

INTERNATIONALIZATION POLICY FOR UPE

Presentation

Internationalization is a fundamental process for scientific, technological and innovation development helping to implement technology transfer actions, increase qualified intellectual production, and bring research efforts closer to contemporary social demands. Priorities and institutional strategies should be set as a guide to ensure that the University of Pernambuco initiates a systematic, gradual, and sustainable process of internationalization of its actions contributing to the institutionalization of a global culture of science, technology, and innovation already foreseen in the Project of Institutional and Pedagogical Development of the University.

Moreover, such a policy should respond to the demands imposed by the continuous process of globalization that regards the sharing of knowledge, methodological expertise, technologies and innovations as a must to face contemporary social challenges. This initiative also seeks to involve the entire university community and social body in the process, a paramount factor for a just 26-year-old research and graduate system.

In this document, the objective, priorities, main guidelines and operational axes that are to guide the internationalization efforts at UPE are presented. This policy is to be part of an institutional plan, guided by an evaluation and monitoring system, supported by the programs, subprograms and structuring projects already under development which are to be implemented. In addition, this document - a proposal for institutionalized internationalization- formalizes the commitment of all social actors that make up the UPE's academic community, including top management and higher councils.

Goal

Our goal is to increase the level of institutionalized internationalization so as to guarantee the transition from the current model - characterized by outgoing mobility actions (passive internationalization)- to a sustainable model in which a culturally institutionalized global vision permeates teaching, research, and university extension activities (active internationalization). In an expanded vision, the UPE's internationalization policy will promote scientific, technological and innovation excellence.

Priorities

Raising the level of internationalization in the contemporary scenario characterized by numerous social and economic challenges requires institutions to set priorities so that the application of resources is maximized. In this sense, UPE's internationalization policy should be supported by: (1) expansion of the number of foreign students, faculty members, and researchers; (2) integration of undergraduate and graduate projects and actions; (3) stimulation of proactive actions by teachers and researchers in search of joint research activities with international partners; (4) development of competences for internationalization to prepare the UPE's social body for a participatory, plural and international vision of the future.

Guidelines

In addition to priorities, this policy also establishes guidelines for the internationalization efforts within the UPE. To ensure greater unity and efficiency in the implementation of this policy, individual initiatives should be aligned with the institutional vision of internationalization. Such a set of parameters might also be used to benchmark the application of resources guiding managers, teachers and students in the effort to reach the desired level of internationalization at UPE.

The guidelines are as follows: (1) emphasis on the development of sustainable programs, subprograms and actions based, whenever possible, on the principle of reciprocity; (2) internationalization efforts committed to the generation of products, innovations and / or technology transfer; (3) projects that contribute to increase the UPE's international visibility; (4) internationalization initiatives that qualify or extend cooperation with other Brazilian Higher Education Institutions; (5) agreements, projects and actions that contribute to the consolidation of an active internationalization perspective; (6)

institutionalized internationalization that contribute to make the university campus into a multicultural, diverse and international academic environment .

Operational axes

In order to guide the process of institutionalized internationalization within the scope of the UPE and ensure the achievement of the objective set out in this policy, the actions and strategies will be organized around five axes, namely: (1) structuring actions; (2) curricula, programs and projects; (3) partnerships and collaborations; (4) internal and external communication; and (5) monitoring and evaluation. The institutional internationalization plan will detail these actions and strategies in each of the axes, including the construction of a logical model in which the results, activities, resources and influencing factors will be described in order to facilitate the communication of this policy.

Final Directions

Institutionalized internationalization presents a huge challenge for all Brazilian universities, especially for the younger ones. In this sense, perceptible but somewhat timid progress has UPE achieved in the face of contemporary challenges that require the institutionalization of a participative, plural and international vision of the future.

Increasing the level of internationalization – the target of this policy - will contribute to most effective actions in social development, scientific and technological advancements, innovation and intervention. It is hoped that the whole social body of the UPE finds here a guide for aligning individual efforts with those of the institution.

Finally, to achieve the objectives outlined in this internationalization policy, resources should be provided for in the budget. Institutionalized internationalization will certainly strongly collaborate with the university's growth and the sustainable development of the State of Pernambuco.