

The IAU launched the 2005 IAU Global Survey Report Internationalisation of Higher Education: New Directions, New Challenges

The internationalisation of higher education is a natural, constant focus for the IAU, as it is in keeping with its constitution and mandate, both of which clearly call for the IAU to promote and facilitate greater international co-operation among universities around the world.

The International Association of Universities (IAU) recently released a new publication, *Internationalisation of Higher Education: New Directions, New Challenges: 2005 IAU Global Survey Report*, authored by Dr Jane Knight. From its unique vantage point, the IAU is committed to conducting worldwide internationalisation surveys of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and other key actors on a regular basis. Indeed, over the past five years, it has carried out two global surveys on the internationalisation of higher education. In 2003, the IAU surveyed its members and published *Internationalisation of Higher Education, Practices and Priorities: 2003 IAU Survey Report*.

The IAU has been committed to promoting and facilitating debate about "Internationalisation" since its creation in 1950 and it is still one of the priority themes for its on-going work. The Association brings together universities, higher education institutions and national and regional university associations from more than 120 countries around the world.

Internationalisation of Higher Education: New Directions, New Challenges, is the result of the second IAU internationalisation survey, which was conducted in 2005. The analysis of results is based on responses from HEIs in 95 countries, making this the largest internationalisation study of its kind.

Ms Eva Egron-Polak, the IAU Secretary-General, who took an active part at the Third International Barcelona Conference on Higher Education organised by the Global University Network for Innovation (GUNI), underlined that: "by carrying out global surveys, on a regular basis, the IAU seeks to improve the understanding of the latest trends emerging in this rapidly changing sector" [and that the IAU] "is committed to making higher education stakeholders aware of the key challenges and risks of these developments". [...]. "The analysis of the results helps the IAU, and perhaps others, to determine what actions are needed in the future to address some of these crucial questions that require global attention and debate".

For the vast majority of the leaders of higher education institutions and associations of universities around the world who took part in the 2005 IAU Survey, the internationalisation of higher education is of utmost importance, though they also anticipated inherent risks to this process. According to these respondents, the major risks at present are the “growing commercialisation of higher education, the increase in foreign degree mills, and the threat of the brain drain”.

According to Dr Jane Knight, author of this report and also one of the authors of *Higher Education in the World 2007*, published by GUNI: [...] “the findings of the 2005 IAU survey paint a relatively positive picture in terms of the sustained importance attributed to internationalisation and the increase in the number of HEIs that have moved from an ad hoc to a planned approach to internationalisation”.

Internationalisation of Higher Education: New Directions, New Challenges is now available for sale by following this [link](#).

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