measures so the model evolves to meet the needs of the University.
2. Encourage stakeholders to use the metrics model as a tool to evaluate their own internationalization activity.
3. Seek ways to compare the internationalization data of the University with peer institutions to measure accountability.

Working Definition of Internationalization
...the process of integrating an international perspective into a college or university system ... an ongoing, future oriented, multi-dimensional, interdisciplinary, leadership-driven vision that involves many stakeholders working to change the internal dynamics of an institution to respond and adapt appropriately to an increasingly diverse, globally focused, ever-changing external environment (Ellingboe, 1998)

Team Members
Anne D’Angelo, Carlson School International Programs
Ji-Yeung Jang, International Student & Scholar Services
Mary Katherine O’Brien, GPS Alliance Dean’s Office
Jennifer Schulz, GPS Alliance Dean’s Office
Joseph B. Shultz, Office of the Sr. VP for Academic Affairs and Provost
Elizabeth Stallman, Minnesota English Language Program
Rhiannon Williams, Postsecondary Teaching and Learning
Gayle Woodruff, GPS Alliance Dean’s Office