



## University of Colorado at Boulder

Office of the Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

---

360 Regent Administrative Center  
40 UCB  
University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309-0017  
303-492-6933  
Fax: 303-492-8861

To: Members of the Internationalization Task Force

From: Phil Distefano, Provost *Phil Distefano*

Date: July 9, 2008

Subject: Charge of the Internationalization Task Force

I am writing to appoint you to the Task Force on Internationalization at the University of Colorado at Boulder and to provide you with its charge.

The University of Colorado at Boulder has long been recognized as an "international institution," because of its significant international student and scholar populations and its wide range of international activities, particularly its strong study abroad programming. These are more accidental occurrences than the result of an intentional institutional design. However, with the work surrounding the efforts of Flagship 2030, the university has committed itself to the development of planned growth in international activities for students, faculty/staff, and program offerings.

The university's international goals, therefore, direct us toward a broader social responsibility, which is to understand our role in the global community, and to educate students to address issues more globally and inclusively. Working in a more concerted manner as one institution, CU-Boulder can improve its approach to international education and achieve the goals of Flagship 2030 to the benefit of the entire university community.

To assist the university in this effort, the University of Colorado at Boulder has joined with the American Council on Education's (ACE) Internationalization Collaborative, a learning community of over 60 institutions, which provides a forum for faculty and administrators to share ideas and help each other in furthering their international agendas. Members share information about institutional strategies and outcomes and key issues that need further research and advocacy. Within the Collaborative, a select group of institutions is identified annually as the Internationalization Laboratory, which works closely with ACE over a 12- to 16-month period to further refine the ACE internationalization review process and advance collective knowledge about the issues surrounding assessment and comprehensive internationalization. For 2008-09, Boulder has been selected as one of these institutions (the others for this year are Central

Connecticut State University, Purdue University, St. Mary's College (IN), Temple University (PA)). The internationalization review process involves:

- Determining the present state of university internationalization
- Identifying challenges and obstacles
- Examining academic offerings and establishing desired learning outcomes
- Developing a strategic plan for the enhancement of international dimensions
- Identifying and setting the foundations for realizing increased faculty and student international opportunities

With Flagship 2030 in mind, the charge of the task force, therefore, is:

- To serve as the leadership team for the ACE Internationalization Laboratory;
- To carry out a review of the current state of internationalization at the university;
- To help frame a new conversation on internationalization within the university community;
- To develop a strategic plan for further internationalization of the university, to include
  - Recommendations for expanded university-wide study abroad;
  - Recommendations for improving the number and quality of faculty and staff international professional development opportunities;
  - Recommendations for expanding the international student and scholar populations at the university;
  - Suggestions for specific international grant initiatives.

As you carry out your charge, please consult within and outside of the institution, ensuring that perspectives, needs, and aspirations of a wide variety of stakeholders are considered. As the duration of the university's engagement with the ACE Internationalization Laboratory is 12 to 16 months, the task force is different from many such groups in that the expectation is to complete this charge over this period with recommendations for action to be taken to campus administration. If certain items within the charge can be addressed before completion of the full report and are ready for university action, please forward them separately for consideration.

ACE staff will conduct a site visit in late August to meet senior administrators and to conduct a roundtable discussion with the leadership team and key stakeholders, to define key questions and issues, to clarify goals, to build synergy among international activities, and to build support for the process across the university. The co-chairs, Larry Bell (Director, Office of International Education) and John Stevenson (Associate Vice Chancellor for Graduate Education), will contact you in early August to launch the task force and to prepare for their visit.

This is an exciting initiative, one that will have a broad and lasting impact on the institution, particularly as we move forward with other Flagship 2030 initiatives, and I thank you for your willingness to address it. Please let me know if I can be of assistance in your deliberations

C: Associate Vice Chancellor John Stevenson, Co-Chair  
Larry Bell, Director, International Education, Co-Chair  
James Austin, Music  
Steve Chan, Political Science  
Gary Gaile, Geography  
Clayton Lewis, Computer Science  
Dennis McGilvray, Anthropology  
Polly McLean, Journalism  
Laurel Rodd, Asian Languages  
Ann Schmiesing, German  
Diane Sieber, Engineering – Herbst Humanities  
Rich Wobbekind, Leeds  
Tom Zeiler, History