Portland State University’s Internationalization Strategy

Gil Latz, Vice Provost for International Affairs

Northwest Academic Forum: --International Education--
Boise, Idaho
4 April 2008
Background to Portland State’s Internationalization Strategy

– Strategy for Implementation of Portland State’s Internationalization Initiative
– Academic, Government and Business Network Opportunities

“Let knowledge Serve the City..., and the World”
PSU’s Internationalization Strategy---

• Manifests PSU’s Internationalization Goals to have our students enter the 21st century as leaders in an emerging global community.

• Gives priority to PSU’s and Oregon’s recognized and unique strengths and areas of excellence – both programmatically and geographically.

• Leverages PSU’s knowledge-based resources through mutually-beneficial exchange networks.

• Embraces internationalization as a scholarly and networked activity that connects educational programs with innovative research and community-based service.
Portland State’s Internationalization Initiative has five goals…

1. Increase opportunities for every PSU student to have meaningful contact with other cultures
2. Develop University policies and procedures that encourage leadership and innovation in the creation and delivery of a world-class international education
3. Increase opportunities for PSU faculty and staff to incorporate international dimensions into their teaching, scholarship and professional development
4. Build on Oregon and Southwest Washington’s emerging sense as places with an international character and with critical links to the rest of the world
5. Strengthen ties with international alumni around the world
Programmatically, Portland State’s Strategy seeks to deepen and integrate in a synergistic manner, our three spheres of recognized excellence…

• **Boundary-Breaking Research**
  Includes innovations in sustainability policies, processes and procedures and ‘small tech’ – nanotechnology, cyber-security, etc.

• **Student-Centered Education**
  Includes nationally ranked faculty and student engagement in relevant service-learning projects, learning communities across campus, and community-based capstone courses.

• **Community-Based Service**
  Includes more than 40 years of urban/ regional experience and scholarship focusing on partnering with governments, corporations and nonprofit entities that share a commitment to the collective good.
Geographically, Portland State’s Strategy seeks to strengthen existing or develop new linkages in several priority regions and countries...
Strategic Example: Portland State’s Perspective on Vietnam---

We see Vietnam as highly relevant country to Oregon interests where our current partnerships can be further enhanced and interconnected.

Our vision is a network of institutions (academic and other) that can leverage reciprocal benefits for the partners within PSU’s three programmatic spheres of excellence.

PSU’s strategy for institutional, community and business partnerships are reflected by intentional interaction with the Vietnam Fulbright Office.
Examples of Portland State’s Vietnam Engagement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Global Issue Areas</th>
<th>Vietnam-Related Initiatives</th>
<th>Engaged Groups</th>
<th>Outcomes and Benefits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mitigating Urban Environmental Problems</td>
<td>1. Ho Chi Minh City Community-Based Env. Project</td>
<td>- Portland State</td>
<td>- Three new urban Environmental Education Centers; Twelve community-university service-learning projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. UNS-PSU Community-University Engagement Prog.</td>
<td>- City of Portland, Metro</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Nike</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Community groups</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Vietnam university</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Environmental Agency</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing New Academic Programs and Curriculum</td>
<td>3. PSU-UNS Comp. Science Program with MOET</td>
<td>- College of Eng/Com. Sci.</td>
<td>- PSU secures resources for pursuing its academic mission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. PSU-NEU Public Management Dipl.</td>
<td>- Intel and Businesses</td>
<td>- Vietnam expands high quality educational oppty.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. PSU-HCMA Leadership Dev. Program</td>
<td>- Vietnam Universities</td>
<td>- Relationship development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Ho Chi Minh Academy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Portland State’s Response to Opportunities and Challenges in Vietnam

Vietnam’s Needs:

• Partnerships with academic institutions with a proven record for producing quality graduates

• Institutional partners with a unique American brand that is valued in Vietnam

• Program plan for collaborative development of nationally identified educational programs, i.e. Fulbright

• Openness to the financial and cultural challenges and opportunities of developing hybrid academic programs to meet national development goals identified by the Ministry of Education and Training

Portland State Offers:

• Excellence for its domestic and international leadership in “engagement pedagogy”

• National and international recognition for co-developing Portland as a “sustainable urban community”

• A multi-faceted academic approach for meeting Vietnam’s social and economic needs while building local capacity for engagement and sustainability

• Ongoing projects: mitigating urban env. Problems; developing new academic programs, deepened global learning and problem solving; collaborative engineering, science and technology initiatives
Thank You!

• Questions on Portland State University’s Presentation?

• Contact Information:
  Dr. Gil Latz, Vice Provost for International Affairs and Professor of Geography, Portland State University
  latzg@pdx.edu