Research at International Branch Campuses

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Presentation outline

1. About the study
2. Research at IBCs – global development
3. Research-active IBCs in China
4. Two triple-campus examples; University of Nottingham and New York University
5. Discussion and conclusions
International Branch Campuses (IBC)

Definition: “An entity that is owned, at least in part, by a foreign higher education provider; operated in the name of the foreign education provider; and provides an entire academic program, substantially on site, leading to a degree awarded by the foreign education provider.” (CBERT, 2017)

There are more than 250 such IBCs (CBERT, 2017)
Methodology - data

• Publication data for branch campuses were extracted in Scopus using a query selecting all publications with authors stating the name of the branch campus or the mother university and an address with the branch campus city or country

• All IBCs in the C-BERT database were investigated (see http://cbert.org/branch-campus/)

• For all IBCs with a total of 10 or more publications, the publications were extracted for further analysis in SciVal
In addition to the publication sets for each IBC, data was also analysed for mothers to large IBCs and for host countries with a large total IBC publication volume.

Data about data

- 250 IBCs studied
- 93 IBCs with 10 or more publications
- 149 IBCs with at least one publication
- Data was extracted in May/June 2017 covering the period 1996 – 2016 (unless otherwise indicated)
Excluding 164 publications (<0.8%) from IBCs with less than 10 publications.
Largest IBC host countries - volume
Host countries – share of national volume

IBC publications as a share of the national publication volume

- Qatar
- United Arab Emirates
- Malaysia
- China
IBCs in China – accumulated volumes
IBCs in China – annual publ. volume
IBCs in China – annual volumes

Annual publication volume from IBCs in China (19 with <10 publ)

- Xi’an Jiaotong Liverpool University
- The University of Nottingham Ningbo China
- Chinese University of Hong Kong Shenzhen
- New York University Shanghai
- University of Michigan - Shanghai Jiao Tong University Joint Institute
- Duke Kunshan University
- Sino-Dutch Biomedical and Information Engineering School
- Sun Yat-sen University-Carnegie Mellon University Joint Institute of Engineering at Sun Yat-sen University
- Southeast University-Monash University Joint Graduate School (Suzhou)
- Wenzhou-Kean University
IBCs in China – citation impact (FWCI)
STINT
The Swedish Foundation for International Cooperation in Research and Higher Education

IBCs in China – intn’l co-publications

Share of international co-publications

IBC
National

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90%
U. of Nottingham – annual volume

Based on publications in SciVal® November 27, 2018
U. of Nottingham – citation impact

Field-weighted citation impact (FWCI)

- University of Nottingham
- United Kingdom
- University of Nottingham Ningbo China
- University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus
- China

Based on publications in SciVal® November 27, 2018
U. of Nottingham – intn’l collaboration

- University of Nottingham Ningbo China
- University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus
- United Kingdom
- University of Nottingham
- China

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U. of Nottingham – collaboration
New York U. – annual volume

- New York University (vol/10)
- NYU Abu Dhabi
- New York University Shanghai
New York U. – citation impact
New York U. – intn’l collaboration
New York U. – collaboration
Discussion

- Some IBCs appear to deliver high-quality research. Is research requested by the home HEI and/or the host country? If so, how is it supported?
- Several IBCs in China do not appear to publish – is this sustainable?
- Most IBCs are very young – is research a priority from start or something that becomes more important at a later stage?
- The IBCs’ collaboration patterns differ – is national or international collaboration preferred?
Conclusions

International Branch Campuses are involved in research.

- Publications involving IBCs increase rapidly
- Together, IBCs in China have the highest publication output compared to other IBC hosting countries
- Several IBCs in China do not publish
- The publications tend to give higher citation impact than the host country and lower than the home HEI
- IBCs have a higher share of international co-publications than their host country and their home HEI.