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Book reviews

Globalization and Internationalization in Higher Education. Theoretical, strategic and management perspectives

Edited by Felix Maringe and Nick Foskett

Continuum, 2010, 336 pages

ISBN 9781441132772

This volume of essays provides an important addition to the growing literature on internationalisation. Although predominantly drawing upon 'Western world' authors and institutions, the book is strengthened by contributions from a number of other countries. Its strongest feature is probably in exposing and exploring the linkages between the somewhat nebulous (and at times confused) constructs of 'globalisation' and 'internationalisation'. Within that conceptual framework, practice-based case studies and perspectives from management cover a number of relevant topics from curriculum internationalisation to international student mobility. I would have liked to see one or two more chapters exploring more theoretical perspectives, looking in particular at the broader societal and individual impacts of globalisation which may be driving some dimensions of the internationalisation process (Viv Caruana's chapter makes an excellent contribution to this debate).

Felix Maringe's opening chapter, looking at the meanings of internationalisation, might give us some food for thought with regard to learning and teaching issues; while 80% of 'Western' universities and 15% of North African and Middle Eastern universities in his study identify internationalisation as "largely about international student recruitment", the statistics are almost reversed (20% and 75%) for identifying it with curriculum internationalisation. Although you will not find many chapters here which directly address issues of learning and teaching, the book does provide valuable insights into the broader contexts and debates to inform our understanding of the importance and scope of internationalisation processes.

David Killick

Learning in the Global Classroom: a Guide for Students in the Multicultural University

by Carol Dalglish, Peter Evans and Lynda Lawson

Edward Elgar Publishing, 2011, 173 pages

ISBN 9781848448698 (hardback)

With a focus on the global business classroom context, this practical, very readable book is directed at three types of student – international students studying at an English-speaking, Western-oriented institution; English-speaking students on study abroad or exchange programmes; and English-speaking students studying in their home country in classes with students from other cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Although aimed at those three groups, I think it is of most direct relevance to international students studying in an English-speaking, Western-oriented university.

Each of the 12 chapters, covering such topics as written and spoken communication, group and teamwork, assessment, class participation and research students, starts with an issue or theoretical background followed by precise, easy-to-implement, practical ideas, checklists and reflection activities. These are aimed at helping reader-students to develop their self-awareness as well as their awareness of the academic culture of their home and/or host environment. Useful web links for students are provided in several of the chapters. Additional informative and interesting insights are given through the use of quotations from former students with experience of studying in another country. The extensive bibliography at the end of each chapter facilitates greater investigation of each topic and is also of relevance for colleagues working in the field of international education.

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