



Florianópolis | April 11-15

FAUBAI

2026 CONFERENCE

Oficina de Países: Voices, Knowledge, and Diversity in Higher Education Internationalization

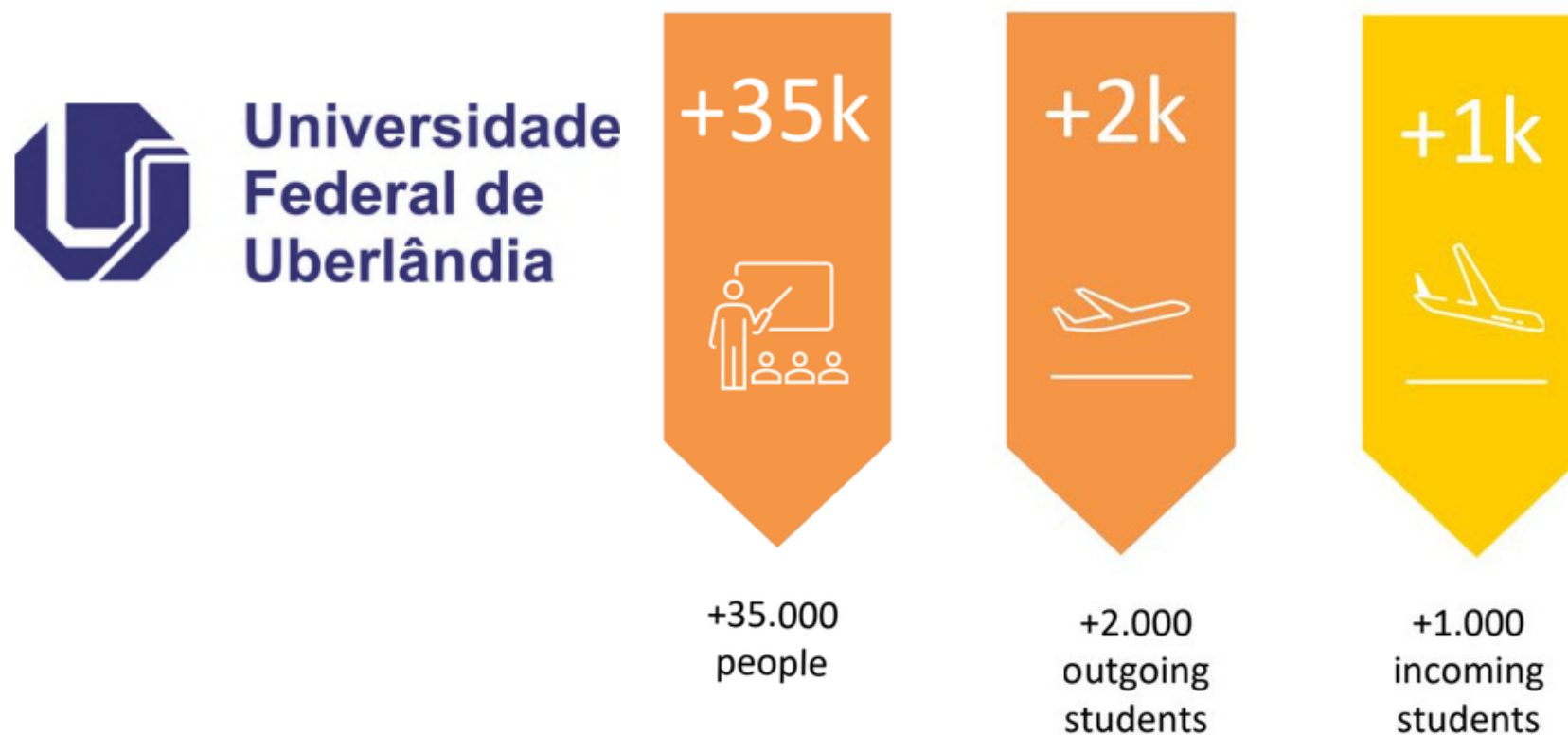
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Federal University of Uberlândia (UFU)

Context

As we do not hold a multilingual and multicultural context daily, it is necessary to create more opportunities for the entire university and the local community to engage in internationalization projects.



Source: https://dri.ufu.br/sites/drii.ufu.br/files/media/arquivo/welcome_to_ufu_.pdf



Oficina de países

It is an outreach program in which the international students have the voice and power to decide on what topics they want to share about their **countries, languages, or cultures.**

Since 2018, Countries Fair is a regular activity in INTERUFU (Internationalization Week, organized by UFU's International Affairs Office).

INTERUFU: <https://eventos.ufu.br/dri/semana-de-internacionalizacao-da-ufu-2025>

Oficina de países

In 2025, it was divided into three parts.

1 – Empowering individuals by promoting their voice in their mother tongue.

Vozes da UFU

International students had the chance to talk in their native tongue, not only in Portuguese, the language we speak across our campuses, or their second language, such as French or English, which are languages that have been used as lingua franca with students from several African countries in our university.

We prepared a virtual map and had the international students' voices recorded. After that, there was a visual poster with a QR code to lead any viewer to the virtual map with the recording. This poster was set in different locations in our campi prior to the International Week.

Oficina de países

1 - Empowering individuals by promoting their voice in their mother tongue.



Voices da UFU



<https://padlet.com/mairacordula/vozes-na-ufu-l-nguas-que-ecoam-em-nossa-universidade-v6qxa7k3xf1kf0>

Oficina de países

2 – A short presentation about each country.

The students decided on one specific aspect they could share briefly in an auditorium. In doing so, they have mostly decided to use this time as an invitation for the participants to join them later on, during the Fair.

They have talked about their country special features, and also danced, or sang a little bit to raise interest in the participants.

Oficina de países



Oficina de países

3 – The Fair

In each previously decorated booth, the international students presented some typical dishes, and beverages, as well as pictures with information about their countries' fact sheet, or even a website in which the user could navigate through different areas of a country and know about their population, vegetation, etc.

The activity was open to the local community, and there was plenty of time for interaction.



Oficina de países



How is Oficina de Países organized?

- Invitation to international students currently at UFU;
- Whatsapp group for faster communication;
- Organizer's presentation about the activity, what students can do/present, and discussion for further organization;
- Deadline to request materials (balloons, stationery, etc);
- Decoration before the time of the presentations;
- Certification.

Whatsapp group is organized and managed by students from the program PROINT

PROINT

Proint: The programme

- Educational, research, and community outreach program developed by students and coordinated by teachers from Universidade Federal de Uberlândia (UFU);
- Created in 2018, functions in partnership with Diretoria de Relações Internacionais (DRI);
- Internationalization of academic community best achieved by encouraging team members to bring different ideas and perspectives to the table;

Our goal

increase the visibility of integration, cross-cultural dialogue, and internationalization of our institution

Our focus

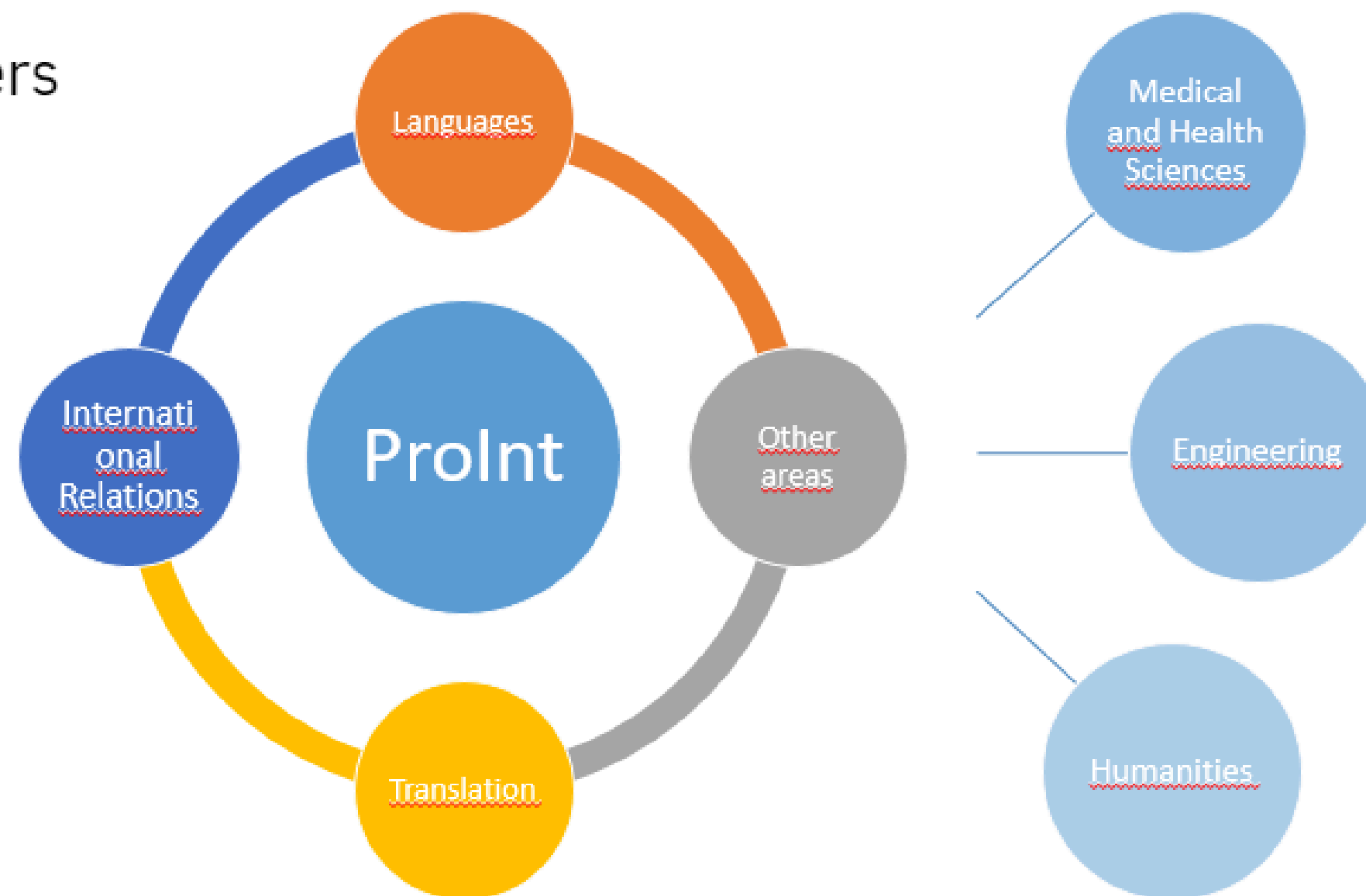
internationalization at home

Our desire

for every student, incoming and outgoing, to take with them a part of UFU to the world

PROINT

Proint members
academic
backgrounds



Source: <https://dri.ufu.br/servicos/programa-de-formacao-para-internacionalizacao-proint>

Final thoughts

Considering the international students' perspective and the Culture Fair participants' responses, we can conclude that it is of utmost importance to carry events like this, provided that we have international students in the leading role.

Having international students is not only a way to raise the issue of diversity in the university context, but it is also an opportunity to have local students and the local community engage in intercultural and multilingual interactions; thus, fostering internationalization at home.

Oficina de países



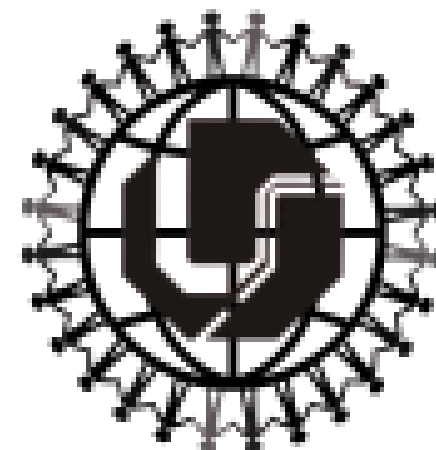
Thanks for your attention!



DRII



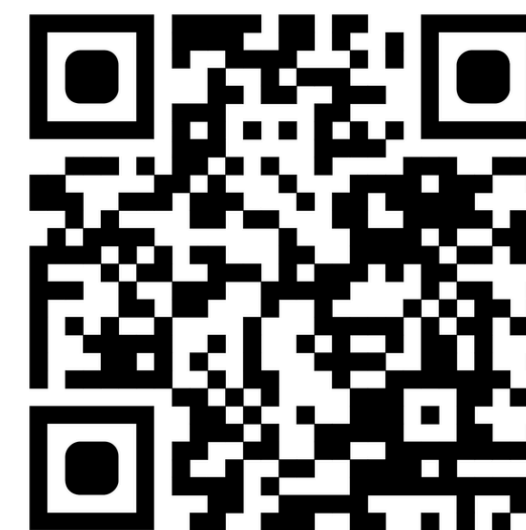
SITE DRI



Proint



INSTAGRAM PROINT



SITE UFU

