Internationalization of the Academy: Regional Perspectives

University of Geneva
University of Montreal
University of Sydney
Internationalisation of the Academy – Regional Perspectives

• Drivers and Priorities/Challenges and Constraints

• Regional contexts/Enablers and Instruments

• Performance/Outputs/ROI
What drives our Partnerships?

• International research opportunities/Global challenges/Researchers mobility
• Student mobility/global citizenship/global learning opportunities/international curriculum
• Staff development/capacity building
• Economic /National interests in particular regions/Government-Higher Education diplomacy
• Reputation
Regional Priorities - UNIGE

- Natural priority: Europe
  - Too easy/over-organized, so less creative? Mostly bottom-up + networks (LERU)

- Historic/classic priorities: US, Canada, Australia
  - Obvious, but over-solicited? High demand, rely on offer + adapting to demand
  - Same applies for parts of Asia

- Real priority-setting needed in less obvious regions; attract attention on high potential regions, BRICS, Africa etc., or political opportunities (Saudi Arabia, Iran), but need to adapt expectations
Regional Priorities - UdeM

- Traditionally French speaking European countries: Belgium, France, Switzerland
- Europe: Germany, Italy, Spain, United Kingdom
- North America: Canada (U15) and US (NSE)
- Latin America: Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico
- Asia/Pacific: Australia, China, Japan, South Korea
- Africa: Benin, Ivory Coast, Morocco, Tunisia
- Middle East: Israel, Lebanon
Regional Priorities - USyd

China/SE Asia/South Asia/Europe/North America/North East Asia/Latin America/Middle East/Pacific
Building Key Partnerships - UNIGE

• Key networks (LERU)
• Strategic partnerships with universities, including joint seed funding
• Non-academic partnerships, IOs, NGOs, etc.
• Combine those networks into one:
  • pooling of contacts/resources
  • backing by a strong academic network gives critical size/coverage to work with other organizations
• Top-down meets bottom-up; importance of personal contacts
• Long-term vision: global “airline alliance” offering a competitive “product” on the global market
Building Key Partnerships - UdeM

• Strategic partnerships with universities
• Funding agencies: Canada & Quebec Government, MITACS, CSC, FAPESP, ERASMUS
• Research-intensive network: U15 (➔ China, ➔ France)

• Challenges: Language / tuition fees / managing priorities / resources / sustainability
• Lessons: setting short term goals based on a long term vision / involving faculty / starting small / consolidate before diversify
• Enablers: French programs / redaction policy / institutional funds and commitment / determination
Partnership Case study - UdeM

G3 : a Francophone Strategic Alliance (2012)
- 3 institutions: UdeM – UNIGE – ULB
- Joint seed funding: from research activities to training programs
- Governance (Quality Assurance, Libraries)
- 2014 ➔ Brazil
- 2015 commitment on a Global issue: Migrations

International Forum of Public Universities (IFPU):
- 2015 commitment on a Global issue: Urbanization
- Barcelona, Bologna, Lodz, Montreal, Nankaï
Partnership Case study -
UdeM

China University of Politics and Law (CUPL)
• Since 2002: UdeM main entry in China
• Training of Chinese judges
• Various cooperation modalities: master / summer schools /
• CASS, Renmin, … / 1M$ donation

University of Costa Rica (UCR)
• High quality university / Francophilia
• Influence in the region of Central America
• Strategic platform for South America
• Inter-American Court of Human Rights
Partnership Case study - USyd

Sciences Po

- Established SEA partner ➔ dual degree partner
- Uni-wide cluster partner – USPC
- Develop/broaden research connections
- Joint academic workshops/leverage international partners
- Joint research funding proposals
- Embedded mobility options

Challenges/constraints: communication to academics, partner to fit all needs/ Australian fee paying structure – ROI criteria/communication – teams on each side/ goals & framework

Enablers: funding from each partner/ champions – upper and lower levels – admin and academic/Diplomatic support
Partnership Case study - USyd

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australian Government

- Funder of applied research, TA in priority regions
- Strategic alignment, track record
- International collaborations/in-country engagement/profile
- Diversification of revenue streams

Challenges/constraints:
- volatile funding environment/competition
- potential slow ROI
- academics’ interests/competing responsibilities

Enablers:
- disciplinary expertise and regional knowledge/connections
- strong project delivery and track record
OECD Knowledge Partners
Partnership Case study – USyd / OECD

• Multilateral government policy
• Profile raising – AU & International
• Involve strategic academic partners – EU-Asia triangle
• Deepen academic engagement with OECD/academic partners

Challenges/constraints: ROI, funding

Enablers: opportunity to create connections
Transversal Partnership
Case study - UNIGE

• OECD
  • Institutional partnership/knowledge partner thanks to USyd

• Yonsei University:
  • BRICS Country/cultural differences/medium rankings + reputation: adapt expectations
  • From specialized student exchange to strategic partnership
  • Joint seed funding – steady growth

• Cross-fertilization of networks
  • Planned joint workshop USyd-UNIGE-Yonsei at OECD: bring a network of universities to an IO/network of networks
Outcomes and indicators – ROI

• Has the partnership increased our research collaborations – quality cited publications?
• Has the partnership enable us to attract high quality students?
• Has the partnership enable us to access funding sources – government or industry?
• Has the partnership been mutually beneficial?
Discussion/Feedback

• Some questions to get you started:
  • Do you have different approaches to regional prioritisation?
  • Do you have examples of different enablers or instruments?
  • What are you engagement models with non-university sector partners?
  • How do you measure ROI for non university partners?
  • What other measurement tools do you have for ROI?
Thanks for your attention

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