

by Christopher Murphy

Leading Comprehensive Internationalization

IN JANUARY OF THIS YEAR, NAFSA published *Comprehensive Internationalization: From Concept to Action*, a report authored by Professor John K. Hudzik, former vice president for global engagement and strategic projects at Michigan State University and past NAFSA president. The report, which grew out of the work of two NAFSA taskforces, is an important milestone in the development of a more fully developed paradigm for what higher education can become if it is adopted throughout all aspects of our colleges and universities.

It provides a thoroughgoing definition of this conception of internationalization:

Comprehensive internationalization is a commitment, confirmed through action, to infuse international and comparative perspectives throughout the teaching, research, and service missions of higher education. It shapes institutional ethos and values and touches the entire higher education enterprise. It is essential that it be embraced by institutional leadership, governance, faculty, students, and all academic service and support units. It is an institutional imperative, not just a desirable possibility.

Comprehensive internationalization not only impacts all of campus life but the institution's external frames of reference, partnerships, and relations. The global reconfiguration of economies, systems of trade, research, and communication, and the impact of global forces on local life, dramatically expand the need for comprehensive internationalization and the motivations and purposes driving it.

This issue of *International Educator*, taken as a whole, mirrors this expansive conception of internationalization. Key aspects such as international enrollment management, education abroad, international student affairs, curriculum integration, international partnerships, and foreign language acquisition, can all be found in its pages.

Additionally, our Voices interview with Stephen J. Toope, president and vice-chancellor of The University of British Columbia, examines how his institution has taken a leading role in Canada by developing and implementing broad internationalization across all of UBC's efforts. And, our campus profile in this issue highlights the great strides in comprehensive internationalization made by Loyola University Maryland, one of the 2010 winners of NAFSA's Senator Paul Simon Award for Campus Internationalization.

As *IE* has demonstrated in this and all of its issues, and the new internationalization report crystallizes, NAFSA is, and will remain, a key player in the effort to make internationalization of higher education truly comprehensive.

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Download *Comprehensive Internationalization: From Concept to Action* at www.nafsa.org/cizn.

To read the profiles of all of the winners of the 2010 Senator Paul Simon Award for Campus Internationalization visit www.nafsa.org/itc2010.

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