Briefly Examining Internationalization in U.S. Higher Education

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BRIEFLY EXAMINING INTERNATIONALIZATION IN U.S. HIGHER EDUCATION

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4,314 higher education institutions

Basic Classifications:

- Doctoral/research
- Master’s Colleges and Universities
- Baccalaureate Colleges Associates
- Associate’s Colleges

*National Center for Education Statistics (2009).*
### U.S. CONTEXT*

**Students**
- 17.4 million total students in 2005
  - 43% MALE; 57% FEMALE
  - 62% FULL-TIME; 38% PART-TIME
- Outgoing U.S. Students: 241,791 (2006/07)

* National Center for Education Statistics (2009).
Knight, deWit, and others who have studied and written about internationalization
RESPONSES

- Academic Institutions
- Academic Disciplines
- Government
- Professional Assns and Orgs
- Alliances and Consortia
### Professional Assns and Orgs

#### Institutional
- American Council on Education (ACE)
- Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU)
- Institute of International Education (IIE)
- American Association of Universities (AAU)

#### Functional
- National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA)
- NAFSA: Association of International Educators (NAFSA)
- National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC)
- Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA)
BARRIERS

- Organizational desire
- Leadership
- Resources
- Strategic Plan priorities
ENABLERS

- Vision/Upper Level Leadership
- Strategic Plan/Campus-wide Committees
- Research and Publication
- Government
- Exemplary Institutional Models
- Alliances and Consortia
TRENDS

- Mobility issues vs Outcome Issues
- Dual and Joint Degree programs at all levels
- Use of internationalization as an economic additive for the institution
- Competition vs collaboration
ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

- **ACE** Internationalization Laboratory
- **NAFSA** database on assessing practice and holding webinars
- **AIEA** addressing big picture issues of internationalization
- Individual Institutions’ internal practices
Institutional Commitment

- International programs listed on home page (54%)
- Recruitment literature emphasis on (52%)
- Student learning outcomes developed (45%)
- Campus-wide task force or committee (44%)
- Separate written plan for Internationalization (23%)
- Mission statement includes basic ideas of (39%)
- Top five priority in institution’s strategic plan (34%)
- Formally assessed progress on internationalization (30%)

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

- Reliance upon **numbers** outgoing or incoming
- **Selling** and Marketing
- Original **ideals** lessening
- **Separation** of Institutional vs individual **outcomes**
- **Competition** and Rankings
Emerging strategic focus.
Goals are known.
Capacity to be assessed in each institution.
Deliberate effort rather than appendages.
Financial commitment must be hard rather than soft funds.
Needs to be intrinsic part of the curriculum.
Linkages between external organizations and U.S. organizations. (EUA, EAIE)
REFERENCES


- Inter-Association Network on Campus Internationalization (INCI), Resources for Campus Internationalization, Retrieved 4/01/2009.
