



**COLLEGE OF SCIENCE
FACULTY OF BIOSCIENCES
SEMINAR**

TOPIC:

**BENEFITS OF INTERNATIONALISATION:
WHAT KNUST STAFF AND STUDENTS
MUST KNOW**

BY: PROF. REXFORD ASSASIE OPPONG

Dean, International Programmes Office

Vice Chancellor's Office

INTRODUCTION

- Internationalization of University depends on institutionalizing a strategic planning process that is representative in that it recognizes and utilizes the power of the culture within which it occurs.
- However, every institution adopts different strategies according to various rationales, incentives, political and economic circumstances.
- Universities increasingly adopt strategies of internationalization in order to achieve competitive advantage in both national and international markets.





WHAT IS INTERNATIONALISATION?

- It can also be described as situations where universities open up for partnership and collaborations with other higher institutions in respect of academic matters for mutual benefits.

- “The process of increasing involvement in international operations”. (Welch and Luostarinen, 1988).
- Internationalisation of Higher Institutions or Universities means going global.





BENEFITS OF INTERNATIONALISATION

- Producing graduates who are internationally knowledgeable and cross culturally sensitive
- Diversifying and enhancing the learning environment for the benefits of domestic students, the university and nation
- Raising the international profile of the university
- Contributing to improved understanding among nations





STAFF

- Faculty/Administrators have opportunity to advance careers
- Faculty can undertake joint research projects with foreign partners
- Faculty can undertake practical exchange programmes

BENEFITS OF INTERNATIONALISATION TO STAFF AND STUDENTS

STUDENTS

- Exchange programmes
- Have an enriched curriculum
- Study with an increasingly diverse cohorts
- Developing intercultural competencies, etc



To achieve internationalization i.e. connecting KNUST to the rest of the world, led to the establishment of international programmes office(IPO) KNUST





The International Programmes Office (IPO) is under the Vice-Chancellor's office by the Statutes of KNUST

WHO WE ARE

(INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES OFFICE)



www.knust.edu.gh



OBJECTIVE

IPO's major objective is to help in the effective organization, management and recording of the inflow of benefactor and collaborator institutions and individuals as spelt out in the Statutes of the KNUST.



OUR STAFF

- The Dean
- Assistant Registrar
- Principal Administrative Assistant
- Senior Administrative Assistant
- 1 Driver
- 3 National Service Personnel





**WHAT KNUST STATUTES SAY ABOUT
INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES OFFICE (IPO)
(STATUTES 46)**

- The Statutes established the International Programmes Office (IPO) under the Vice-Chancellor' Office in 2004
- The university mandates the IPO to handle all matters affecting the university vis-à-vis its relationship with other associated institutions both national and international in respect of academic matters.
- The International Programmes Office is headed by a Dean.
- It has a board which takes decisions and implement them in the academic interest of the university



MANDATES

- Establishes collaborations with international institutions in collaboration with the Provosts of Colleges, Deans of Faculties and Heads of Departments;
- Regularly updates the database on the University's collaborators or partners in respect of international academic programmes exchange
- Handles matters involving both staff and student visits and exchange programmes;
- Handles all agreements involving the University and its collaborators or partners in respect of external academic programmes in conjunction with the Registrar of the University;



- Facilitates Scholarships for KNUST staff and students;
- Facilitates Career Fairs for KNUST students;
Hosting of research projects within and outside the University;
- The IPO solicits research linkages with African and non-African Institutions as well as other Ghanaian Institutions for staff and students
- Facilitates resident permits, visas and work permits for foreign and KNUST students and visiting scholars;



- The IPO solicits research linkages with African and non-African Institutions as well as other Ghanaian Institutions for staff and students and;
- Issuance of Letters of Supports (LOS)
- Issuance of Letters of Intent (LOI)



ERASMUS PROJECT : STAFF AND STUDENTS



- The Erasmus+ project is an inter-institutional agreement where institutions agree to exchange students and staff for the purposes of Advancing Teaching and Learning (Through Mobility Agreement).
- KNUST is privileged to be on the project with some staff and students benefiting immensely.



The Parties involved in a collaboration adhere to the following:

- Ensure that students and staff mobility for education or training is based on the learning agreement under the project.
- Assist in obtaining requisites documents for mobility.
- Ensure equal academic treatment and services for home students and staff and incoming mobile participants.



- Support the reintegration of mobile participants.
- Commit to sound and transparent management of funds.
- Recognition of credits (or equivalent) awarded to students by the partner institution.



SCHOLARSHIP : STAFF AND STUDENTS



The IPO regularly advertises scholarship opportunities to students and staff through students portals and staff addresses.



PROCESSING, MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

- Memorandum of understanding (MOU) is the binding documents or agreement between two parties (universities) who may enter into an agreement.
- It states the period of the agreement.
- It also outlines the path to follow to address a breach of the agreement.



Processing of MOU

- When an Institution expresses interest to collaborate with KNUST : a prototype MoU is forwarded to the institution that had expressed interest for their review.
- The IPO then reviews the document with the assistance of the Legal and Welfare Section for the Vice-Chancellor and Registrar's signatures (The VC commits the university legally).



CONCLUSION

- Internationalization exposes students, staff and the University Community to the global standards.
- Your visibility is KNUST's visibility and :
- IPO is the window for your visibility and the university.
- Creation Facebook, Twitter for the visibility.



THANK YOU

