

Redefining the Horizon

How U of T is advancing
its international vision—
and helping to overcome
the world's most
urgent challenges



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO

DEFY
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We're Reimagining Latitude and Longitude.

Global conflicts, climate change, pandemics, inequality, misinformation—the world faces many seemingly insurmountable problems that demand the ingenuity, daring, and diverse perspectives of a globally oriented community.

Located in the world's most diverse city, the University of Toronto is a uniquely global university. We welcome the best and brightest from around the world—and we reach back across the world, through international partnerships that drive innovation, creativity, and discovery. Our global community of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and supporters—from every conceivable background and discipline—is our greatest strength. Fearless and compassionate, they span borders, continents, and oceans. They see no limits as they tackle some of the most pressing global problems.

Harnessing the power of that community, U of T is seizing new opportunities and advancing a range of innovative international efforts. We take a tailored,

regional approach that recognizes the distinct ways needed to work in—and with—different parts of the world. We go beyond traditional partners to collaborate with institutions that work, teach, and learn differently from us. And we embrace the global nature of our community to foster global fluency here at home.

U of T's International Strategic Plan 2022–2027 is helping power that community—and helping U of T amplify, diversify, and extend its impact around the globe through 10 strategic objectives. These fall under three overarching themes:

Global Learning



Global Reach



Global Impact



Seven Core Principles

Geopolitical and societal tensions, global conflict, pre-existing inequalities made starker by the pandemic, and climate change—all these urgent challenges continue to impact the well-being of the U of T community and communities around the world. That’s why our commitment to navigating these uncertainties, as we engage with the wider world, is buttressed by **seven core principles**:



1. Academic excellence 
2. Global impact and societal responsibility 
3. Mutually beneficial partnerships 
4. Trans- and multidisciplinary collaboration 
5. Engagement emphasizing values driven by equity, diversity, and inclusion, including respect, relevance, reciprocity, and responsibility 
6. International fluencies 
7. Responsible and sustainable stewardship 






Global Learning


U of T provides an outstanding global education, engaging with communities around the world and harnessing technology so that students on all three campuses can connect globally without ever leaving Toronto—which expands the possibilities for learning while we reduce our carbon footprint. We also continue to create new opportunities for students to learn, work, and conduct research in international settings. We remain committed to diversifying our student body, which offers students a different type of education—gleaned not just from course material, but also from one another—and we strive to ensure that international students have the supports they need to improve their well-being and sense of belonging. Finally, we’re reenergizing our approach to international entrepreneurship so that students from Canada and abroad can build their knowledge, gain work experience, and launch new ventures.



The Strategic Objectives for Global Learning are:

-  Nurture a globally fluent community across U of T’s three campuses by creating opportunities for faculty, students, and staff to engage globally while in Toronto.
-  Increase the number and diversity of students who participate in a wide array of learning abroad experiences.

 Attract the best and brightest students to our campuses from a broader range of places and backgrounds.

 Create an inclusive and welcoming environment where all international students can thrive.

 Through our network of international partners, expand and develop new international programming that supports the entrepreneurial goals and spirit of the U of T community.

Global Reach

To enhance our global reach, we're expanding the scope and scale of our existing partnerships and forging new relationships with institutions and organizations around the world. Driven by a desire to collaborate with—and learn from—diverse communities, we're working to ensure that these new partnerships are equitable and reciprocal.

We're also continuing to build international partnerships with academic institutions to create meaningful, research-intensive experiences for students, support early career researchers as they build networks, and ultimately help solve the world's most complex problems. And we're working to expand our corporate partnerships, while diversifying the regions from which we draw corporate support—increasing the scope of our research efforts and preparing students for future careers.



The Strategic Objectives for Global Reach are:



Deepen and diversify U of T's global partnerships through well-defined regional strategies to offer unique, mutually beneficial international experiences for all.



Enable and enhance international research collaborations that align with institutional priorities and address issues of local and global importance.



Expand the engagement of international corporate partnerships that add value to faculty-led collaborations and experiential learning opportunities for students.





Global Impact

We're taking on society's most pressing challenges—through multidisciplinary partnerships and research, but also through more equitable hiring practices, processes to reduce our energy consumption, and our graduates themselves, who go out into the world with the skills, compassion, and fearless mindset needed to overcome the insurmountable. We're continuing to tell—and amplify—U of T's story so that the achievements of our faculty and students get the international recognition they deserve. And we're inspiring more than 640,000 alumni around the world to get involved in Defy Gravity: The Campaign for the University of Toronto—with a goal of contributing their time and talent to the University one million times collectively.



The Strategic Objectives for Global Impact are:



Share the distinctive U of T story with a wider audience in a way that demonstrates the positive impact of the University in the community and beyond.



Leverage the skills, strengths, and influence of U of T alumni to enhance the global experience of our students and deepen our collaborations around the world.



**Partner with Us as
We Redefine the Horizon**

At the University of Toronto,
we're pushing beyond the horizon.

Drawing on our extraordinary
global community of students,
faculty, alumni, and supporters,
we're redrawing the map of what's
possible as we take on some of
the world's toughest challenges.

For more information about our international strategy—and
its limit-defying vision for global learning, reach, and impact
—please contact the Office of the Vice-President, International:

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