



GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT POLICY

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Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research and Innovation

GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT POLICY

Preamble

Against the background of the dream to be an internationally recognised university in Africa, distinguished for engaged scholarship, social responsiveness and an ethic of care, the council of the North-West University (NWU) has adopted this policy on 19 March 2020.

1 Interpretation and application

This policy must be interpreted and applied in a manner consistent with the –

- 1.1 Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996;
- 1.2 Higher Education Act, 101 of 1997;
- 1.3 Immigration Act, 13 of 2002, and the
- 1.4 Statute of the North-West University (2017).

2 Definitions

In this policy and related documents “**internationalisation**” refers to activities intended to promote –

- 2.1 Improved local quality in teaching, learning, research and community involvement based on the application of expertise;
- 2.2 increased opportunities for academic employees, students and researchers internationally;
- 2.3 increased delivery of graduates and postgraduates who can work and live anywhere in the world;
- 2.4 increased delivery of graduates and postgraduates who are internationally knowledgeable and cross-culturally sensitive;
- 2.5 research and scholarship which is informed not only by national, provincial and local considerations but also by international issues;
- 2.6 the ability to contribute significantly to the economic, scientific and technological competitiveness of the nation;
- 2.7 the export of national educational products and services abroad;
- 2.8 the international profile and status of the university, and to
- 2.9 reap the benefits of all aspects of international involvement, including the positive impact on the teaching-learning and research practices of the university and of international best-practice and exposure to a wide range of diverse customs and cultures.

3 Policy statement

It is the policy of the NWU that –

- 3.1 internationalisation must be pursued within the framework of guidelines developed and maintained by the management of the university;
- 3.2 the fundamental right to freedom of expression, especially in the context of academic freedom and freedom of scientific research, must be maintained, protected and defended;
- 3.3 internationalisation at the NWU must be value-driven;

- 3.4 a culture of global awareness and appreciation for international perspectives and cultural diversity must be promoted;
- 3.5 an appraisal scheme that encourages and measures the quantity, quality and value of the diverse initiatives related to internationalisation on the three campuses must be established and maintained;
- 3.6 strategic partnerships between the university and prominent international institutions of higher learning must be expanded and intensified, including the offering of joint and double degrees, on-line qualifications, open and distance learning, exchange programmes for academic employees and students and research collaboration;
- 3.7 research, teaching-learning and community engagement that is internationally and globally relevant must be promoted at the NWU;
- 3.8 international educational, research and community involvement opportunities must be established, developed and improved for students of the NWU;
- 3.9 the prevalence at the NWU of prominent international scholars, world-class researchers, postgraduate and undergraduate students must be increased and augmented, and
- 3.10 the NWU must be committed to internationalisation and must accordingly strive for world-wide recognition as one of the foremost institutions of higher learning and research on the African continent.

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