A changing landscape - Internationalisation in Higher Education

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The University of Kent's European Centres
Foundation for internationalisation

- Internationalisation is necessary to be competitive
- Better research opportunities
- Increased student employability
- Staff development
- Exchange of best practice
- Better academic offer
Navigating change: the strategy maker’s task

Meanings of “internationalisation”

Subject to significant and ever-changing external forces

Integral contribution to institutional development
Dimensions of Internationalisation

At the University of Kent, one way or another, we are #ALLINTERNATIONAL

A student body comprised of 27% international students, representing 150 different nationalities.

40% of our academic and research staff come from outside the UK.

More than 20 schools and academic centres contributing to world-leading research.

More than 140 global engagement modules to internationalise our degrees.

Extensive study abroad programme with over 170 universities in 33 countries.

9 international languages studied by 1,000 students, staff and members of the public.

University of Kent
Dimensions of Internationalisation

Academic centres in four major European cities
- Brussels, Paris, Rome, Athens

Over 500 agreements with 388 partner institutions across the world

More than 150 international academic visitors annually

82%* of graduating students agree they have been exposed to a globally-minded environment while at Kent

85%* of students say their time studying at Kent has involved socialising within an internationally-minded community

86%* of Kent students say they have made friends with people from different cultures and international backgrounds

79%* of students agree studying at Kent has prepared them for the idea of working in an environment of social and cultural diversity

155,000 alumni in 185 countries

*Sourced from annual internationalisation survey of graduating students

www.kent.ac.uk/global/all-international
Different types of partnerships

- Dual and Joint Awards
- Academic Centres
- Mobility
- Articulations
- Validation and Franchising
- External Teaching
- Research Collaboration
Some key projects:
Some key projects:
Ten Trends - Transformative Changes in Higher Education (1)

1. Shifting global demographics
2. Expansion of ‘education for all’
3. National internationalisation strategies
4. Distribution of national funding
5. Multi-sector collaboration

IMPLICATIONS
Expanding horizons
Rethinking mobility
Graduate employability
Focus on quality assurance
New forms of partnership

THE CHALLENGES WE FACE
- Competing priorities
- Lack of experience
- Top down/Bottom-up approach
- Designing the alternative
- The need for flexibility
International student recruitment targets

Selected international student recruitment targets

- Australia: 720,000 onshore enrolments by 2025
- Canada: 450,000 international students by 2022
- China: 500,000 international students by 2020
- France: Increase international student intake by 20% (amounting to 470,000 based on current levels)
- Germany: 350,000 inbound internationally mobile students by 2020
- New Zealand: 143,000 international students by 2025
- Taiwan: 58,000 foreign students by 2019
- Malaysia: 250,000 international students by 2025
- South Korea: 200,000 foreign students by 2023
- Ireland: 44,000 foreign students by 2019/20
Kent has links with over 400 institutions from around the world.
Responding to change

A case study from Kent:

Promoting our partners’ summer schools

For discussion:

- Do these changes ring true for you and your institution?
- Which challenges do you face?
- What plans do you have?
- What help do you need?
Ten Trends - Transformative Changes in Higher Education (2)

6. Online learning  
7. Educational technology  
8. Brand and value  
9. Impact of English  
10. Focus on student experience

THE CHALLENGES WE FACE

- Competing priorities  
- Lack of experience  
- Top down/Bottom-up approach  
- Designing the alternative  
- The need for flexibility

IMPLICATIONS

Need for significant investment  
Navigating new channels  
Competing with new partners  
Ensuring parity in the student experience
Responding to change

A case study from Kent: Global Learning Online

For discussion

- What would you like to change?
- How can we better equip our international offices to manage change?
- What advice or experience could you share?
What is the appetite of your institution with regard risk?

‘Nothing ventured, nothing gained’

‘A bird in the hand beats two in the bush’

‘When fortune smiles, embrace her’

‘Who dares wins’

‘It's better to be safe than sorry’

‘Look before you leap’
Where would you place your institution?
Where do you think it should be?

Very cautious → Cautious → Risk taker
For discussion

- How can we mitigate risk?
- How can we equip ourselves for change?
Questions and comments!