



Globalization and Higher Education

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Abstract

Massive movements of capital depend on information, communication, and knowledge in global markets. Higher education has a central role in establishing global networks by fostering cross-border mutual understanding. One of the major trends in higher education over the past decades has been the growth in cross-border higher education especially student mobility. Academic research has been marked by an increase in the mobility of researchers, scientific articles produced by international collaboration. Key issue related to globalisation is the spread of a commercial model in higher education, implying strong growth in private higher education provision and financing. Virtual universities could become a powerful tool for developing countries reducing the need for expensive physical infrastructure for tertiary and vocational educational facilities. Digital technologies convey information in a different manner than before and allow for interaction with distance participants. Social media use has also been increased by professors for communication with students especially in Corona period. In this paper, several ideas and processes are shown which imparts globalization in higher education.

Key words: Globalization, Internationalization, collaboration, virtual university, ICT

Introduction

Globalisation is a phenomenon of increasing worldwide interconnectedness that combines economic, cultural and social changes. Two of the main pillars of globalization are information and innovation. Massive movements of capital depend on information, communication, and knowledge in global markets. And because knowledge is highly portable, it lends itself easily to globalization. Higher education trains the highly skilled workforce and contributes to the research base and innovation capacity that increasingly determines competitiveness in the knowledge-based global economy. Higher education has a central role in establishing global networks by fostering cross-border mutual understanding (Kwiek,2000). Environment for higher education is changing day by day due to developments in information and communication technology which is coupled with the cross border flows of ideas, students, faculty and financing. This promotes both increased collaboration and competition among countries and institutions on a global scale (Scott, 1999).

Cross-border higher education landscape

One of the major trends in higher education over the past decades has been the growth in cross-border higher education especially student mobility. Decline in transport and communications costs and by programmes also supported mobility within Europe and certain other countries. Newer forms of mobility are also there, mainly international training mobility and the mobility of higher education institutions, whether on a commercial or partnership basis. Several internationalisation strategies may continue to exist alongside each other, with a commercial approach in English-speaking countries, since English gives them a competitive advantage and a proactive approach, although one based on university partnerships, in other regions. (OECD, 2004b)

More collaboration in academic research

Academic research is likely to become increasingly international. Academic research has been marked by an increase in the mobility of researchers, scientific articles produced by international collaboration. Although national research funding is provided to university and colleges,

international funding of university research is beginning to show in the statistics. Addition to it, the global visibility and competition that results from international rankings based on research criteria, the new research powers are emerging in terms of investment and production by international funding to the projects. Numerous countries are embarking on building world class universities or universities of excellence: while this gives them a higher global profile by exchange of faculty between countries (IIE, 2007).

Private higher education sector

Key issue related to globalisation is the spread of a commercial model in higher education, implying strong growth in private higher education provision and financing. It has been observed that the growth of private higher education and, especially, research funding, has been faster than that of public funding.

Virtual University And Globalisation

Virtual university with special programs and use of information and communication technology (ICT) can show the impact of globalization on society, the economy, and the world system. At virtual universities, there are international programs that extend globalization. Globalization requires the existence and development of an advanced information and communications infrastructure and at virtual university that is new phenomenon in new age we can provide these infrastructures. Virtual universities could become a powerful tool for developing countries reducing the need for expensive physical infrastructure for tertiary and vocational educational facilities and enabling investments to be made instead in communications equipment, with curricula and teaching provided through regional initiatives. Also, globalization requires a different education that enhances the ability of learners to access, assess, adopt, and apply knowledge, to think independently to exercise appropriate judgment and to collaborate with others to make sense of new situations (Abdoli-Sejzi et al., 2009)

Social Media and globalization of higher education

The technological revolution of the past two decades has changed communication, higher education, and the global society. As a result, there exists a wide gulf between the unlimited use of technology and higher education, particularly with respect to digital

communications between professors and students. Digital technologies convey information in a different manner than before and allow for interaction with distance participants. Social media use has also been increased by professors for communication with students especially in Corona period. Now a faculty and student can interact by various social media platforms viz. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, youtube and many more across the countries and this has expanded the globalization in higher education.

Summary and Conclusion

In global knowledge economies, higher education institutions are more important than ever as mediums for a wide range of cross-border relationships and continuous global flows of people, information, knowledge, technologies, products and financial capital. Education and research are key elements in the formation of the global environment, being foundational to knowledge, the take up of technologies, cross border association and sustaining complex communities. (Scott, 1998).

E-learning, combining ICTs and teaching, has not displaced existing educational institutions as some expected but continues to grow, with open potential for new kinds of pedagogy and access

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