



Chapter 2

Historical Foundations and Key Drivers of Transnational Higher Education

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ABSTRACT

Transnational higher education (TNE) involves delivering educational programs across borders. This chapter introduces TNE, covering its history, key drivers, and current forms, including branch campuses, online education, joint degrees, and franchise programs. It examines various TNE models, motivations for engagement, and associated benefits and challenges. The methodology involves analyzing secondary sources to identify trends and issues. Expected outcomes include insights into TNE's models, motivations, impacts, and gaps in existing literature. The chapter informs policy development, enhances educational quality, and fosters global academic collaboration, equipping readers with foundational knowledge for navigating this complex field.

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1. INTRODUCTION TO TRANSNATIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION (TNE)

Transnational Higher Education (TNE) is an innovative and rapidly growing sector within the global education landscape, reflecting the dynamic interplay of globalization, technological advancement, and the evolving needs of a diverse student population (Alam et al., 2022). At its core, TNE involves educational programs and institutions that operate beyond national boundaries, enabling students to access higher education opportunities in countries different from their own. This chapter delves into the essence of TNE, illustrating its impact and significance through real-life examples and case studies.

Defining Transnational Higher Education

Transnational Higher Education encompasses a broad range of activities where the students, programs, providers, or institutions transcend national borders. This includes various models such as branch campuses, joint degree programs, franchising agreements, online courses, and distance learning. These arrangements often involve partnerships between universities in different countries, allowing for the exchange of knowledge, resources, and cultural perspectives.

Real-Life Examples of TNE

1. New York University (NYU) - Global Network University

One of the prominent examples of TNE is New York University's (NYU) Global Network University. NYU operates campuses in several countries, including Abu Dhabi and Shanghai, in addition to its main campus in New York City. This network allows students to spend semesters at different campuses, experiencing diverse cultural environments while maintaining a consistent academic curriculum. NYU's model exemplifies how TNE can provide students with a truly global education, fostering cross-cultural understanding and global citizenship.

2. University of Nottingham - Malaysia and China Campuses

The University of Nottingham is another notable example, with campuses in the United Kingdom, Malaysia, and China. The university's expansion into Asia demonstrates the strategic use of TNE to reach new markets and provide educational opportunities in regions with high demand for quality higher education. These campuses offer programs identical to those at the UK campus, ensuring that students receive the same level of education regardless of location. This model highlights how TNE can enhance the global presence and reputation of educational institutions.

3. University of London - International Programs

The University of London International Programs represent a long-standing example of TNE through distance learning. Established over 150 years ago, this program offers a wide range of undergraduate and postgraduate degrees that students can pursue from anywhere in the world. The flexibility and accessibility of these programs make higher education attainable for individuals who may not have the means

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