Comments on the International Engagement Mission Statement from faculty at UH Hilo:

* The document seems to have been written so that any campus can do    
  whatever it wants re: International Engagement as long as it does not    
  compete with another campus.  Nothing is really required other than    
  plans, communication of the plans, and a method to collect enrollment    
  data.  I would hope for something more concrete.
* Why is the Pacific not even mentioned in strategic direction?  It is much more an area of strength than Japan, Korea and China.  I can only assume that it is because the region was not represented on the Committee drafting the document.
* We are ignoring Latin America once again.  It is on the Pacific and is becoming more and more important to Hawaii's economy.
* Here is one minor question: should we be specific about including Australia and New Zealand. I believe that strategically they are worth identifying by name.
* Collaborate in international marketing and recruitment, where appropriate, to

avoid duplication of effort and to **conserve**  limited financial and human resources

* The University of Hawai‘i must continue to foster global knowledge and skills, international perspectives and attitudes, and the ability to adapt to a rapidly changing **world.**
* Thank you for sending this out. I think there are some serious gaps in this statement, aside from a general weakness of purpose. The statement should acknowledge the role and desirability of UH to welcome and develop ties with the U.S. Affiliated Pacific Islands given the large number of students from these areas, as well as the increasing populations of Micronesians, Marshallese, Chamorros and others in our state. Additionally, Latino comprise about 16% of the total U.S. population and about 8% of Hawaii's. Both are projected to continue to grow rapidly and Spanish is already the nation's second language. We should not neglect programs or initiatives that develop strong linkages to Latin American countries (also considered Pacific Rim nations) which share many cultural, environmental and possible economic ties. If our students fall behind in knowledge and familiarity of Spanish language and Latino issues, we are handicapping them as future U.S. citizens where some familiarity with these are marketable traits. Who made the decision that North Asian linkages are the priority? Once more this neglects the strong presence and role of SE Asians, specifically Filipinos, Thais and others from that region.
* The document is encouraging and its attention to indigenous serving institutions is something especially relevant to us here at Ka Haka 'Ula. As usual, I am concerned that there is much talk about us being a system and working together, but that when the funds and actual support comes to light it goes to the large Manoa campus regardless of the leadership shown at UH-Hilo. Relative to Hawaiian and indigenous language revitalization, UH-Hilo is clearly the leading entity and if support is to be given, it needs to be made here first. Uniquely in the system we have a Ph.D. focusing on indigenous language revitalization, a laboratory school program developing it, a museum that integrates it into the contemporary world, and a B.A. in linguistics focusing on language revitalization for those other than Native Hawaiians. I think that something needs to be said in the document as to how priorities are to be determined relative to the various areas, that is in the area of indigenous studies, there are several subareas, e.g., politics, contemporary arts, dance, language, etc. Does all support go to Manoa as in the past? I hope the next version of this statement could be a bit more inclusive and recognize the realities of Hawaii's and the U.S.'s populations, economic possibilities and current ties.
* I am very surprised and pleased by this effort to organize our international programs and create a system-wide strategic plan to move forward. In Student Affairs today, we met for two hours to strategize about how to Meet or Exceed the 2011-13 Budget Performance Outcomes. These Performance Outcomes are the brainchild of Linda Johnsrud. There are NO incentives in those performance outcomes to recruit, retain and graduate international students, except for students from Palau, FSM & the Marshall Islands, who are eligible for the Pell Grant. Nor are there Budget Performance Outcome incentives to send our UH Hilo students abroad. Nor to include an international dimension in our curricula. Nor for international faculty exchange. There is no incentive for any sort of “International Engagement.” And we at UH Hilo are focusing a lot of effort on lining up our activities to reap these incentives. So I felt as if I had entered a parallel universe when I opened your email message’s attachment and saw this draft. It is music to my ears. If I weren’t retiring in December I would be pleased to work on UH Hilo’s plan. But there will be my successor and the folks at the Center for Global Education and Exchange who have great ideas about International Education for UH Hilo and are helping us to move forward now.