

TRANSFORMING FUTURES

TMU Global: Local Academic Plan



Toronto
Metropolitan
University

Global

2025–2030

Toronto is in the “Dish With One Spoon Territory.”

As we embark on TMU Global’s Local Academic Plan, we begin by acknowledging the land on which our institution stands.

Toronto Metropolitan University (TMU)’s campuses in Toronto and Brampton operate on the Treaty Lands of the Mississaugas of the Credit. This land has been part of the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe, Huron-Wendat and Haudenosaunee. They are now home to many Inuit, Métis and First Nations Peoples from across Turtle Island. We honour and uphold the Dish With One Spoon Treaty, we commit to valuing the Two Row Wampum and we vow to treat the land and people of our community with understanding built on mutual respect.

This land acknowledgement reminds us of the ongoing need for education and action toward reconciliation and that there is more to be done on our campus. We encourage our community members to take time to recognize the lands on which we teach, learn and live and to educate themselves in the Indigenous histories and current realities of those lands.

As we advance our global mission, we remain committed to creating pathways for meaningful engagement and partnerships with Indigenous communities, ensuring that our academic and social contributions reflect the values of respect, reciprocity and responsibility.

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Message from the Assistant Vice-President, International

At Toronto Metropolitan University (TMU), our commitment to global engagement is inseparable from our mission to serve societal needs and be a leader in innovative, inclusive education. TMU Global places a central role in advancing this vision, and our work is guided by the International Plan (2025-2030), which sets the framework for how we will deepen our global presence and impact over the next five years.

This local plan translates those priorities into concrete actions and initiatives, aligning with the Academic Plan 2025-2030 to ensure that internationalization strengthens every aspect of the student, faculty and community experience.

Our priorities are ambitious yet focused. Each priority is designed to elevate TMU's standing globally, while staying true to our values and the needs of our diverse community.

I am excited to share this plan with you, and I invite you to see it as both a roadmap and a call to action. Together, we will strengthen TMU's role on the global stage, expand opportunities for students and faculty, and ensure that our international engagement is innovative, inclusive, and impactful.

DR. CORY SEARCY

Assistant Vice-President, International

View the full [International Plan](#) here, with its four pillars: build a community of international students, broaden access to global opportunities, strengthen international and transnational partnerships, and increase international impact.

Local Academic Plan

TMU Global is committed to the vision and mission of the Academic Plan, and is guided by the International Plan 2025-2030 to drive our priorities over the next five years. This local plan outlines the activities and initiatives we plan to implement to achieve the priorities of the 2025-2030 Academic Plan.

The local plan is informed by the extensive consultation and approval process for the International Plan 2025-2030. This included an internal assessment of the international portfolio, an external review, and consultations with key stakeholders. The consultations included a committee of the whole consultation with the TMU Senate in May 2023. Additional consultation was conducted between February and May 2024. These consultations garnered input from executive leaders, Vice-Provosts, Deans, critical portfolio offices (e.g., OVPRI, University Relations, UPO, Registrar, etc.), faculty members, and students. Before its implementation, the International Plan was also discussed in a second committee of the whole consultation with the TMU Senate in December 2024.

PRIORITY 1

ENHANCE STUDENT LEARNING JOURNEY FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

TMU Global is focused on supporting a holistic student experience by implementing our Transnational Education Strategy, which offers innovative programs and opportunities to students offshore, mirroring those available to onshore students. We will diversify regional and programmatic enrolment through various networks and channels, all of which will be supported by rigorous admission practices and targeted communications. The success of these activities will be measured through student satisfaction surveys, positive revenue, an increase in new partnerships, and increased student enrolment.

To strengthen academic programming, TMU Global will collaborate with the Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT) to continue partnering on activities that support faculty in international engagement, whether in the classroom or abroad. We will develop English language modules and programs to prepare potential international students for their transition to TMU's undergraduate and graduate programs. We will work with the Faculties, including the Yeates School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (YSGPS), to develop articulation agreements and double degree programs. These initiatives will be measured by key metrics, including increased faculty participation in international activities, the number of program offerings delivered offshore, the number of partners and articulations, student enrolment growth, and positive revenue.

PRIORITY 2

SRC EXCELLENCE AND LOCAL AND GLOBAL COLLABORATION

TMU Global strives to make an impact through SRC and innovation by increasing faculty engagement activities to encourage international partnerships and SRC output. Working with the Office of the Vice-President, Research and Innovation (OVPRI), we plan to expand the inbound and outbound visiting researchers program by developing a comprehensive support system for both visitors and their host supervisors. TMU has been awarded a five-year grant from Global Affairs Canada (GAC) to support graduate scholars in partnership with universities in South Africa. The impact of these activities will be measured by the increase in faculty engagement and activities, an increase in visiting researchers, and additional funding to support these activities.

We aim to engage globally for a world of perspectives by strengthening and increasing our global learning opportunities through improved access and engagement. Led by our Transnational Education Strategy, we will explore innovative models of accessible education, including articulation agreements, joint programs, and dual degrees. Anchored in TMU Global's Regional Prioritization Approach, we will also work to expand opportunities for TMU across other domains of global activity, including research, student mobility, and entrepreneurship. The success of these activities will be measured by the increase in students participating in global learning and transnational education opportunities, positive revenue, and the introduction of additional transnational education offerings. A refreshed approach to international rankings is a key priority to improve TMU's ranking performance on a global scale, guided and measured by the Rankings Strategy.

To lead as a city and community builder, we plan to strengthen and expand on our global learning opportunities for students and deepen our relations with our global alumni and donors through strengthened connections to local diasporic communities. An increase in students participating in global learning opportunities and increased international alumni engagement events is how we will measure success for these activities.

PRIORITY 3

SUPPORT PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY

TMU Global prioritizes the promotion of health, well-being, and safety of our community by deepening our comprehensive, centralized support for full-degree seeking international undergraduate and graduate students. We are positioning TMU to be a global leader in student support services by offering mental health support training to international high school counsellors and further building on our support for student mental health. We will also continue to refine our approach to travel risk assessment. We will determine the success of these initiatives by measuring increases in attendance at organized events and trainings, receiving satisfactory responses in student surveys, and an increase in support offered to students.

We embrace community inclusion and belonging for all students. Our goal is to increase our international student enrolment for undergraduate, graduate, and continuing education programs, and expand funding opportunities and non-financial support for international students. These supports are inclusive of transparent international admission practices, policies, and adjudication, as well as successful Study Permit application services. We aim to broaden access to international opportunities for all students with innovative program and partnership models to meet the needs and interests of our student body. We will continue to pursue scholarship funding to support international student mobility. Success for these initiatives will be determined by an increase in international student enrolment, funding opportunities, and students engaging in global opportunities.

PRIORITY 4

COMMITMENT TO TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

Advancing Indigenous scholarship and education enables TMU to identify opportunities to provide access for Indigenous students to TMU degree programs and international opportunities. TMU Global is working with faculty to design and deliver impactful international learning experiences for Indigenous students, in collaboration with Gdoo-maawnjidiimi Mompil Indigenous Student Services (GMISS), the Office of the Vice-President, Equity and Community Inclusion (OVPECI), and University Advancement (UA).

TMU Global is committed to building partnerships with Indigenous communities by leading conversations and initiatives that support Indigenous learning in global mobility with our peers in network organizations. Our purpose is to expand partnerships with Indigenous communities in Canada and globally, and to create mobility opportunities specifically designed for Indigenous students and leaders. We aim to see more Indigenous students and leaders engaging in global learning opportunities, and to see our model replicated across other institutions and national agencies.

PRIORITY 5

ENSURE FUTURE-READINESS

To prepare our students for evolving careers, we aim to deepen our relationships with our global alumni and donors and to strengthen our global learning opportunities with a variety of for-credit and academically relevant models. Our Transnational Education Strategy guides us in incorporating entrepreneurial programming into our student offerings and international recruitment efforts. Indicators of success will include an increase in international alumni engagement and events, a rise in students and industry partners participating in entrepreneurial programming, and the provision of additional global learning opportunities and funding.

To reimagine learning and teaching, TMU Global will explore innovative models of virtual learning, such as Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) and asymmetric exchange, to enable students to engage in global learning. We will work with CELT to support faculty professional development in modes of international engagement, whether in the classroom or abroad. Our goal is to increase the number of faculty members trained to develop and run COIL and virtual exchange programs, as well as to expand the number of faculty members engaged in global activities.

TMU Global strives to cultivate sustainability through several activities that aim to make a positive impact across the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as guided by TMU's Sustainability Action Plan and International Rankings Strategy. The SDGs are considered when evaluating potential inbound and outbound partnerships. They are integrated into the English Language Institute's curriculum, enabling students to learn, collaborate, and engage with real-world issues. We aim to increase the number of research publications aligned with the SDGs, to contribute to a higher international ranking for TMU.

