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המועצה
להשכלה
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COUNCIL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Internationalization in HE & QA – Challenges in Israel

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Michal Neumann, Deputy Director-General for QA,
The Council for Higher Education (CHE), Israel

www.che.org.il

Israeli HE System: Facts and Figures

- ❖ 67 HE Institutions (no 'for profit' HEIs):
 - 9 Universities
 - 58 Colleges (public & private)
- ❖ ~ 300,000 students
- ❖ 48% of each cohort enter HE institutions
- ❖ HE Budget - ~ 2% of the state budget

The Council for Higher Education (CHE)

Foundation

- According to the “Council for Higher Education Law - 1958”

Definition

- The sole body in the country in charge of HE issues

Main Responsibilities

- Policy Maker;
Budgeting;
Planning;
Accreditation;
QA

General Internationalization Challenges

Language (Hebrew)
incl. cultural debate

Security
Concerns

Different 'Type' of
Students ---
integration...

Bureaucracy/
State regulations
e.g. Immigration

So What Do We Do – National Level (CHE)

Research:

Fostering international research collaboration through foundations incentives:

- **Israeli Science Foundation (ISF):** funding doubled
- **Bi-national (with US) Science Foundation (BSF):** budget increased
- **German-Israeli Foundation (GIF):** budget increased
- **CERN:** just accepted as full member
- **SESAME:** funding approved
- Established new joint research with "NSFC" in **China** and with "UGC" in **India**
- **Horizon 2020**
- **International research infrastructure (CERN, ESRF)**

So What Do We Do – National Level (CHE)

Students:

- Providing financial resources such as scholarships (recent project with China & India: ~ 54 million \$ for the next 5 years) – to & from Israel (post-doc)
- Encouraging HEIs ('light' accreditation procedure): a. to convert existing programs into E/allow a 'path' in E; b. to open JPs with non-Israeli HEIs;

Accreditation & QA processes:

- Operating the QA system with international evaluators/experts
- Approaching international experts in accreditation/planning considerations
- Initiating and encouraging active participation of HEIs in worldwide HE 'marketing' events

Internationalization in HE In IL

Students:

- ~ 3,500 intl. students (~1.5%)
- Original citizenship: (mostly) USA, Canada, European countries, South America countries, China, India.
- Level of degree: (mostly) advanced degrees
- Disciplines: Engineering; Economics; MBA; Medicine; Exact & Life Sciences; Humanities (Israel/Judaism studies); Governance and Political Sciences; Agriculture
- Type of Programs: Special International Programs; Existing Programs; Joint Programs

International research collaborations: e.g. ISF- NSFC , ISF-UGC

International evaluators/experts: Evaluating the quality of the various disciplines.

Questions about Intl. Programs: Policy; Accreditation & QA

- To what extent should we encourage international programs
- Very bad experience with 'foreign branches' → 1998 amendment in the CHE Law
- Should we accredit/QA international programs differently: procedures, methods
- Adaptations to other Accred./QA processes and standards (e.g. ABET; NCFMEA - Medicine)
- Differences between countries when it comes to joint programs (e.g. scope, credits, LO methods)
- Cooperation between QA agencies vs.-v HEIs autonomous

THANK YOU

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LISTENING

