

Internationalization at Western: A Multi-Pronged Approach

March 14, 2025

A great university is a global university

- Internationalization is central to Western's strategic plans (*Western in the World, Towards Western at 150, Mobilize for Impact!*)
- Diverse perspectives, learning experiences & global connections
- Our goal: Increase international enrolment to 20 per cent.



Internationalization at Western: A Multi-Pronged Approach

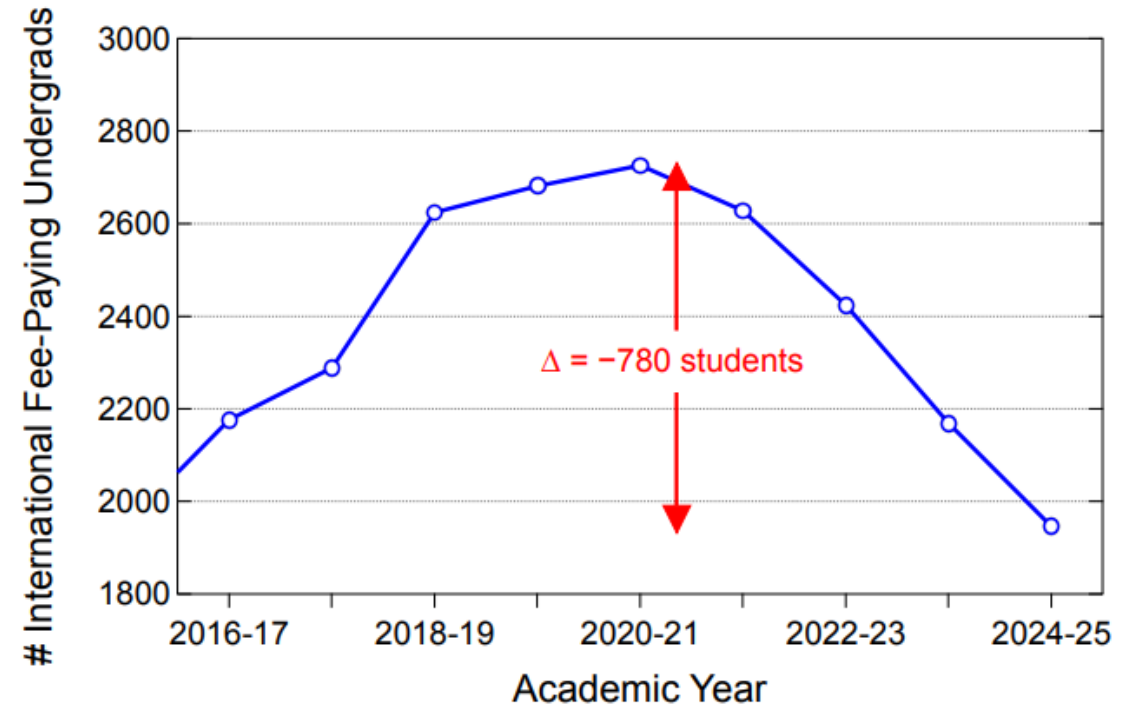
- ***Western in the World*** outlines our plans for global engagement. These include:
 - Strengthening and enhancing partnerships in teaching, learning and research
 - Expanding opportunities for research and academic exchanges
 - Enhancing international and intercultural learning and research experiences
 - Engaging our global network of alumni
 - Facilitating research contributing to advancing the UN SDGs
 - **Increasing, diversifying, and supporting our international student community**

Internationalization at Western

- Western has the lowest proportion of international undergraduates in the U6
- International undergraduate student numbers have declined since 2019

Challenges:

- Frozen domestic tuition (since 2019) & stagnant provincial grants (since 2016)
- International student study permit caps
- Increased competition from other Canadian universities with deeper global networks.



Potential Partnership with a Third-Party Educational Provider

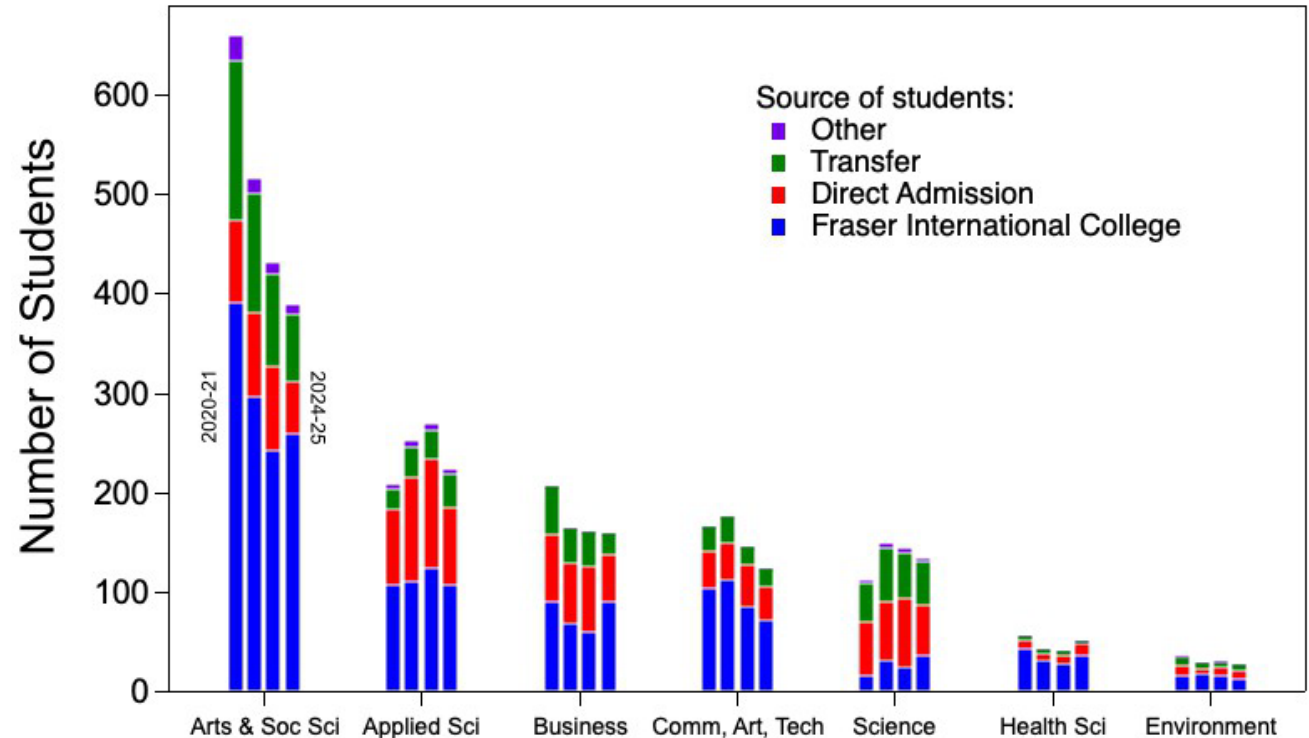
- **Recruitment and Education:** Identify students who wouldn't otherwise find their way to us, support their success
- **Undergraduate Pathway:** Bridge successful undergraduate students into year two of their program of study at Western
- **Professional Master's Pathway:** Prepare successful pre-master's students to enter into professional master's programs

Why consider a partnership with Navitas?

- Partnership with 39 universities/institutions in 16 countries
- Partnership with globally ranked institutions in the top 200:
 - University of Melbourne (QS #13)
 - University of Sydney (QS #18),
 - Lancaster University (QS #141), and
 - Deakin University (QS #197)
- Proven recruitment network—60,000+ students recruited annually from 151 countries
- Canadian knowledge, experience, ownership and leadership location

Navitas Canada

- Navitas currently partners with five universities in Canada
- Simon Fraser University has had a Navitas college (the Fraser International College) on campus since 2006
- FIC students are distributed across 7 of their 8 Faculties and account for approximately half of their yearly intake of more than 1100 international students



How would a partnership with Navitas work at Western?

- Recruitment Oversight
- Pathway Admission and Transition to Western
- Academic Work
- Academic Oversight
- Success Metrics
- Student Support Services
- Student Experience

Student support services

Some examples of academic and non-academic supports

- Four-hour instruction blocks that include interactive learning methods
- Extra hour of instruction per week
- Smaller class sizes
- Drop-in workshops (study skills, writing skills, proofreading, etc.)
- Mandatory tutorials & workshops
- Interdisciplinary Learning Skills (mand.)
- Weekly Academic and Innovation Challenges
- Tailored Pre-arrival course (required)
- Western Orientation and International College Orientation Programs
- Assigned counselor for academic, wellness, cultural, wayfinding and other supports
- Daily lunch-hour programming
- Attendance monitoring and follow-ups
- 24/7 advisor support
- Field Trips

Student experience: it is up to us to shape it in collaboration with our partner

Integration from Day 1 will matter

- Integrated residence life experience
- Participation in orientation
- Faculty and departmental/ school visits
- Participation in clubs and student events
- Classes and labs on main campus

Benefits to Western

Global Engagement

- Expands Western's global footprint
- Strengthens alumni networks worldwide
- Enhances our profile and reputation

Financial

- Tuition revenue boost: 200 additional undergraduate students = \$10M in tuition revenue per year
- Royalties from Navitas for each student enrolled in year one at International College
- Direct benefits and compensation to the units involved in academic oversight and hiring
- Increased funding for educational and research missions
- Does not incur operational costs

Benefits to Western (*A Simulation Only*)

| Year | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | 2026-27 | 2027-28 | 2028-29 | 2029-30 | 2030-31 | 2031-32 | 2032-33 |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Full-Time Undergraduates: | | | | | | | | | |
| Domestic – all years | 27,394 | 27,165 | 27,149 | 26,700 | 26,564 | 26,604 | 26,604 | 26,604 | 26,604 |
| International – Year 1 | 523 | 580 | 630 | 680 | 730 | 780 | 800 | 800 | 800 |
| International – Years 2–4 | 1,689 | 1,394 | 1,272 | 1,267 | 1,399 | 1,500 | 1,716 | 1,808 | 1,859 |
| Total Undergraduates | 29,606 | 29,139 | 29,051 | 28,647 | 28,693 | 28,884 | 29,120 | 29,212 | 29,263 |
| % International | 7.5% | 6.8% | 6.5% | 6.8% | 7.4% | 7.9% | 8.6% | 8.9% | 9.1% |
| Possible WIC Partnership: | | | | | | | | | |
| Y1 WIC | | | 80 | 120 | 200 | 400 | 600 | 800 | 800 |
| WIC → Y2 at Western | | | | 68 | 102 | 170 | 340 | 510 | 680 |
| Progressing to Y3 at Western | | | | | 61 | 92 | 153 | 306 | 459 |
| Progressing to Y4 at Western | | | | | | 55 | 83 | 138 | 275 |
| Total Incremental Int'l | | | | 68 | 163 | 317 | 576 | 954 | 1414 |
| Resulting % International | 7.5% | 6.8% | 6.5% | 7.0% | 7.9% | 8.9% | 10.4% | 11.8% | 13.3% |

Draft timeline

Dates

Consultation

Feb – Mar 2025

Initial community consultations to inform a possible draft proposal

March 2025

Website launched with updates and FAQs (includes consultation info)

April – May 2025

Community consultations on a possible draft proposal

May – June 2025

Revise possible draft proposal and seek approvals (Senate & Board)

January 2026

Subject to Senate & Board approval - possible first international professional master's intake

September 2026

Subject to Senate & Board approval - possible first international undergraduate intake

Thank you.



Western
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