

Data from POLT 2550, Politics of Development
 Spring II, 2007, Webster Thailand, Hua Hin, May 9th, 2007

<p>To superficially combine ethnicities, whilst benefiting from tax cuts</p>	<p>To provide and maintain a minimalist provisionary education. By ignoring for the benefit of short-term profit a largely untapped intellectual community.</p>	<p>To allow its overseas branches to drift apart. Largely due to a lack of geographically enlightened administration, and thus to lose its every possible edge in a largely booming industry.</p>
<p>I've never heard of the mission statement by the administration here, but I would guess: opening up franchise schools around the world with the lure of an American degree, while also catering to overseas/mobile U.S. population.</p>	<p>Attracting students from around the world, especially in less reputable countries with the prospect of easy transfers.</p>	<p>Provide critical education to sites (such as Thailand) that have a paucity of them, but succeeds more at serializing them to popular American values/view. The latter of the two is important for understanding global differences on world-view.</p>
<p>Cultural understanding for their many campuses worldwide.</p>	<p>I'm not sure what the missions are but I believe that it is to bring the student to success, meaning to have good career opportunities.</p>	<p>But at the same time grading students based on personal feeling, such as the way students dress (in this case, revealing) and not about the essay or anything written in the course syllabus.</p>
<p>W.U. is the university of mix of cultures.</p>		
<p>Reorganizing department under teaching.</p>	<p>Giving scholarship (possible)</p>	<p>Taking care of students' education.</p>
<p>Obtaining international connections with other universities in other countries.</p>	<p>Equalification [sic] of quality of education between Webster University campuses.</p>	<p>Encouraging more students to study abroad?!</p>
<p>Making students work anywhere in the world, meaning that giving students lots of experience, skills, abilities and confidence.</p>	<p>Making or teaching all the students use English very fluently.</p>	

<p>This is what I understand the key goals of Webster University to be, not what they should be or are stated as: To make as much money as possible from the student body, while at the same time giving back as little as possible.</p>	<p>Hiring unqualified teachers who make substantially more than their teaching ability deserves (even if work experience may offer useful anecdotes)</p>	<p>Taking advantage of female students by way of using the power of being a teacher. To additionally abuse the authority granted by the university (I say this word loosely) to allow personal feelings to influence grade giving. This is in very limited cases, not the majority of courses, but in the worst case scenarios. The new rector has already done much on our campus to improve the conditions of our education. These missions are changing.</p>
<p>To obtain money – simply put, “students are our customers.”</p>	<p>To provide a different standard for non-English speaking students with an easy grading system for classes compared to native speakers. Both on the undergraduate and graduate level. (By the way, I am Asian.)</p>	<p>Our facilities are very poor. As a school, we would not be able to operate elsewhere because we would get shut down/sued. We still proceed and strive to take advantage in providing our students with an American degree – the only one available in Thailand.</p>
<p>I think Webster is an organization which is trying to maximize its profit. It gives retirees jobs in Thailand. Give students a chance to deal with terrible school system, confused communication system.</p>		
<p>Webster gives students chances to open their minds to worldwide by opening many campuses around the world.</p>		
<p>Create a true cultural diversity environment.</p>		

To promote American education in South East Asia basically in Thailand.	To expand Webster education network.	To make money.
To provide quality education in a small classroom setting.	To provide a global perspective in education.	To pursue a liberal-arts style education, maintaining a well-rounded curriculum for students.
To provide a high quality education for its students.	To prepare its students from professional careers.	Enhance cultural experience.
To help students to get a job or interests by teaching.		
To appear to be global by expanding to obscure locations.	To over-emphasize racial differences to the point that it becomes a vice.	To have and maintain small class sizes – which is very forward thinking and beneficial, for both teacher and students. To acquire good teacher quality by hiring those most qualified.
To provide sub-standard education at as many locations as possible.	To fund St. Louis's infrastructure development as a façade for mismanaged global campuses.	To promote self-education as an alternative to depending on the university for quality education.
Providing American education in Asia.	Making money.	Spreading American culture and values.
Set up as many sub-par schools internationally as possible.	Make as much money with the least amount of investment.	Make its internal system as confusing as possible so no one can figure out who is responsible.

Written reactions after reading University's mission statement:

Fostering in students a commitment to contribute actively to their own communities and the world, is an important mission (now that I have read it) but it must start by sparking interest in their own communities. In the case of Webster Thailand we have a large Burmese, Vietnamese and Nepali community. With the exception of the Vietnamese, many students do not see a future in their own countries. We are situated in Thailand, in Asia, yet our courses about Asia are very small. Most students here are from rich families and enter as freshmen. If they are not truly educated about the possibilities and a critical understanding of their own cultures than they are missing home-base, while not quite yet a member of the international community. Education should be indigenized to each specific location and cater to the bigger populations on campus. Another mission to include should be to encourage anti-authoritarianism, in all its forms. This also means questioning the status quo and constructed reality.

Shouldn't in fact the mission and values listed as most important to Webster University include 'to provide a well designed and planned, and up to American as well as international levels education'? Initially, one would suppose that this goal would come first- a good education. But as the world of Webster develops around the teachers, one finds that experience and knowing how to teach well are two very different concepts. When one works at a job, it grants experience – that is a working knowledge of the field. When one is a teacher, usually classified by additional schooling at the level of, at the very least, a masters – others suppose that the instructional ability of that educator would be at university levels. Sadly, in many instances for Webster University, intelligence is not always closely related to knowledge. Teaching is a difficult profession- one that may not be suited for those who do not know how to convey their knowledge.

As I have read through the handout mission and values I found that it didn't state that "to provide a good education" which I believe is an important fact. Also the mission and values should add: to teach, provide knowledge and grading without prejudice," meaning that some teachers here at W.U. Thailand taught with prejudice, and unfairness, for example giving favor to female students who dress inappropriate. Or students who join in outside classroom activities with the teacher and then get good grades although their essays are a bunch of crap. And also whatever state in the syllabus is not going right because that teacher judges everything by his own feeling. When the rector comes to check and sit in the classroom that teacher is, of course performed his best but later...no. Students are afraid to tell because they might be in danger so the W.U. should do something about it.

Encourages creativity, scholarship and individual enterprise in its students and faculty. Creates a student-centered environment accessible to individuals of diverse ages, cultures and socioeconomic backgrounds. Encourages in its students a critical perspective, a respect for diversity and an understanding of their own and others' values.

First, the mission of fostering in W.U.T. students a life long desire to learn and commitment to contribute actively to their communities and the world is STUPID! The mission should be changed to improving the quality of classes, improving the connection between professors and students and keep checking the improvement of professors. I strongly believe a good and close relationship with a well qualified professor encourages students' desire to keep studying later on. Moreover, the mission sounds too broad and vague. I think a mission Webster should have is equalization of quality of education and services between its campuses. As I am a W.U.T. student. I first came to W.U.T. not only to get an American degree but also to get relatively structured education and services to main campus.

Since fall semester, 2007, we are going to have 16 week courses. However, we can take up to five classes which doesn't make any sense to many students. We are supposed to take up to six classes because we took three classes each term. We need a larger gym. As many people know, a lot of students love playing badminton at the gym. However, we have only one court which means only four people can play at once. We need a better library. At the library, there are not many books. We often cannot find a useful book for writing our essay. Also, there are only 14 or 15 computers, therefore, often we cannot use the computer because any computer is not available. Some professors have some problems that do not make any sense to students. Some professors ask to do weird or ridiculous work, and some professors give grades to students which do not make any sense. Also, some classes such as 1,000 or 2,000 classes are supposed to be easier than other classes such as 3,000 or 4,000 classes. However sometimes 1,000 or 2,000 classes are much more difficult than 3,000 or 4,000 classes.

Encourages creativity, scholarship and individual enterprise in its students and faculty. Develops educational programs that join theory and practice and instills in students the spirit of systematic inquiry. Creates a student-oriented environment accessible to individuals of diverse ages, cultures, and socioeconomic backgrounds.

Student-centered environment, international perspective, high quality of education.

Create a student-centered environment accessible to individuals of diverse ages, cultures and socio economic backgrounds. Encourages in its students a critical perspective, a respect for diversity to contribute actively to their communities and the world.

(The Mission) Should add the equal opportunities and education to all on campus. Meaning that all students in all Webster campuses have equal right to opportunities and education quality. The mission that should be taken out: The life long desire to commitment to communities and the world. The way it said makes me feel like this is what it has to be. I have to commit myself to the community. I think it should be the student's choice, not enforced by the school.

Webster mission's objectives are good, but Webster is not being effective and efficient in carrying out its mission objectives. I don't know about Webster St. Louis, but Webster Thailand sucks. I always want to transfer. At least to St. Louis. But they say that my scholarship or tuition remission can't be transferred, so I stay.

To be totally honest, I think it's a bit strange and misguided to question Thailand students about these missions, as anyone who has been to both St. Louis and Thailand can attest that the two receive very different educational standards. These mission statements are very good, but in Thailand, they're really just dreams, not missions. Perhaps my only suggestion would be to actually enforce these missions and actively try to pursue them in all of Webster's campuses, not just St. Louis. Thailand needs help. A lot. It has potential, but right now most learning takes place outside the classroom (with a few exceptions, of course).

As a W.U.T. student, the mission is unrealistic and unattainable leading rise for excuses and pandering. 1. Webster will make a student qualified and prepared to go into the workplace. Cultural understanding can occur outside of a class learning how the world works and the skills necessary to succeed should be Webster's mission. 2. Quality of teachers should be addressed in the mission. 3. Students' interests should be addressed specifically, reimbursements are now distributed through credit cards. The problem is as a W.U.T. student I cannot find out how much is on the credit card. If I over withdraw then I will be in debt to a debtor that I do not know about. Webster needs to ask itself whose interests are being weighed.

Missions: 1. Promote educational experiences with a strong emphasis in international understanding. 2. Provide diverse course offerings as part of the liberal arts tradition. 3. Provide exclusive education with small student/teacher ratios. 4. Promote the movement of students between campuses. 5. Eat more whale. 6. Focus on diverse faculty/student interaction. 7. Apply real-world knowledge in all curriculums. 8. Capture Yeti. 9. Maintain good relationships with affiliate universities. 10. Find Waldo.

As I know or based on my experiences or knowledge, W.U.T. is responsible for all students' future. I wish I could get W.U.T. finds job for students after graduating from W.U.T. This way students will get a good job. In addition, just right now in W.U.T. if you do internship, you have to pay 10,000 bhat for 10 credits. Basically like 8 credits = 80,000 bhat. It doesn't matter, but W.U.T. should find the internships for its students.

Provide (only) quality professors with passion in teaching and be expert in the area of the subjects. Provide harmonious student's community among different nationalities, religions and culture through understanding.

The main problem that must be addressed as with the entirety of the world is the issue of unity. This world is moving in two directions – closer and farther apart – Webster is growing the latter. If this fundamental flaw is not addressed it will undoubtedly be Webster's downfall as well as with all tribalist [sic] mentality. Right now it is possible for Webster to revolutionize its industry and create a fully unified, inter-connected, and interdependent organization and community as it supposedly already possesses. I propose this simply through technology and a series of minor institutional modifications. Look to Semco in Brazil for inspiration if need be. But if this issue is left unaddressed and our international community is allowed to drift apart at a great personal and financial loss – well then who will be held accountable when already forewarned. Is it not the function and purpose of the administration to act in the best interest of its populace – will division and time result in avariety [sic] with which only history can attest.

Data from INTL 5570, Comparative Foreign Policy
 Spring II, 2007, Webster Thailand, Bangkok, May 10th, 2007

To provide a higher education in an international atmosphere.	To mold students into future leaders.	To teach me to talk like a human being.
To provide higher education to individuals in a global setting.	Provide the skills needed to succeed in an internationally integrated system.	
Provide higher quality education.	To get students ready in the real world.	Provide favorable environment in class.
Promote higher education.	Global theme.	Student-oriented academics.
Provide learning environment for higher education attainment.		
Make money!		

Written reactions after reading University's mission statement:

Strengthens the community though... at the Bangkok branch, I have not witnessed any such activity. The site spelled non-denominational wrong. Open to all socio-economic backgrounds – I found it extremely difficult to obtain financial aid from St. Louis to pay for my Webster Bangkok tuition. The administration from both campuses were unhelpful and unaware of the financial aid procedures, and if I didn't have other resources for school there is no way I could afford to attend.

I don't think we get involved with the community through support of civic, cultural, corporate and educational organizations – but it would be good to have the available option of doing so. I do think the University educates diverse populations locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.

“In striving to fulfill educational needs that may be underserved,” – Has a negative connotation in this context, leads to the belief that W.U. students are sub-par.

Universities are all the same, they want money!

[Student indicates by marking on mission statement to add:] International studies to examples of available disciplines, add multicultural learning environment to student-centered environment. “Lifelong desire to learn” implies that students want to stay in school all their lives.