

## INTO SLU Partnership Update

provost@slu.edu

Fri 8/20/2021 3:39 PM

Dear Colleagues,

I write to provide you with an update on Saint Louis University's partnership with INTO.

Since 2015, INTO SLU has been a company jointly owned by SLU and INTO. I have served as a member of the INTO SLU Joint Venture Board for several of those years, and I have worked with my board colleagues in recent months to assess opportunities to evolve our partnership. We have agreed that our partnership will change to sole INTO ownership of INTO SLU effective immediately. In addition, SLU will supplement the partnership by continuing to recruit students for Academic English, Pathway and Direct Entry. By collaborating with INTO, and amplifying SLU's own recruitment efforts, we believe that we will grow and sustain our international enrollment.

The partnership between SLU and INTO has resulted in many successes for our international students and the University, including the initial accreditation of the ESL Program in August 2020. This change in our relationship with INTO will be important for the ongoing success of our partnership and will provide us with an opportunity to increase our international enrollment while maintaining the academic integrity and rigor of our preparatory English language curriculum. We will continue our regular assessment of the partnership following this change to ensure we're meeting our shared goals and benchmarks.

All ESL Program faculty and the staff who have reporting lines to the University will remain SLU employees. The faculty remain governed by all the rights, powers, privileges, and responsibilities set forth in the *Faculty Manual* and University workload policies. Those staff with reporting lines to INTO SLU will continue to be INTO SLU employees. INTO SLU will stay under the collaborative leadership of Lisa Fischer as Academic Director and Tim Hercules as Executive Director. Dr. Fischer will report through Academic Affairs to the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, and will remain a member of the Provost Office staff. Admissions criteria, enrollment targets, and academic standards will continue to be set and reviewed by SLU.

The University, including me and the entire Provost's office and staff, remain committed to the recruitment, education, and success of students from around the world and to supporting the retention and excellence of the faculty and staff who instruct and serve those students. The ESL Program's mission to prepare academically talented English language learners for successful academic careers at SLU is an important part of our institutional commitment, and the INTO Partnership will continue to support that mission through the recruitment and student support services it provides.

Sincerely,

Mike Lewis, Ph.D.  
Provost