



International Program and Provider Mobility: Innovations and Challenges

**Internationalization of Higher Education Seminar
TUMS, Tehran
April 29-30, 2017**

*Jane Knight
University of Toronto, Canada*



Growth in International Academic Mobility

- People – Students, Scholars, Experts,
- **Programs and Providers**
 - International Branch Campus, Double/Joint Degree programs. Franchise programs, Joint Universities, Distance Education
- **Policies and Regulations**
 - Quality Assurance, Credit Accumulation, Qualification Recognition, Learning Outcomes,
- **Practices, Customs, Ideas, Knowledge, Values, Beliefs**



5 Questions

- What is Crossborder Higher Education?
- What is Offshore Education?
- What is Borderless Education?
- **What is Transnational Education?**
- What are the similarities and what are the differences?
 - **Mass confusion on terms to describe academic mobility**



Transnational Education (TNE) Examined

- **2013- Review of Int'l and TNE policies in 25 countries**

https://www.britishcouncil.org/sites/default/files/the_shape_of_things_to_come_2.pdf

- **2014- Review of impact of TNE in 15 host countries**

https://www.daad.de/medien/hochschulen/projekte/studienangebote/2014_e003_tne_study_final_web.pdf

- **2015- Review of TNE Data Collection systems in 13 TNE active countries- host and sending**

https://www.britishcouncil.org/sites/default/files/1.1_report_tne_data_collection_system.pdf

- **2016- Review of all TNE academic research 2000-2015 –in process**

What is the common and key finding?



'TNE Terminology Chaos'

- Over 40 different terms used to describe TNE
- **Different** terms to describe **same** mode – i.e Int Branch Campus
- **Same** term to describe many **different** modes- Joint/Double Degree programs
- Confused with student mobility

TNE =

International Program and Provider Mobility (IPPM)

- NOT focus on student, staff, scholar mobility
- Is broader than mere transfer of credits for study abroad programs



Importance of TNE in HE Provision

Sending Country Perspective

- **52%** of all international students registered for a UK program and qualification do it through TNE
 - The programs and providers move to the students
 - The student does not take all courses in UK

Host Country Perspective

- **45%** of all students registered for higher education in Mauritius do it through TNE programs
 - In Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong with long experience in TNE- about 20% of all HE enrolments are through TNE.
- **IBCs**- increase from **24** In 2002 to **249** in 2015
- **Double/Joint degree** programs- explosion!



Needed: Classification System -for different modes of IPPM-

- Unprecedented growth in international program and provider mobility modes and enrolments
- Confusion and misunderstanding within country and between countries
- Need common understanding of IPPM modes for
 - HEIs to develop TNE partnerships and policies
 - TNE registration/licensing,
 - TNE policies and regulations,
 - Higher education planning,
 - QAA,
 - TNE data collection and use



Development of Common TNE Classification Framework for IPPM

- **What does it mean?**
- **Common** -to both host and sending countries
- **TNE** -program and HEI/provider mobility
- **Classification** -major categories of modes of delivery
- **Framework** -analytical frame of logic
- **IPPM** - int'l program and provider mobility



Fundamental principles of Framework

- Distinction between **Collaborative and Independent** modes of delivery
- Differentiation between **Program Mobility and Provider/HEI mobility**
- Appropriate for both **sending and host countries**
- Useful for **national level agencies** with responsibility for TNE policy development, regulation and data collection and **HEIs**



IPPM Framework- a work in progress

Independent TNE Provision

-foreign sending HEI responsible for curriculum, qualification and external QA

1. Franchise Programs

Commonly used terms: import/export, foreign, non-local, International private programmes

2. Int'l Branch Campus

Commonly used terms: satellite, private international, offshore campus

3. Self- study Distance Education

Commonly used terms: fully online education, open university, MOOCs

Collaborative TNE Provision

-both foreign sending and host HEIs responsible for curriculum, qualification and external QA.

4. Partnership Programs

Commonly used terms: joint/double/multiple degrees, twinning programmes

5. Joint Universities

Commonly used terms: co-developed, binational, co-founded, multinational, joint venture

6. Distance Education with local academic partner

Commonly used terms: online or distance education with reference to local academic partner



1. Franchise Programs

Description: The foreign sending HEI/provider has primary responsibility for the design, delivery and external quality assurance of academic programmes offered in host country. The qualification is awarded by sending HEI.

Commonly used terms:
import/export, foreign, non-local, International private programmes

2. Partnership Programs

Description: Academic programmes in host country/is are jointly designed, delivered and quality assured through collaboration between host and sending country partners. The qualification/s can be awarded by either or both host and sending country HEIs in the form of single, joint or double/multiple degrees.

- **Commonly used terms:**
joint/double/multiple degrees, twinning programmes



2. International Branch Campus

Description: A satellite bricks and mortar campus established by foreign sending HEI in host country. Sending parent institution provides curriculum, external quality assurance, and awards the qualification.

Commonly used terms: satellite, private international, offshore campus, portal campus?

4 Joint University

Description: A HEI co-founded and established in host country involving both local and foreign sending HEI/ providers who collaborate on academic programme development and delivery. Qualifications can be awarded by either or both host and sending country HEIs.

Commonly used terms: co-developed, binational, co-founded, multinational, joint venture



3. Self-study Distance Education

Description: Foreign sending distance education provider offers academic programmes directly to host country students. No local academic support available. Qualification, curriculum and external quality assurance offered by foreign sending HEI.

Commonly used terms: fully online education, open university, MOOCs, pure distance education

6. Distance Education with local partner

Description: A foreign distance education HEI/provider offers programmes to host country students in collaboration with a local academic partner. Curriculum can be jointly developed and the qualification awarded by foreign HEI or by both partners. External quality assurance provided by foreign sending HEI/provider or both partners.

Commonly used terms: online or distance education with reference to local academic partner



Innovations in IPPM

- **From independent to collaborative**
 - Joint and Double degree programmes- joint curriculum design, delivery, supervision
 - Joint founded and established universities
- **Use of ICTs**
 - MOOCs
 - Open access and virtual universities
- **Education Hubs**

Country, zone and city level
- **Pathway programs- not TNE/IPPM**
 - Validation
 - Articulation



Challenges for IPPM

- **Management of IPPM partnerships** – roles and responsibilities of HEIs - mutual agreement on policies and regulations
- **Qualification recognition** in host, sending and third countries
- **Quality Assurance**
 - Curriculum, teaching staff, pedagogy, exit and entrance standards
 - Multiple QA audits – moving to compliance not excellence
- **Integrity and Trustworthiness of IPPM qualification**
 - Double counting of same credits for two qualifications
 - “Two for the cost of one” “Buy one- get one free”
- **Policies for Registration and Licensing** at national level
- **Data Collection** on Types of IPPM and student enrolments



Shift in Current Values– to ensure Preferred Futures

- From competition
..... cooperation
- From self interest
..... Mutual interest
- From commercial
..... exchange
- From status building
..... Capacity building
-



Users of TNE Framework

- National HE Govt Depts and Agencies
- TNE licensing bodies in host countries
- Quality Assurance Organizations
- HE Data Collection agencies
- IHE organizations and researchers
- Higher Education Institutions
- OECD/UNESCO Crossborder Higher Education Guidelines
- UNESCO, OECD and EUROSTAT (UOE) database



Review of Major Points

- Transnational Education = International Program and Provider Mobility
- IPPM is growing in importance and provision for both sending and host countries.
- Mass confusion on TNE Terminology ---Need common categories in classification framework
- Independent - Franchise, IBCs, Self-study DE
Collaborative -Partnerships, Joint HEIs, DE +local partner
- Challenges
 - Registration and licensing and QAA
 - Management of IPPM partnerships
 - Qualification awards and recognition
 - Data collection



Thank you
jane.knight@utoronto.ca