COIMBRA GROUP HIGH-LEVEL SEMINAR ON EDUCATION POLICY

INTERNATIONALISATION OF THE CURRICULUM

TRINITY COLLEGE DUBLIN
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Internationalisation at Home and Global Citizenship

INTERNATIONALIZATION AT HOME, A MULTI-DIMENSIONAL OR HOLISTIC PROCESS (BETTY LEASK, ELSPETH JONES…)

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP, A MULTIFACETED NOTION: UNIVERSITIES ENGAGING WITH A GLOBAL, FAST-CHANGING AND COMPLEX WORLD WITH AN OPEN-MINDED, TOLERANT, DEMOCRATIC APPROACH...

KEY OBJECTIVES FOR HIGHER EDUCATION (MARY CLARKE):

- “BE A VEHICLE FOR FOSTERING CULTURAL AND SOCIAL AWARENESS, AND CREATE A MORE INCLUSIVE SOCIETY”

- “ENHANCE HARMONY AND UNDERSTANDING ACROSS CULTURES AND COUNTRIES”, “INCREASE RESPECT AND TOLERANCE”
Engagement of the whole institution

**STUDENT MOBILITY**: BEYOND MARKS AND CREDITS, INNOVATIVE WAYS OF ENHANCING THE DIVERSITY AWARENESS, INTERCULTURAL AND PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS… RESULTING FROM INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES

**STAFF MOBILITY**: NEED TO INVOLVE THE WHOLE COMMUNITY TO ACHIEVE INSTITUTIONAL AND INDIVIDUAL “CHANGE OF MINDSET”

→ THE ROLE OF ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES IS KEY TO “INTERNATIONALIZATION AT HOME”

**POSSIBLE OBSTACLES**:

- RIGID FRAMEWORK OF NATIONAL CONTROL OF CURRICULA AND DEGREES
- INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT INSUFFICIENTLY VALUED IN CAREER DEVELOPMENT

**EXPLORING NEW WAYS TO “REALISE THE POTENTIAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY OF STAFF IN HIGHER EDUCATION”**: A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP ERASMUS+ PROJECT ON STAFF MOBILITY COORDINATED BY PAUL-VALÉRY UNIVERSITY MONTPELLIER

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A few challenges…

- How do universities deal with the tension between the respect of cultural, political, religious differences and the values which are at the core of their social and academic commitment?

- How do we, as individuals and as institutions, respond to demands and behaviors that challenge our ethical principles?

- If we agree that we must encourage our students to become “world citizens”, how do we prepare them for confrontational situations?

- How do we equip our students with the means to fight extremist ideas conveyed by an active minority while showing tolerance and understanding?
A few challenges…

- How can universities reconcile international outreach and local engagement?

- How can universities respond to two competing imperatives: academic excellence and social equality?

- In relation to the notion of Global Citizenship, what is the universities’ responsibility for refugees and asylum seekers? [see: Coimbra Working Group]

*It is our challenge and our privilege to help our students become “citizens of the world…”*