part of your world
a global landscape

The internationalization of higher education is a defining challenge and opportunity for top tier academic institutions in the 21st century. Unprecedented international integration of how people, institutions and nations connect, learn and work has changed how institutions including Waterloo attract the world’s best talent, and creates globally literate, highly employable graduates. Supporting high-quality research networks enables scientists to gain global perspectives and engage in innovative collaborations with worldwide relevance. Global impact grows with every new idea cultivated through these partnerships.

“In the emerging global post-secondary education environment, all great universities will be thoroughly international in composition, curriculum, and outlook. What’s true for graduates is true for universities: the 21st century academic, social, and economic environment is truly global in nature and scale, and only the globally-minded will rise to the top. The leaders of tomorrow demand and deserve a truly international educational experience — their success depends on it.”

— FE RIDUN HAMDULLAHPUR, President, Vice-Chancellor, University of Waterloo
That's not a goal. It’s a fact. Waterloo International is fully committed to turning the University of Waterloo’s strategic goal of internationalism into reality.

With every international initiative we launch, and every education, research and scholarship opportunity we create with our campus partners Waterloo International intends to improve the world, meet its most pressing challenges, and educate graduates who will lead in a global economy. As Waterloo’s primary centre of international knowledge and information, our experienced and professional team is here to assist and consult.
a plan of action

WATERLOO WILL BE RECOGNIZED INTERNATIONALLY FOR EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATION IN EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

» Strengthen and diversify international funding approaches for research and scholarship.
» Build new global centres of excellence with world-leading educational institutions.
» Develop and strengthen collaborations with world-leading institutions and programs.
» Expand participation in international development initiatives.
» Create more opportunities for staff and faculty mobility programs that encourage learning and knowledge sharing to solve global challenges.
» Implement a formal visiting scholars program.
» Build an international centre on campus that provides space, support and opportunity for interaction among students, researchers and visiting delegations while on campus — a welcoming and productive home away from home.

“Our commitment to becoming one of the most internationalized universities in Canada is a commitment to action. We will accomplish this by strengthening existing partnerships and creating new strategic alliances with leading institutions around the world. We are committed to ensuring that our students, staff and faculty can be creatively engaged in these relationships.”

— NELLO ANGERILLI, PhD, Associate Vice President International, Waterloo International, University of Waterloo
WATERLOO WILL EDUCATE GLOBALLY LITERATE AND WORLD READY GRADUATES

» Provide leadership to develop a comprehensive institutional approach to international recruiting.
» Create collaborative degree programs with strategically chosen institutions.
» Increase international and outbound student scholarships and bursaries.
» Offer international students greater access to university programs and services.
» Establish IDEAS, an enrichment summer experience for international high school students who work with peers from around the world to solve pressing problems.
» Analyze barriers to participating in student mobility programs abroad and develop action plans to address them.
» Facilitate student access to international experiential learning opportunities, increasing participation in international activity to 30% of the annual graduating class.
» Support co-op opportunities internationally, with the goal of doubling the current numbers.

HOW DO WE GET THERE?

Through action and communication. Waterloo International will promote our global educational opportunities using a new communications strategy and established relevant guidelines, policies, and budgets to support our activities. With this new focus and investment, students, staff and faculty will be better able to internationalize their University of Waterloo experience and take advantage of available programs and supports.