Office of International Students and Scholars  
Strategic Goals 2018-2028

• Where do you want your programs to be in 10 years?

The Office of International Students & Scholars (OISS) believes international education leads to a more peaceful world by diversifying our student population cross-cultural skills. The skills learned will enable our students to be more competent in a global economy. The efforts of the OISS will lead to a more internationalized campus through increased and sustained international enrollment and strategic global partnerships in countries such as China, Germany, Japan and India where efforts are already on-going and are successful. Additionally, connections will be established and run by contracted agents who will service regional areas such as Europe, South America, Asia and Africa and send highly qualified students to further expand the number of countries represented in our campus student population.

Enrolled international students will bring a wealth of diverse life experiences to share with other UNR students and contribute to the ethnic, cultural, and intellectual diversity of campus. The doubling of our student enrollment and diversification of sending countries in the next 10 years with 80 percent as degree seeking will greatly enrich our campus experience for both domestic and international student alike.

Further, OISS will work in collaboration with HR and the Diversity Center to provide cultural competency training to faculty and staff through educational training. The results of this effort will be reflected in a more appropriate handling of cultural differences and acceptance of our international students and scholars.

• **GOALS**
  1. **Access:** Increase the percentage of enrolled international students and scholars by a minimum of 5% over the previous year
  2. **Success:** Increase 6-year graduation rate from 55% - 60% by 2020 and reach 65% by 2025.
  3. **Close the achievement gap:** Foster a campus environment where all students develop international and cross-cultural competencies and develop a closer working relationship with the Intensive English Language Center to ensure a seamless transition of students from language focused programs to academic programs
  4. **Workforce:** Serve and be recognized as the campus authority for work authorization, immigration guidance and cultural adjustment of all international students and scholars on campus
  5. **Research:** Promote undergraduate research and discovery among international students by hosting/sponsoring initiatives

• **THREATS**
  o The university is still seeking a global partner that will facilitate a significant increase on recruitment of students and scholars
By dramatically increasing the number of international students and scholars, the university will have to respond to the demand for housing, academic support, and other services.

A higher number of students and scholars will also bring a larger need for academic support programs to address students’ academic needs.

Higher need for office and classroom space.

Higher need to support faculty who directly work with international students and scholars.

Laws and other legal statutes are constantly changing and impacting recruitment and support efforts.

Changes in immigration laws demand constant interpretation and update.

High demand for services will also demand the redistribution duties and responsibilities among staff.

Lack of funds to increase scholarship funds.

Limited funding for international and domestic recruitment.

**OPPORTUNITIES**

Offer vision, guidance, and collaboration to any organization seeking to partner with the university in matters related to international students and scholars.

Establish more effective collaborations, policies, and processes with a new global partner.

Redistribute and refine duties and responsibilities among staff to respond to high demand for services.

Develop closer collaborations with faculty and faculty organizations.

Develop closer collaborations with the Nevada Alumni Association and the International Alumni Chapter to increase visibility and foster networking opportunities with recent international graduates.

Find sources of support for research and innovation among international students and scholars.

Streamline internal process to enhance office effectiveness in recruiting, assessing student needs, and addressing those needs.

Identify and provide opportunities for professional development for office staff.

Create/strengthen collaborations with advisors and academic units to promote students and scholars success.

Re-evaluate our links and structures in relation to other international entities on campus.

Increase cooperation and streamline our services with other entities on campus such as IELC, the Northern Nevada International Center (NNIC), the University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC), and Extended Studies, among others.