

Westminster Higher Education Forum Keynote Seminar
Internationalisation of Higher Education - UK competitiveness, student mobility and the development of overseas campuses

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 21st March 2013

Venue: Hall of India and Pakistan, Royal Over-Seas League, Over-Seas House, Park Place, St James's Street, London SW1A 1LR

Agenda subject to change



**WESTMINSTER
HIGHER EDUCATION
FORUM**

8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee

9.00 - 9.05 **Chairman's opening remarks**

Baroness O'Neill of Bengarve, Professor Emeritus, University of Cambridge

9.05 - 9.15 **The internationalisation of Higher Education: challenges and opportunities for universities**

Dr William Lawton, Director, The Observatory on Borderless Higher Education

9.15 - 10.00 **The international competitiveness of UK universities in a globalised higher education market**

What are the key challenges to the UK's current position in the global higher education market and what steps can be taken to ensure that UK institutions remain internationally competitive? What are the factors contributing to the increasing numbers of UK students opting to study abroad? How do UK tuition fees compare with those of competitor universities overseas? Has the recent growth of courses in Europe taught in English, particularly at postgraduate level, affected the number of domestic students choosing to study abroad? What role do university marketing departments play in raising the international profile of UK universities? What role do league tables play in students' decisions to study in certain locations? Have recent immigration and visa reforms affected the attractiveness of the UK as a place to study? What steps can universities take to improve international student satisfaction, and to encourage a more internationalised student experience for both domestic and international students? Should more overseas universities be encouraged to open branches in the UK, and what would be the impact of this?

Tim O'Brien, Director of Marketing and Communications, INTO University Partnerships

Professor Paul White, Pro-Vice-Chancellor - Learning & Teaching, University of Sheffield

Dr Fiona Hunter, International Director, Università Carlo Cattaneo, Italy

Sam Harris, Projects and Training Manager, International Society

Alex Bols, Executive Director, 1994 Group

Questions and comments from the floor with **Dr William Lawton**, Director, The Observatory on Borderless Higher Education

10.00 - 10.15 **Developing a national strategy for outward mobility**

Professor Colin Riordan, Chair, UK Higher Education International Unit (UKHEIU) and President and Vice-Chancellor, Cardiff University

10.15 - 11.00 **Encouraging outward student mobility**

What are the social, cultural and economic benefits of studying abroad for the student concerned, their universities and the UK in general? What can be done to increase the uptake of study abroad schemes by students studying degrees other than foreign languages? What steps can the Higher Education sector and Government take to tackle the financial barriers to outward student mobility amongst UK students? Is language a barrier to more UK students engaging with Erasmus and, if so, what steps can be taken by universities and governments to tackle this? What other factors contribute to the low levels of outward student mobility? What is the potential impact of the guaranteed MA loan facility proposed by the European Commission's Erasmus-for-all scheme in increasing postgraduate mobility, and what other steps could be taken? Will the proposed portability of maintenance loans and grants lead to an increase in the number of UK students opting to study their entire degree in other EU nations?

Karina Ufert, Chairperson, European Students' Union (ESU)

Professor Alexandra Hughes, Pro-Vice-Chancellor External, University of Kent

Simon Sweeney, Director of Postgraduate Programmes and International Political Economy and Business Lecturer, The York Management School, University of York and UK Bologna Process Expert, British Council

Counsellor Helena Gasparian, Head of the Cultural & Academic Section, Embassy of Brazil in London

Questions and comments from the floor with **Professor Colin Riordan**, Chair, UK Higher Education International Unit (UKHEIU) and President and Vice-Chancellor, Cardiff University

11.00 - 11.30 Coffee

11.30 - 11.40 **International expansion of UK universities: a case study**

Professor Andrew Coats, Joint Academic Vice-President and Director of Strategy, Monash Warwick Alliance

11.40 - 12.30 **The internationalisation of UK universities: validation, franchising and branch campuses**

What are the benefits and risks of the different models of international expansion? How should universities involved in degree validation and franchise agreements overseas ensure that partner institutions maintain standards and uphold the university brand? Is there a role for the UK Government in supporting UK universities to develop branch campuses overseas? With the majority of UK branch campuses located in Asia, how can the higher education sector best take advantage of the current opportunities for growth in other emerging economies? How can universities be assured of the long-term viability of branch campuses? What role do UK students' unions have in ensuring that the student experience of those studying at branch campuses is of a high standard? Can overseas campuses play a role in encouraging outward student mobility by providing new opportunities for UK students studying at home campuses?

Professor Christine Ennew, Provost, University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus (UNMC), Pro Vice Chancellor for Internationalisation and Professor of Marketing, University of Nottingham

Dr Jayne Mitchell, Director of Research, Development and Partnerships, QAA

Daniel Stevens, International Students' Officer, NUS

Glynne Stanfield, Partner, Education Group, Eversheds

Mike Rowley, Global Head of Education, KPMG

Questions and comments from the floor with **Professor Andrew Coats**, Joint Academic Vice-President and Director of Strategy, Monash Warwick Alliance

12.30 - 12.55 **Next steps for policy**

Maddalaine Ansell, Head of International Knowledge & Innovation Unit (Global), Department for Business, Innovation and Skills

Questions and comment from the floor

12.55 - 13.00 **Chairman's and Westminster Higher Education Forum closing remarks**

Baroness O'Neill of Bengarve, Professor Emeritus, University of Cambridge

Jonny Roberts, Senior Producer, Westminster Higher Education Forum