University of Alberta
An Integrated Model for Internationalization

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University of Alberta
Edmonton Alberta Canada

• One of Canada’s leading research and teaching universities
• More than $500 million in annual research funding (3rd in Canada)
• 18 Faculties with 370+ academic programs, undergraduate and graduate
• 38,800 students
• 5,300+ international students from over 140 countries
• A leader in internationalization among Canadian universities
• Founded in 1908
Internationalization & the Canadian Context

- Economics still not the main driver for internationalization at U of A
- Four primary reasons

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<th>Access to Talent</th>
<th>Reputation Gain</th>
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| • Standing of a university depends on quality of professors, researchers and students  
  • Recruitment of the best is a global undertaking (over 40% of U of A faculty members born outside of Canada; over 60% of new academic hires from outside Canada in 2011). | • ‘Internationalized’ institutions that have strong name recognition, especially important for academically excellent universities to attract more funding, stronger students and top researchers. |

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| • Opens new funding streams for universities that are facing increasing pressure to stretch dollars and increase financial accountability.  
  • New funding from abroad and matching government funds | • Enhances an institution’s ability to strike strategic partnerships with select universities and research institutes, with government agencies, with business and industry, with alumni and foundations, etc. |
• Integrated model for internationalization
• International efforts and activities of key players work in tandem
Building a Secure World Through International Education

Our Structures

- University of Alberta International
  Vice Provost & Associate Vice-President (International)
  - Administration
  - International Relations & Recruitment
  - International Student Services
  - Education Abroad Program
  - Global Education Program

- President’s International Coordination Council
- Provost’s Standing Advisory Committee on International Engagement
- Regional Councils
- International Programming & Communications

Faculties
Create Focus

- Focus on priority countries
  - USA
  - China
  - India
  - Germany
  - Brazil/Mexico

- Focus on a few large-scale activities with selected priority partners
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Building a Secure World Through International Education
What has this strategy delivered?

**Deliverables in Education**

**International Student Enrolment**
- 2,500 students (Fall 2006)  - 5,300 students (Fall 2011)

**Articulation Programs**
- 8 agreements  - 200+ students recruited annually

**Sponsored Student Program**
- One-stop resource hub for students receiving sponsoring funds
- Enrolment now over 400 students.

**Global Education Programs**
- Certificate in International Learning
- International Week

**Study Abroad Programs**
- Research internships
- Multidisciplinary programs
- Study abroad awards
- Risk management
Deliverables in International Research

Helmholtz-Alberta Initiative
• Created in 2010, focused on a coherent strategy to address major sustainability challenges to the oil sands industry & developing innovative solutions for cleaner energy production
• Helmholtz committed Euro 5 million
• Alberta government committed $25 million over 5 years

Li Ka Shing Institute of Virology
• Created in 2010 with a $25-million gift from the Li Ka Shing Foundation
• World-class virus, infection and immunology experts search for new treatments for diseases
• Alberta Government committed $52.5 million dollars to the Institute

Joint Research Lab Program with China Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)
• U of A professors engage in collaboration with counterparts at China’s State Key Laboratories (SKL) or National Laboratories (NL)
• Half a million dollars matching grants from both Alberta and MOST

Building a Secure World Through International Education
Challenges of an Integrated Model

- Integration of efforts in a large decentralized institution is never complete
- Information and communication gaps between central units and Faculties
- Misconception of roles, such as central body is trying to ‘dictate’ activities
- Budget inequalities: not all Faculties have equal dollars for international engagement
- Internationalization may not be a priority of all units
Questions?