Book Review

Comprehensive Internationalization: Institutional Pathways to Success

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In the 21st century, internationalization in higher education has become a multi-directional notion with its steady consequences in terms of internationalization priorities and activities. Within this context, there is no doubt to say that throughout the every phase of the history, higher education has been considered as related to the other fields; in other words, it has been perceived as “multi-disciplinary”. When we think about the historical point, the notion of internationalization came out with the scholars traveling all around the world in order to pursue their studies on behalf of learning across the world. Nowadays, the internationalization concept, changing its shape with the improvement of technology, underlines the “Comprehensive Internationalization” in the recent studies. John K. Hudzik’s book, named “Comprehensive Internationalization: Institutional Pathways to Success” is one of the latest books of its serial. This serial edited by Elspeth Jones is about the internationalization of higher education institutions. It includes especially the discussions about what kind of a vision the higher education institutions have, which of them interest in internationalization improved about the teaching, learning, and research and servicing process.

From this point, it can be said that the purpose of this book is to contribute to the university leaders about what kind of a strategy they can build for a more comprehensive approach. One of the notable sides of the book is the emphasis on the necessity of the
integration of societies and their reflections “universities”, organizational structure, value and missions of internationalization.

The book consists of two parts. The first part investigates the theory of comprehensive internationalization and it analyses its meaning, strategies, motivations, expectations and the difficulties generated by the comprehensive approach towards internationalization. The second part of the book, however, focuses on practice and includes 10 different case studies of selected institutions all around the world: (Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, The Nanyang Technological University, Queensland University, Swinburne University of Technology, Lund University and Blekinge Institute of Technology, University of Helsinki, Nottingham University, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Beloit College, Michigan State University).

The first part consists of seven chapters. It includes both the description of comprehensive internationalization, reformed strategies and applications, and it also explains the difficulties and expectations encountered during the process of generating the theoretical establishment comprehensively. In the first chapter, Hudzik discusses the historical background of internationalization and its development procedure as a notion. He examines the changing of 21st century’s higher education institutions in terms of more comprehensive internationalization. On the other hand, he emphasizes that the mission of higher education institutions has been becoming more significant because of the latest concept of comprehensive internationalization. In the second chapter, he investigates the external change drivers included in the nature of higher education environment and comprehensive global social tendencies. He questions the organizational change in comprehensive internationalization. In the third chapter, he draws attention to how the internationalization visions, reasons and motivations become more complicated and it is pointed out to the motivation, reason and visions coming out in higher education institutions. In the fourth chapter, Hudzik moves from notion to action, pointing out that a
successful resource acquiring strategy may come true via campus support culture to a great extent and he links comprehensive internationalization and organizational change. Discussions include some possible effective strategies for the campus leaders as well. The fifth chapter continues with the theme of transition from notion to action, but particularly focuses on the examination of institutional common barriers against comprehensive internationalization. Hudzik, examining the impacts of comprehensive internationalization in the sixth chapter, deals with the results correlated with the accountability. The seventh chapter focuses on the resources of comprehensive internationalization.

In the second part, Hudzik combines theory with practice by presenting 10 case studies about the internationalization strategies of higher education institutions all around the world. The institutions were somewhat selected in order to reflect the majority generating higher education institution. There are both much experienced institutions and less experienced institutions in terms of internationalization.

In conclusion, the book makes the reader think about integrating theory with practice. In addition, it introduces extensive discussions about internationalization by using a very clear and accurate language. Lastly, this book has potential to guide the universities toward “comprehensive internationalization” which is a new form of the internationalization in higher education.

References