

# GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTMINSTER

## CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND

Our Global Engagement Strategy is a key element of the University's vision and mission. The University embarked on a comprehensive seven-year International Strategy in 2013. Since then our international approach has evolved to embrace the concept of global engagement, a concept which is reflected in the Westminster Strategy. The University of Westminster Global Engagement Framework 2015-2020 outlines the aims and priorities of our global engagement agenda. Stakeholders across the University are involved in implementing the Framework, but responsibility for co-ordination and delivery lies with Professor Alexandra Hughes, the Deputy Vice Chancellor for Global Engagement.

## CORE PRINCIPLES

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Our Global Engagement Framework for 2015-2020 seeks to:

- support and sustain our international students, staff and alumni by enhancing support structures and networks, increasing numbers and ensuring that the University constitutes a thriving global community
- strengthen the University's international presence and impact
- enhance the opportunities for international and internationalised experience available to Westminster students and staff, and cultivate contexts in which they can develop a global outlook and global skills
- develop further Westminster's international connections
- increase and enhance the range of our international partnerships enabling the delivery of global engagement, particularly at the University and faculty level
- create and embed a narrative of global engagement at Westminster that is sustained, is relevant to and understood by all stakeholders and contributes centrally to the identity and distinctiveness of the University
- attend to international engagement activity both within Europe and outside it.



# FRAMEWORK PRIORITY AREAS

## GLOBAL COMMUNITY

Areas of focus include:

- international student recruitment geared to maintaining high levels of diversity
- collaborative programmes, bodies and structures to support international student recruitment
- engagement with funding, scholarship and sponsorship schemes supporting international student recruitment
- international student and staff support
- international and local activities, and events associated with a culture of global engagement at Westminster
- international alumni networks and communities.

## GLOBAL LOCATIONS

Areas of focus include:

- the further development of the University of Westminster's partnership with Westminster International University in Tashkent
- the further development of transnational education arrangements.



## GLOBAL EXPERIENCE

Areas of focus include:

- the development of global engagement activity within the curriculum and academic programmes with a global focus or orientation
- the promotion of opportunities for students to engage with language learning
- the development of outward mobility and international experience opportunities for Westminster students, including short-term and longer term study abroad activity, and overseas work placements
- engagement with funding, scholarship and sponsorship streams supporting outgoing student mobility
- the development of outward mobility and international experience opportunities for our staff and engagement with related funding streams.



## GLOBAL RESEARCH

Areas of focus include:

- the development of international research partnerships
- the development of research with global impact building on our performance in the REF 2014 in which 90% of our research and 75% of our impact was world-leading, internationally excellent or of internationally recognised quality
- engagement with European and international funding, sponsorship and scholarship schemes related to research, doctoral or postdoctoral activity.

## GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS

Areas of focus include:

- creating strategic institutional international HE partnerships, building on key University of Westminster strengths, and enabling connections across a range of Westminster subject areas
- developing faculty-level strategic international partnerships
- collaborative interactions with international HEIs and other bodies to enhance student and staff experience and skills, and support the employability agenda
- developing partnerships to promote innovation, entrepreneurship and research connections across the globe
- creating partnership clusters in areas of geographical priority.

## GLOBAL POSITIONING

Areas of focus include:

- Development of a communications, marketing and branding strategy that promotes Westminster as a distinctive, globally engaged institution.



**PROFESSOR ALEXANDRA HUGHES**  
DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR FOR  
GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT