

TRANSCENDING BOUNDARIES THROUGH INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

Presenters:

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Overview

- Welcome & Introductions
- Current Collaborations
- Barriers to Partnership
- Discussion

Examples of International Research Collaboration in Higher Education

- IASAS Survey (Seifert et al) – collaboration through professional associations
- JSAA (Journal of Student Affairs in Africa) – IASAS special journal collaboration
- UNESCO/IASAS book on Student Affairs and Services in Higher Education (3rd Edition)
- Global Competencies in Student Affairs (IASAS growing partnerships)
- IAU Global Survey on Internationalization (4th Edition)
- Others?

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- Directionality: North-South vs. South-South
- Imbalances
 - Teacher vs. learner => who benefits and how?
 - Knowledge arrogance
 - Tokenizing non-mainstream perspectives
 - Money and agendas
 - Lack of awareness of normative ideology
- Academic “tribes” and “communities of practice” (Tight, 2007/2008)
 - North American vs. Non-North American
 - Academic territory – discipline-based, education/higher education departments/centers, academic development or teaching/learning units

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- How do we encourage research representing other perspectives from around the world while still maintaining academic rigor and high quality of standards?
- How do we encourage more international submission and participation in the academic research process?

IASAS Research Survey

- Countries: UK, USA, Philippines, Ireland, Italy, Saudi, Kuwait, Pakistan, Spain
- 75% are grad students or faculty members in higher ed programs

Survey Results: What would encourage more international research?

- Funding & Grants
- Recognizing efforts
- Feedback/Suggestions/Surveys
- Special research interest groups/clusters
- Better access to forums for idea sharing that are inclusive and non-geographically specific
- Institutional partnerships, especially at the graduate level (association partnerships)
- “Beginner’s Guide” & Mentor programs

Survey Results: What are shared research interests across borders?

- Core purposes of student affairs/services work.
- Student transition and the first year
- Academic anxieties, Student mental health, and intersection of wellbeing and learning
- Student Mobility
- Development of soft skills, role of organization advisers in the context of the Outcomes- based learning.
- Global Benchmarking of student Affairs practices
- Assessing Student Leader Learning
- Student Disciplinary Practices and Student Development
- Retention/completion, student resilience
- Managing student diversity
- Student Identity Development, Cultural Competency, Cross-Cultural Leadership
- Student needs; Student engagement in student governance; Student services relevant to the changing times
- Faculty-Led Study Abroad Programming including pre-orientation prep, reflection, and post assessment.
- Additionally, researching, reviewing, assessing, navigating, and/or contributing to student affairs practices in West Africa (Ghana is the current country of interest).
- Cultivating culturally contextual approach to student affairs, specifically not to adapt a western lens

Questions?



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