Introduction
The APLU Institutional Award for Global Learning, Research, and Engagement recognizes member institutions and their leaders who excel in their efforts to drive an inclusive approach to their global engagement, research, and learning, while measuring the impact of these efforts.

As an organization bringing together North America’s public and land-grant universities, APLU is committed to public service, to providing access to a high-quality global education for all students, and to tackling global problems. APLU believes every graduating student in North America must have numerous opportunities for significant global learning—exploring the interconnections between people and places around the world and deepening their understanding of similarities and differences across the globe.

The award recognizes institutional results and demonstrated commitment during the last six years towards:

1) Inclusivity—the degree to which the institution is committed to and successful in empowering all students through global learning;

2) Internationalization of Research and Engagement—the degree to which the institution is committed to the internationalization of research and engagement;
3) **Leadership and Pervasiveness**—the degree to which the institution’s leadership (at the president/chancellor or provost level) has made internationalization a priority for the institution and the degree to which internationalization pervades the culture across campus; and

4) **Assessment**—the degree to which the institution is committed to measuring progress and impact of internationalization across the institution.

**Eligibility**

All APLU member institutions (not systems) are eligible to submit one application per year for the APLU Institutional Award for Global Learning, Research and Engagement. Finalists and Gold Award winners from previous years are encouraged to re-apply. Only complete applications will be reviewed. For a list of APLU member institutions, please visit [http://www.aplu.org/members/our-members/index.html](http://www.aplu.org/members/our-members/index.html)

**Submissions for the award are due by Friday, July 2, 2021.** Each year one winner of the APLU Institutional Award for Global Learning, Research and Engagement will be selected for receipt of the Platinum Institutional Award. In addition, APLU may award 1-3 “Gold Awards” for excellence in one or several of the four evaluation criteria for this award.

The Platinum Award winner and Gold awardees will be celebrated at the 2021 Annual Meeting in November. The Platinum Award winner is expected to produce a 2-3 minute video to present their efforts during the 2021 APLU Annual Meeting. The video will be used as part of the award ceremony and to highlight your experience to help foster further innovation and adoption of best practices across the higher education community.

**Submission Guidelines and Competition Rules**

**I. Application Submission**

Electronic applications will be accepted until 11:59PM (Eastern Time) on Friday, July 2, 2021. A complete application will include the following elements:

- APLU Institutional Award Cover Page (can be downloaded [here](http://www.aplu.org/members/our-members/index.html))
- Abstract Page (300 word limit)
- Narrative (4,000 word limit for all four sections combined – to be allocated as needed to each of the four sections)
- Letter of endorsement from the president/chancellor/rector of the institution
- Your institution’s mission, vision, and internationalization statements – up to 5 pages
- A list of individuals who were involved in developing the submission
- Optional appendix – up to 5 pages – can include other supporting materials

All application materials should be combined into a single PDF file and submitted via email to Jordan Merker at jmerker@aplu.org.
II. Application Components

**Abstract:** Summarize how your university’s internationalization efforts have moved the conversation forward with respect to inclusivity; research and engagement; leadership and pervasiveness; and assessment, as described above. The abstract should be a concise description that can be used on the APLU website and in the APLU Annual Meeting program.

**Section 1: Inclusivity—the degree to which the institution is committed to empowering all students through global learning.**
Demonstrate how your institution is committed to empowering all students through global learning. To the extent possible provide quantitative indicators of how inclusive your internationalization efforts have been to date and describe how you are working to improve inclusiveness across all dimensions of diversity—socio-economic or first-generation status, gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age or other categories your institution may monitor. Recognizing that not all students cross international borders during their education, explain how your institution fosters “internationalization at home” and provide evidence of innovative approaches to inclusive global learning.

**Section 2: Internationalization of Research and Engagement—the degree to which the institution is committed to the internationalization of research and engagement.**
Provide concrete evidence demonstrating how your institution’s research and engagement missions have benefited from internationalization efforts at your institution. Provide evidence demonstrating how the institution supports internationalization of research and engagement activities and show the impact of your accomplishments in these areas. Engagement is defined as: “the collaboration between institutions of higher education and their larger communities (local, regional/state, national, global) for the mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and resources in a context of partnership and reciprocity.”

**Section 3: Leadership and Pervasiveness—the degree to which the institution’s leadership (president/chancellor or provost level) has made internationalization a priority for the institution and the degree to which internationalization pervades the culture across campus.**
Describe how your institution’s leadership makes internationalization a priority within the mission, vision, values, and organizational structure of the university. How does the leadership of your institution show its commitment to internationalization, particularly to internationalizing the curriculum? How does the administration work with faculty, staff, and students to foster a pervasive culture of internationalization? Describe the reach and breadth of your internationalization efforts.

**Section 4: Assessment— the degree to which the institution is committed to measuring progress and impact of internationalization across the institution.**
How does your institution measure progress (towards increased inclusiveness and pervasiveness of internationalization as well as other goals related to internationalization) and assess the outcomes/impact from internationalization? Applicants should include any key performance indicators in this section.
**Additional Required Documentation:**

1. **Letter of Endorsement**
   Applications must include a letter of endorsement from the president/chancellor/rector of the institution. The letter should provide evidence of the institutional commitment to engagement, such as citing mission, engagement plan, organizational structure, and/or specific outcomes.

2. **Your institution’s mission, vision, and internationalization statements – up to 5 pages.**

3. **A list of who was involved (name, title, office) in the development of the submission.**

**Additional Optional Documentation**

Applications may include up to five pages of additional relevant information. All application materials should be combined into a single PDF file and submitted via email to Jordan Merker at jmerker@aplu.org.

**III. Application and Activities Timeline**

**Monday, March 8:** Launch request for applications

**Monday, March 8 – Friday, July 2:** Application preparation period

**Monday, March 8 – Friday, June 4:** Question period—questions to be submitted to APLU in writing at jmerker@aplu.org.

**Friday, July 2 at 11:59 PM (Eastern Time):** Deadline for application submission

**Monday, July 5 – Friday, August 13:** Review panel will review proposals and determine the Platinum winner and Gold awardees (if applicable).

**Wednesday, August 25:** Platinum winner and Gold awardees notified.

**Wednesday, August 25 – Friday, October 1:** Platinum Award winner prepares 2-3 minute video for the APLU Annual Meeting

**Monday, October 4:** Platinum Award winner video submission due

**Review procedures**

APLU will appoint a panel to review applications. The panel membership will avoid conflicts of interest. For evaluation of the main award, each section of the narrative will be weighted equally with 20 points for each section.

**For questions please contact:**

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