

ABDULRAHMAN AL-YOUBI, ADNAN H.M. ZAHED, WILLIAM G. TIERNEY (EDS), *Successful Global Collaborations in Higher Education Institutions*, Springer, Cham 2020, pp. 101

Over the past decade, the direct and indirect roles of universities have increasingly received their appropriate recognition. Not many of them perhaps had global aspirations but mostly they focused on their important implications for the existed country. The publication *Successful Global Collaborations in Higher Education Institutions*, which was published last year can be seen as a thoughtful overview of the obstacles in successfully launching a global collaboration between the

higher education institutions. The editors Abdulrahman Al-Youbi, Adnan H. M. Zahed and William G. Tierney managed to provide the reader with a much more complex perspective on the implementation of global partnerships, international collaboration and challenges and sustainability in terms of global partnerships. This book is an ambitious project and its effects were widely described to provide the reader with the current (mostly) situation in the eastern part of the world.

The issues in the book have arisen from experimental observations, and they have a crucial bearing on the design of further research in this particular area. The authors of the chapters illustrate the need for a deeper understanding of today's international higher education which has gained popularity and is now the way to educate successful, global citizens. The book opens with a stage-setting reason that is behind this edition which is to „lend depth to the manifold topics pertaining to global collaboration. We move away from a one-sided assumption that successful collaboration is either «this or that» and instead highlight the various challenges that confront a university's leadership team¹”. The reader will find the introduction as a logically narrative construction with very personal language and a smooth connection to the rest of the publication. The editors identify three key sections with nine elaborate chapters in total, which review challenges and opportunities including the theory and scientific experience of writers.

Part one is dedicated to the implementation of global partnerships and within the four chapters, the reader can discover more about the taken actions by the various universities across the eastern hemisphere. The strategies implemented by King Abdulaziz University towards international collaboration were presented at first. The authors explain how the institution managed to rise in global rankings. The next two chapters can be perceived as a coherent cause and effect sequence as creating an organisational climate for global partnership has a strong influence on the education of global citizens for the twenty-first century. The stated intent of the authors was to bring up the difficulties that exist, the ways to overcome them and which job these associations play in the mission of a university. According to them, the environment „in which universities currently exist as framed by globalisation is considered, and subsequently how an innovative culture might be established and maintained to enable global partnerships to be implemented and to succeed²”. I found the third chapter interesting and thought-provoking. It discusses the role international partnerships play for universities, especially how they educate and conduct research to be able to develop talented global leadership. The last section in this part presents the international cooperation among East Asian higher education, which became the most alluring area for global participation in this field. Those who wish to know more about success in this part of the world should give it a try.

The second section is devoted to international collaboration and broadly stated knowledge transfer. The reader will find here an interesting case study of Nan-

¹ A. Al-Youbi, A.H.M. Zahed, W.G. Tierney (Eds), *Successful Global Collaborations in Higher Education Institutions*, Springer, Cham 2020, p. 7.

² *Ibidem*, p. 8.

yang Technological University in Singapore which is a unique institution that achieved prestige through a fruitful engagement in international collaboration. Chapter six provides a spotlight on why cooperation is a necessary element for knowledge transfer and discloses how to achieve it. Presented ideas are the results of the research that was conducted within the universities. The last chapter dedicated to the student exchange provides a good overview of the first steps toward international collaboration based on the twenty-first century perspective on student exchanges.

The last part entitled challenges and sustainability of global partnerships include only two chapters that consider how to set up and sustain partnerships. The eighth chapter points to the evidence of the challenges and types of collaborations and partnerships that exist between higher institutions. The last chapter focuses on the long-term sustainability in global higher education partnerships and the authors recognise four explicit dangers connected to it. What is more, the reader will find advice that can improve the possibilities of long haul supportability for colleges and universities interested in mutually beneficial international partnerships.

This interesting volume covers mostly all of the bases in this area and could even serve as a textbook for seminars on the topic in terms of the eastern context. Strengths of the volume include the informative chapters and clear theoretical as well as practical perspective from which the authors proceed. It is an added pleasure that the authors write in a conversational style that in no way undercuts their passionate interest in this area. All in all, this is a well-organised and interesting analysis of various aspects of international collaboration and partnerships among higher institutions. Lastly, I enjoyed the book and could only regret that is so short.

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