

A Symposium  
On

**Internationalization of Higher Education at the Cross Roads:  
Charting New Pathways**

A pre-conference at the CSSE-CSSHE conferences

Hosted by:

The Comparative and International Education Society of Canada  
(CIESC)

&

The Canadian Society for the Study of Higher Education (CSSHE)

May 26, 2012 at Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo ON

*'Global educational strategy is a trading game in which the world is nothing more than a map of opportunities for self-enrichment'*

Simon Marginson (2004)

*Called for is a common commitment at the institutional and personal level of how we and our students will be prepared to live and work in a global community –*

Uwe Brandenburg and Hans de Wit (2011)

*[I]n spite of changes that have already occurred in some universities and in some fields of study, in general the internationalization of the curriculum has the potential to remain symbolic, an unfulfilled promise. It is time for thoughtful reflection and informed action.*

Sheryl Bond (2006)

Education faces new challenges in a world more globally connected, yet ever more unequal and fragmented. The increasing integration and coordination of markets, unprecedented global migrations of people to and from every corner of the earth, the exchange of cultures amidst border crossings of varied kinds, provides unique opportunities and challenges. Higher education, in particular, reflects these issues .

Internationalization of higher education was once promoted as a way to navigate through some of these challenges, through “the process of integrating an international, intercultural or global dimension into the purpose, functions or delivery of post-secondary education” (Knight, 2004, p. 11). The attainment of these outcomes, however, are being questioned with more and more scholars decrying the economic orientation of internationalization. Indeed, pioneers such as Hans de Wit are even proclaiming the death of internationalization (eg. Brandenburg & de Wit, 2011).

In keeping with the Congress theme of *Crossroads: Scholarship for an Uncertain World*, we intend this pre-conference to examine the crossroads that internationalization itself is facing. How do we take up our responsibility as scholars and researchers in charting our way forward? How are Canadian scholars facing these issues? What influences do we have on the practices of internationalization in our institutions?

Invited panelists will provide food for thought on several themes relating to our topic, and small group discussion will form the main activity of the day, with a goal of coming up with guidelines, action items and recommendations by the end of the day.

Please join us for a day of critical exploration and dialogue where the objective is not simply to deconstruct and critique but rather, through thoughtful and critical engagement of the issues, to identify and create strategies that would move internationalization towards principled and equitable outcomes.

Date: Saturday, May 26, 2012,

Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Place: Education Building, Wilfrid Laurier University (room TBA)

Costs: \$45 (general), \$25 (Graduate Students)

To be paid in cash at the door. Prior registration is required. Receipts will be issued.

Cost includes lunch, snacks, coffee and tea.

To register – Please email Steve Sider [ssider@wlu.ca](mailto:ssider@wlu.ca)

**Deadline – May 12. Space limited.**