

**GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT WORKING GROUP
DRAFT PLAN: PRIORITY INITIATIVES
July 26, 2021**

INTRODUCTION

Our proposals are animated by the vision, mission and values of the Principal's Strategic Framework: "The Queen's community, our people, will solve the world's most significant and urgent challenges with their intellectual curiosity, passion to achieve, and commitment to collaborate."

This working group addresses Goal 4 of the Principal's Strategic Framework: "Strengthening Queen's presence globally: developing and implementing a comprehensive, equity-focused and integrated program of global engagement that includes active, strategic partnerships, enhanced student and faculty mobility, and teaching and learning reform oriented toward a pluralistic and culturally relevant global environment."

Our over-arching objective: Queen's aspires to be a global actor, solving the world's biggest challenges through collaborative, mutually beneficial relationships, acting locally, nationally and globally.

We seek to advance Queen's role as a global actor through initiatives that are:

- Forward-looking and inventive
- Magnetic and catalytic
- Impact-minded, visible and ambitious
- Building connections across a de-centralized university
- Experimental – mindful that some innovations may take off and others may not
- Grounded in reciprocal and mutually beneficial relationships: engaging with partners within and beyond Queen's to broaden our reach and impact
- Bold and transformative, knowing that what we truly value will require resources and people

DRAFT PRIORITY ACTIONS

I. Queen's Global Goals Research Chairs

We propose a university-wide competition to recruit scholars nationally and internationally to advance knowledge of and innovation across the global sustainability goals. The Global Goals Research Chairs program aspires to nurture a dynamic ecosystem, to advance research (aligning with university and unit priorities), to enhance student learning and training, and to

deepen the university's social impact. A national and international call for applications for the Queen's Global Goals Research Chairs would increase awareness in the academic community, policy world and larger public of the sustainability goals and of Queen's actions to advance them.

The working group recommended two possible approaches to the Queen's Global Goals Research Chairs:

- 1) *17 [Sustainability Development Goals](#) Chairs: a chair for each of the UN SDGs to amplify visibility and impact*
- 2) *7 Global Goals Research Chairs: Seven chairs, each linked to a pre-determined cluster of inter-locking sustainability goals (e.g. climate change, global health, inequality).*

The program in both scenarios would be open to proposals from all disciplines and areas of study, would align with university research priorities, and would be externally-recruited. We define sustainability broadly. Recognizing that the sustainability goals are complex and inter-connected, proposals could be developed singly or jointly by academic units, in alignment with their teaching and research priorities.

II. Queen's Global Scholars Award

The equity-based program undergraduate Global Scholars Award program will attract and support international undergraduate students through meaningful partnerships with government and non-governmental organizations. The Global Scholars Award celebrates and recognizes demonstrated leadership in, and commitment to sustainability goals. The program will provide dedicated financial, academic, and career/professional support to help students complete their degree and pursue future success. The Global Scholars Award combines with [Promise Scholars](#) (an access-based program for low-income, 1st Gen) and [Commitment Scholars](#) (Equity based program celebrating EDII students with demonstrated leadership in, and commitment to, racial justice, social justice, or diversity initiatives by a student in their high school or in their community).

III. Queen's Post-Doctoral Fellowships in Sustainable Development

In order to attract outstanding international PDFs to Queen's to advance research, three one-year post-doctoral fellowships for international applicants open to all areas of study are proposed. The post-doctoral fellowships would be aligned with the university research priorities. Potential collaborations with international partners (within the Matariki Network and beyond) to develop co-hosted post-doctoral fellowships are also a promising avenue.

IV. Global Challenges Research Funding

A catalytic research fund to provide seed-funding to researchers/Research, Centres/Institutes to identify collaborations for joint external funding proposals to address global goals, in alignment with the university's research priorities, is proposed.

V. Queen's Global Challenges Signature Course

The creation of a university-wide, for-credit transdisciplinary course on Global Challenges is proposed.

- “Global Challenge” to vary from year to year, rooted in SDG framework
- Offered virtually to encourage enrolments from across the university and potentially with other partners, and team-taught
- Themes of Indigenization integrated into Global Challenges signature course
- Potential of signature course to connect with other institutions or NGOs for collaborative approach, including international partners to facilitate an intellectual and experiential mobility without physical travel
- Optional rather than required – designed to attract and excite students
- Trans-disciplinary, engaging with STEM, policy, humanities/social sciences and beyond to show students that they benefit from taking the course related to their core academic pursuits and understand their role globally.
- Stakeholder consultation would be required on such questions as which unit would host the course, co-teaching arrangements, assessment, etc.

Recognizing that a single course cannot stand in for a more pervasive development of a global curriculum, we also underscore the importance of continued planning across the university on internationalization of teaching and learning: through courses, experiential learning opportunities and micro-credentials.

VI. Queen's Global Fellows

The Queen's Global Fellows Award initiative is designed to attract leading researchers to Queen's to collaborate with Queen's faculty and students on a designated theme related to sustainability (broadly defined). This one year visiting position would be awarded in a university-wide competition, nominated by host unit and/or Research, Centre or Institute.

VII. Queen's Global Campus

All these proposed initiatives culminate in the creation of the *Queen's Global Campus*: a highly-visible center and hub for Queen's global action which builds synergies across a rich

diversity of initiatives at Queen's, fostering interdisciplinary research, global community engagement, and strategic global partnerships. Our discussions highlighted the extraordinary depth of global initiatives at Queen's, and the need to demonstrate the richness and potential of these connections. Drawing together the strands of global engagement and action at Queen's would increase our impact.

Queen's Global Campus is both a physical space but most importantly a virtual space which would provide connections to members of the Queen's community engaged with issues of global relevance. It is a forum for research clusters, government/non-government/corporate partnerships, and a hub for events, opportunities, and initiatives. This Global Campus integrates a de-colonizing and anti-racist perspective into global engagement, research, teaching, and learning, by connecting to other units on campus who advance equity, diversity, inclusion and Indigenization. We welcome ideas on the development of the Queen's Global Campus.

Conclusion and invitation

As the working group continues to meet to develop more fully some of these ideas, we welcome feedback from the Queen's community. We would also like to hear new ideas or perspectives that we may not have identified. If you would like to have a conversation instead of submitting your thoughts in writing, please email to set up a time: mary-rose.lalande@queensu.ca.