

Engaging Universities:

Finding, Building and Sustaining Partnerships

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University Partnerships

- Linking Universities as Partner Institutions
- Objectives
 - Professional Development
 - Curriculum Reform
 - Research
 - Mutual Understanding



Legacy / Sustainability

- Legacy - achievements that remain in place
 - Curriculum
 - materials
 - knowledge/expertise/relationships
- Sustainability – desire to keep the ball rolling
 - Maintain the partnership link
 - Establish links with new partners
 - Continue moving/innovating/growing in the direction of the partnership

Advantages of International Partnerships

- Foster student learning as global citizens and as future members of a global workforce;
- Curriculum building and course enhancement;
- Providing international learning experiences even for students who do not study abroad and even in disciplines that have historically had few such opportunities;
- Developing the international capacity of faculty and staff;

Advantages of International Partnerships

- Advancing research by connecting institutions and scholars with those who have similar strengths and interests;
- Connecting to key parts of the world;
- Supporting and enhancing the international ties and interests of the surrounding community;
- Tackling pressing global issues of health, education, economic development, environment, energy, conflict, inequality, human rights, and social justice;

Internationalization

Figure 1: CIGE Model for Comprehensive Internationalization



Means to an End: How do I find my partner?

3 cups of Tea
Where's my flag?

- Individual contact:
 - Fulbright/Exchange professor
- Conference: International/Local
 - Sponsorship: Gov't, home university, US Embassy, British Council, EU, etc.
 - Proceedings
- Professional Associations:
 - Special Interest Groups
 - Online Blogs/ Bulletin Boards
- Research: Articles/Books
 - Contact with authors/scholars



Identifying and selecting a Partner

Chapter Five

IDENTIFYING AND SELECTING APPROPRIATE PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

SABINE C. KLAHR, DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL CENTER,
UNIVERSITY OF UTAH IN SALT LAKE CITY

Introduction

Among the most important tasks in developing effective international partnerships is finding the best match for your institution. The question is: What constitutes the best match for your particular institution, and what are the expectations for the partnership? Partnerships are effective only when they achieve the outcomes as outlined in the MOU. Therefore, the first question to consider in evaluating a potential partner university is whether your counterparts at this institution have similar expectations and desire similar outcomes for students and faculty. Also, does the potential partner university place the same importance on the partnership as your institution? Is there potential for developing multidimensional initiatives with the other institution? It is also critical to assess whether you have faculty at your institution who will be engaged in the partnership. Long-term engagement by multiple faculty members is vital to implement and sustain activities.

How to Develop Partnerships

Chapter Twenty-one

HOW TO DEVELOP INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS WITH U.S. INSTITUTIONS: MOVING FROM FEEL-GOOD AGREEMENTS TO REAL AGREEMENTS

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International partners often view the process of developing partnerships with institutions in the United States as a daunting task, given the number, types, and range of potential partnership options. International partners, faced with the sheer number of U.S. institutions and the decentralized structure of higher education, must determine which institutions to partner with and understand the process for developing sustainable partnerships.

As senior international educators we have fielded questions over the years from hundreds of international institutions from around the globe that have expressed an interest in developing linkages and international partnerships, including student and

Getting Started

No-Cost, Low-Cost Activity

- Faculty Collaboration
 - Research
 - Guest Lectures via technology
 - Team Teaching via technology
- Classroom interaction
 - Student teams
 - Student projects
- Email exchange, Skype/Zoom conferencing
- LMS: Moodle, Blackboard, Canvas
- Sponsored Travel – exchange/conference
- Existing online formats such as COIL: Collaborative Online International Learning (coil.suny.edu)



Formalizing the Relationship

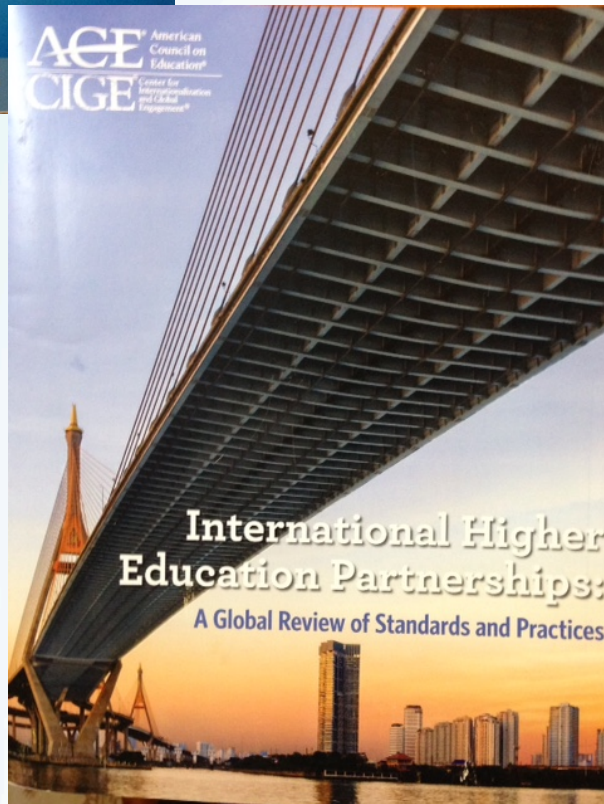
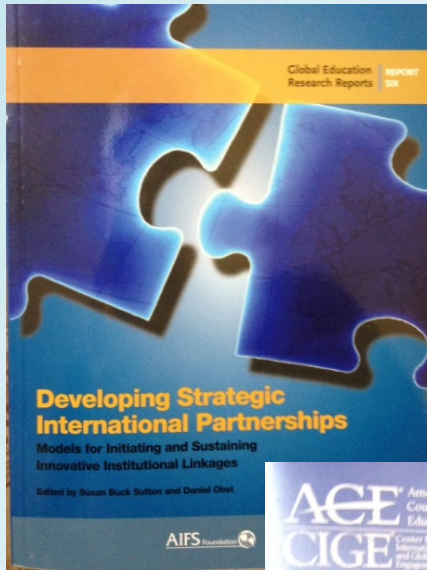
- Administrative buy-in and commitment
- Establishing a plan with objectives, activities and timeline.
- Establishing an MOU as a result of planning and commitment
 - “Real” vs “Feel Good” MOUs



Resources

American Council on Education: www.acenet.edu

The Institute of International Education - IIE:
<https://www.iie.org/Research-and-Insights/Publications>



International University Partnerships

Colleges and universities worldwide—of all types and serving the full spectrum of student populations—are grappling with how best to equip their graduates with the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in the globalized world of the twenty-first century, and ensure their own relevance and standing in the global higher education community. When done carefully, in accordance with overall institutional mission and goals, building relationships with counterparts abroad can be a key aspect of strategies to address these issues. Increasingly, the question is not whether to engage globally, but how. (ACE/CIGE: Int'l Higher Ed. Partnerships, intro)

American Council on Education: International Partnerships - Guidelines for Colleges and Universities
<http://www.acenet.edu/news-room/Pages/International-Partnerships-Guidelines-Colleges-Universities.aspx>

American Council on Education: Center for Internationalization and Global Engagement
<http://www.acenet.edu/news-room/Pages/Center-for-Internationalization-and-Global-Engagement.aspx>

Institute of International Education: Developing Strategic International Partnerships
<http://www.iie.org/Research-and-Publications/Publications-and-Reports/IIE-Bookstore/Developing-Strategic-International-Partnerships>

Institute of International Education: IIE Center for International Partnerships
<http://www.iie.org/What-We-Do/International-Education-Services/Center-for-International-Partnerships>

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