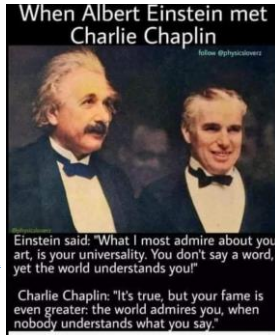


“INTERNATIONALISATION AT HOME” AND JOINT DEGREES: OPPORTUNITIES, QUESTIONS, AND CHALLENGES

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MATTERS THAT MUST BE CONSIDERED IN A JOINT DEGREE AGREEMENT

Institutional Rules and Regulations	Academic Calendar Differences and Degree duration
Assessment/Examination requirements	Language of Teaching and Learning
Curriculum Design - NQF Levels, Credit Values and Notional Hours, and Articulation	Institutional mission alignment and academic strategy
Fee Structure	Teaching approaches
National Policies, Rules, and Regulations	Institutional Support and Staff Training
Student Admission Requirements and Articulation	Credential Evaluation Agencies and Employers must understand the Certificate and Transcript

STUDENT FEES

✓ Example: Finland does not require students - including in some instances, international students at Bachelors degree to pay tuition fees. Will South African partners offer a reciprocal benefit?

RULES REGULATIONS

✓ Students may not be registered at more than one HEI at a time
 ✓ Students must complete final year/ all majors etc. at the awarding institution
 ✓ How should joint degree be reported for purposes of DHET subsidies, and how will the subsidies be calculated when it is a joint programme?

POSTGRADUATE QUALIFICATIONS

✓ Will joint degrees work better at postgraduate level?
 ✓ Postgraduate joint degree come with their own issues

- More than one supervisor - with differing views on the subject and differing approaches
- Graduation requirements:
 - oral defences or not,
 - "must the defence be in person
- Differing Intellectual Property laws create conflict regarding ownership and possible commercialization of the research [Fourie-Malherbe and Botha 2016: 9]

INTERNATIONALISATION AT HOME: The intentional integration of international and intercultural dimensions into the formal and informal curriculum for all students, within domestic learning environments. The focus is on all students - not just those who are mobile - reaping the benefits of international higher education.

- ✓ ACCESSIBILITY
- ✓ AFFORDABILITY

INTERNATIONALISATION: The intentional action or process of making something international for example, by integrating an international, intercultural, or global dimension into its purpose.

Educational internationalization is thus the ability for teaching and learning to be increasingly involved with international cultures in order to advance globalized learning.

JOINT DEGREES: A degree awarded in terms of an agreement of partnering institutions on successful completion of a jointly offered single study programme by two (or more) higher education institutions.

CAUTIONARY NOTE: If partners cannot come to a joint decision to award the joint degree, none of the partners may then proceed to award the degree as a single institution outside of the agreement.

CO-BADGED QUALIFICATIONS: An accredited qualification awarded by a South African HEI where another HEI contributes a minor part of the curriculum in terms of a collaboration or partnership agreement.

- ✓ RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE QUALIFICATION rests with the awarding HEI, but
- ✓ THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE PARTNER IS RECOGNISED by reference to them on the certificate awarded to successful candidates.

DUAL DEGREES are explicitly excluded by the Internationalisation Policy.

WHY WOULD AN INSTITUTION CONSIDER A JOINT DEGREE?

Academic	Economic	Political
To raise institutional recognition and prestige	To acquire revenue for the institution	To promote global citizenship and social justice
To enhance quality of education	To meet the demand of the globally competitive knowledge-based economy	To achieve international visibility and reputation in university league tables
To foster academic excellence	To meet the demand of the national economy	To promote national identity, culture and values
To develop intercultural an international awareness	To meet the demand of the regional economy	To foster regional collaboration and cooperation
Increased qualification options for students		Better teaching quality because of the cooperation and exchange/sharing of ideas
Increased student numbers for the institution		
✓ Students believe international programmes are of higher quality ✓ The status factor of having a qualification from an international institution. 2018 QS Global Employer Survey Report – 80% of employers agreed that they looked for employees with international experience. How will 'internationalization at home' be regarded by employers?		
Networking opportunities linked to globalisation		Job opportunities especially in inter-/multinational companies
Students overcoming the challenges graduate with the critical graduate attributes of GRIT and RESILIENCE		At postgraduate level, added supervision capacity improves institutional contribution and achievement of NDP targets

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INSTITUTIONAL RULES AND REGULATIONS:

- ✓ **Clarity and alignment must be agreed, especially where the partner institutions have different rules.**
- ✓ **Academic and admin must be part of the discussions to ensure a common understanding.**
- ✓ Should institutions who consider joint degrees consider a new set of institutional policies specifically for the joint degree programmes?

QUALITY ASSURANCE

- ✓ **All business processes from registration to graduation must be mapped so that differences in QA processes are identified and resolved.**

CREDITS, NOTIONAL HOURS, NQF LEVELS & PROGRAMME DURATION MUST BE CONFIRMED

RECOGNISE THE POTENTIAL FOR STUDENTS' CONFUSION WITH DIFFERENT TEACHING PRACTICES AND LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Some give and take will have to be applied by institutions. However, "institutions must be cautious of relaxing key quality standards or procedures. ... Institutions must always give close attention and priority to their own domestic policies especially provisions pertaining to accreditation, access, and credit accumulation and transfer." [Chan 2021: 200]

Universities' internationalization efforts often benefit northern institutions more than their southern counterparts. We must imagine internationalization differently and the critical barrier we need to overcome is the belief that partnerships with the global north are always first prize. [Chasi 2021: 34]

INTERNATIONALISATION POLICY [s2.2.13.5] [In addition to the benefits of cross-cultural learning] finding solutions to global problems, and contributing to the expansion of new knowledge in South Africa.

Internationalization must be seen as an opportunity to take local and indigenous knowledge to the international community.

An international curriculum can be understood as a curriculum that centres Africa and situates the notion of Africanity as a key lever for engaging with the global world in solving its developmental challenges and in seeking to position itself as a competitive entity in the globally competitive higher education context. [WITS 2014 Framed Guidance for Curriculum Internationalisation (draft) 111]

