

Global Priorities Committee:
Annual Report to the Academic Council, 2024-2025
Krishna Udayakumar, Chair

Introduction

The Global Priorities Committee (GPC) is an advisory body to the Provost that was re-activated during this academic year after being dormant since 2022. The GPC is charged with reviewing and refining Duke's global strategy and assessing university and academic programs and activities operating globally, both when they are being created and in monitoring ongoing performance.

Organization and Meeting Cadence

The membership of the GPC comprises 10-15 faculty members, including one member of the Executive Committee of the Academic Council and one or two from the broader membership of the Academic Council. The GPC Chair is a member of the faculty. Other administrators serve as ex officio members. The term is three years with the possibility of reappointment. Committee membership is provided in **Appendix One**.

The Committee meets monthly, for a total of approximately nine meetings per academic year. The Committee also held a workshop/retreat in January 2025 in order to have deeper working sessions.

GPC Activities During the 2024-25 Academic Year

During the 2024-25 academic year, the GPC has undertaken an assessment of Duke's global activities and engagement and developed recommendations regarding forward-looking vision and strategic priorities. The GPC has also liaised with the Steering Committee for Strategic Engagement with the Duke Board of Trustees in order to align with efforts to engage trustees in considering Duke's global priorities.

The major activity during this year has been the iterative development of recommendations for:

- Vision and principles for global engagement;
- Strategic priorities, both topical and geographic;
- Platforms for innovation in interdisciplinary research and education;
- Categorization of global activities, to enable program and portfolio management;
- Administrative support and risk management; and
- Measures of success.

Draft recommendations will be shared with the Provost and trustees to inform a discussion with the trustees at the May meeting of the Board. Following that discussion, the GPC will incorporate feedback and develop a full report to submit to the Provost over the summer.

Moving into the next academic year, we envision wide engagement across the university regarding the vision and principles for global engagement, while also transitioning toward a scope of regularly reviewing proposals, programs, and support systems for global engagement.

Advisory Committee for Duke Kunshan University

Organized as a subcommittee of GPC but operating independently, the Advisory Committee for Duke Kunshan University (DKU) is charged with looking at Duke's strategic partnership with Wuhan University and the Kunshan Municipal People's Government and helping inform Duke's strategy regarding the partnership. This group began its work during this academic year and will continue into the next year.

Respectfully submitted,
Krishna Udayakumar, Chair, Global Priorities Committee

Appendix One

Members of the Global Priorities Committee (all current members were appointed starting in the 2024-25 academic year):

- **Krishna Udayakumar (chair)**, Director of the Duke Global Health Innovation Center; Associate Professor of the Practice of Global Health
- **Alex Belloni**, Westgate Distinguished Professor of Decision Sciences, Fuqua School of Business
- **Fred Boadu**, Associate Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering
- **David Bowersox***, Vice Provost for Finance and Administration
- **Eve Duffy***, Associate Vice Provost for Global Affairs
- **Yakut Gazi***, Vice Provost for Learning Innovation and Digital Education
- **Claudia Gunsch**, Muriel Theodorsen Williams E'46 Distinguished Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering
- **Valerie Hausman***, Associate Vice Provost for Duke Kunshan University (DKU) and Duke University Programming and Strategy
- **Jiaoti Huang**, Johnston-West Distinguished Professor of Pathology
- **Jayne Huckerby**, Clinical Professor of Law, Duke Law School
- **Tsitsi Jaji**, Helen L. Bevington Associate Professor of Modern Poetry
- **Trina Jones***, Academic Council Chair, Jerome M. Culp Distinguished Professor of Law, Duke Law School
- **Amanda Kelso***, Associate Vice Provost, Undergraduate Education
- **Anirudh Krishna**, Edgar T. Thompson Distinguished Professor of Public Policy, Sanford School of Public Policy
- **Divine Kumah**, Associate Professor of Physics
- **Timur Kuran**, Professor of Economics and Political Science, and Gorter Family Distinguished Professor of Islamic Studies
- **Eddy Malesky**, Professor of Political Science, Sanford School of Public Policy; Director of Duke Center for International Development
- **Noah Pickus ***, Associate Provost
- **Toddi Steelman***, Vice President and Vice Provost for Climate and Sustainability
- **Eleanor Stevenson**, Clinical Professor in the School of Nursing
- **Erika Weinthal**, John O. Blackburn Distinguished Professor, Nicholas School of the Environment
- **Samira Wellemeyer***, Administrative Director, Office of Duke-NUS Affairs

*indicates ex officio