

INTERNATIONALISATION CHARTER

JULY 2019



Our internationalisation vision

Ara Institute of Canterbury will provide a culture of internationalisation where all staff and students are prepared for working in a global environment and where students coming to study from overseas are made to feel welcome and supported to achieve their desired outcomes.



Definition of internationalisation

“Internationalisation is the process of integrating an international, intellectual, or global dimension into the purpose, functions or delivery of postsecondary education.”

(J. Knight, 2003. Updated Definition of Internationalization. *International Higher Education* 33, Fall 2003. The Boston College Center for International Higher Education, Boston, Mass, USA.)





Background

The Internationalisation Charter encompasses a set of guiding principles which are consistent with the government's International Education Strategy (He Rautaki Matauranga a Ao) 2018 - 2030.

SOCIAL

The commitment of Ara to become an internationally focused organisation began in the mid 1980's. Following the introduction of full time intensive Japanese and Chinese language programmes, relationships began to be forged with a number of universities in Japan and China. The first annual student exchange programme with Kyoto Sangyo University began in 1985. In 1989 the International Division at Ara (then CPIT) was established. Owned by the Christchurch Polytechnic Foundation, the Ministry of Education approved the Division to enrol a

maximum of 70 international students for tuition in English Language. The first School of English at Ara was established in 1989.

Internationalisation was first identified as a charter goal in 1992, described as "Promote the Polytechnic both to the community and wider national and international markets."

By 1994 nearly 10% of students claimed ethnicity other than Māori or Pakeha/European. The term "internationalisation" first appeared in the institution's annual report in 1995.

As a result, a culture of internationalisation has been promoted to staff and students for over 20 years. Since 1989 a number of institutional relationships in overseas countries have been developed in Asia, Europe, North America and Oceania. These relationships have grown to over 50 active institutional agreements



promoting exchanges and academic collaboration. As a result staff and students at Ara have opportunities for overseas experiences to enrich their knowledge and appreciation of other cultures.

ECONOMIC

By 1996 the English School had grown to 190 EFTS and 79 EFTS had been achieved in mainstream programmes providing diversified income for the institution. The period 1997 - 1999 saw a downturn in some Asian economies, and a corresponding drop, nationally, in international student numbers. In 1999 some economic recovery in Japan and South Korea meant numbers began to recover. The School of English enrolments were 42% Japanese, 7% South Korean, and 6% Chinese in 1999.

International enrolments continued to grow in 2000 with overall growth reaching 30% mostly occurring in English language.

In September 2011 the Leadership Statement for International Education was released setting targets that include doubling the economic value of international education to \$5 billion by 2025. The industry faces market changes such as the increasingly important role of technology, emerging student markets, new competitor countries and products, and different expectations about how and when learning will take place. This very diverse export education industry expects the pace of change to continue. At the same time New Zealand students are beginning to expect and value a more international education experience.

Principles for action

- Ara will equip all students for work in a global and multicultural context. Internationalisation will become embedded in the institutional culture; staff will be knowledgeable about ways to internationalise curriculum and responsive to the range of cultures and learning styles of their students.
- International students will be enriched academically and culturally by their experiences at Ara.
- Student services and support will be easily accessed, welcoming and effective. As far as possible services will be integrated, so that international students gain a sense of belonging at Ara. Integration will be balanced by the provision of targeted support, academic and pastoral.
- Ara will be strengthened academically through international linkages.
- Ara will diversify its income and achieve greater financial sustainability through its international activities.



Our roles and responsibilities under this charter

The Ara Council will:

- maintain governance and oversight of internationalisation to ensure the principles, vision and aspirations in this charter are realised.

The Chief Executive will:

- ensure that this charter is given effect.

Te Kāhui Manukura (TKM) will:

- be the governance group for strategic internationalisation projects.

All managers will:

- model leadership toward cross cultural competencies in their own work; and
- ensure their staff are accountable for the principles of internationalisation in their work as this is incorporated over time into the institute's capability and performance assessment framework.

All managers and staff will:

- be accountable for their own cultural competencies, within the institute's capability framework; and
- be supported by Ara in their own development and assessment towards internationalisation.

All students will:

- have the opportunity to graduate as competent in cross cultural knowledge and understanding.

External partners, contractors and suppliers to Ara will:

- be required to support Ara by being open regarding the whole-of-life costs and benefits, both internal and external, of their goods and services as a condition for engaging with Ara.

Internationalisation Strategy

The internationalisation strategy will:

- explain how the vision, principles, and aspirations in this charter will be achieved; and be confirmed by TKM.

Reporting

Reporting of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) consistent with the Ara Strategic Plan 2019 reflect the Ara values of "Respect", "Connect" and "Inspire" in relation to internationalisation.



Ara

Institute of Canterbury

Ara rau, taumata rau

Ara is proud to be a smokefree institute

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