

International Research Experiences: Challenges & Opportunities

Karen P. DePauw, Ph.D.

Vice President and Dean for Graduate Education

Professor

Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University (Virginia Tech)

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How do institutions support international research experiences for graduate students?

What are the barriers and best practices?

How can institutions facilitate the assessment of international research experiences?

How would institutions make use of these assessment results?

How do institutions support (offer) international research experiences for graduate students?

- Study abroad programs
- Exchange programs
- Dual degree programs
- Research visits - abroad
- Visiting Scholars
- Graduate courses
- International conferences
- Research collaborations
 - committee members
 - co-advisor
 - digital “labs”

How do institutions **support** (offer) international research experiences for graduate students?

Research Assistantships

Travel grants

Conference presentations

Graduate certificate (e.g., intl research)

Course credit/plan of study

Future employment & post docs

Grants

Publications and presentations

Patents and IP

How do institutions support (offer) international research experiences for graduate students? **Quantitative measures**

- # programs
- # participants, % of students
- # conference presentations
- # graduate certificate earned
- # student credit hours
- # jobs & post docs
- # grants
- # publications
- # patents and IP

What are the **barriers** and best practices?

lack of institutional commitment to internationalization

financial aid

tax limitations

time away from “lab”

visa limitations

continuous enrollment policies

lack of encouragement and support from faculty advisors

lack of reward and incentives for faculty

unarticulated benefits for graduate students

concern about return on investment (ROI)

limited financial resources

What are the barriers and **best practices**?

typically success is based on individual faculty commitment to internationalization and established connections

assumes that institutions value internationalization & encourages and rewards faculty commitment

related to international university type

Internationalization (de Wit, 2015)

process that helps universities increase
the quality of education, research and
service to society

International university (Knight, 2011; deWit, 2015)

1. variety of international partnerships, international students and staff and collaborative activities (internationally collaborative)
2. satellite offices, branch campuses, research centers (internationally active)
3. universities with partner institutions from different countries (internationally operative)

How can institutions facilitate the assessment of international research experiences?

clear goals and learning outcomes

quantitative and qualitative data

value-added component

dedicated effort and staff

need to understand why we want to internationalize
the university (incl international research)

for institution?

for individual?

for society?

how we assess depends upon the purpose

Internationalization (Knight, 2014)

“intentional process of integrating an international, intercultural or global dimensions into the purpose, functions and delivery of post-secondary education, in order to enhance the quality of education and research for all students and staff, and to make meaningful contributions to society”

Challenges and questions

- for all not just the mobile few
- develop global, international and intercultural skills (KSA) - “thinking globally” (home and abroad)
- asking research questions differently? global challenges?
- societal impact of research - globally relevant research?
- local impact of international research (vis versa)
- role of international students

How would institutions make use of these assessment results?

- evaluate internationalization
- tenure/promotion
- retention and recruitment
- impact upon society
- international profile and portfolio
- value-added for students
- and more

Principles and practices from FRINDOC

- research capacity and capability
- mobility and funding
- institutional structures
- international profile



Salzburg Principles



CeQuInt
certificate for quality in internationalization



thank you