MEMORANDUM

13 January 2016

TO: Patricia Kleine, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

THRU: Mike Carney, Associate Vice Chancellor for Curriculum, Internationalization, and Immersion

FROM: Paul Kaldjian, Chair
UW-Eau Claire Council on Internationalization and Global Engagement

SUBJECT: UWEC Internationalization Vision Statement

When the Council on Internationalization and Global Engagement (CIGE) was established, one of its initial tasks was to “create a vision for internationalization and global engagement at UWEC.” This phrase has been incorporated into the CIGE’s Mission Statement (see www.uwec.edu/CIGE/about/WhatWeDo.htm). Based on our work and progress over the last two years (see www.uwec.edu/CIGE/progress/CIGEReports.htm), the Council now proposes a Vision Statement for consideration and adoption by the whole university. This vision statement captures the very efforts and activities on which the Council and departments/units across the university have collectively and collaboratively been working.

Proposed UW-Eau Claire Internationalization & Global Engagement Vision Statement

UW-Eau Claire will prepare students, faculty and staff for active, informed and ethical participation in a pluralistic and globally interdependent world through meaningful learning opportunities on and off-campus. We nurture a campus culture of global awareness and engagement and cultivate commensal relationships between our university community and people, places and cultures beyond the borders of the United States, as well as with multi-ethnic individuals and populations in our region.

Rationale

- This vision statement emerges from and is consistent with UW-Eau Claire’s Centennial Plan (2008) strategic plan to transform learning – one of its six goals was to Accelerate Global Learning. The Plan also specifically identifies a “globally infused” education for our students. This Vision statement affirms and institutionalizes that Centennial Plan goal.
• This vision statement complements the Chancellor’s four guidepost goals for 2015-2016, which move the university beyond the Centennial Plan. However, it does not explicitly speak to global engagement. Thus, this vision statement helps fill a specific strategic void.
  ▪ UW-Eau Claire Guidepost Goals
    ▪ 100% High-impact learning experience
    ▪ 90% Student retention to second year
    ▪ 50% Four-year graduation
    ▪ 20% Students of color

• This vision statement is consistent with and supportive of our university mission statement, which we fulfill “through a pervasive university commitment to provide . . . multicultural and international learning experiences for a diverse world (http://www.uwec.edu/acadaff/policies/mission.htm).”

• This vision statement is consistent with and supportive of the Responsibility Goal in UW-Eau Claire’s new Liberal Education core (captured explicitly in the R1 (EDI) and R2 (global learning) student learning outcomes): “Apply personal and social responsibility for active citizenship and develop skills needed to thrive in a pluralistic and globally interdependent world”

• The vision statement is consistent with IMC’s (Integrated Marketing and Communication) strategies for making the Blugold degree distinctive and for advancing the reputation of UW-Eau Claire through such things as innovative and high impact practices.

• Practically, having such a vision statement supports the external grant application process. It is helpful to be able to point to such as vision statement as evidence that internationalization and global engagement are a university priority and duly supported.

• Finally, having a vision statement is critical in support of individual and departmental efforts and initiatives. Effective and meaningful internationalization and global engagement requires creativity, resources, development and maintenance. As such it should be recognized and valued in tenure and promotion decisions, included in department evaluation plans, and recognized in strategic accountability measures. A university vision statement on internationalization and global engagement validates and supports such efforts.

**Action**

The UW-Eau Claire Council on Internationalization and Global Engagement requests Academic Affairs’ support of the proposed vision statement for UW-Eau Claire. We look to Academic Affairs for the appropriate administrative and governance procedures for consideration and adoption.