



THE OBSERVATORY
on Borderless Higher Education



***The 2015 OBHE Australian
international seminar***

***in association with the Mid-Winter
Researchers Seminar and launch of the
IEAA Employability Guides***

EMPLOYABILITY AND INTERNATIONALISATION: STUDENT SATISFACTION, INSTITUTIONAL MODELS AND ALTERNATE PROVIDERS

Thursday 9th July 2015

A premise for study in another country, whether short or long-term, is enhanced student employability. As the number of mobile students continues to grow and international experience becomes more commonplace, what is known about the employment impact of international study? As the governments of countries that host large numbers of international students, such as Australia, UK and US consider further investment in encouraging domestic students to pursue short-term study abroad, what is the evidence for employment impact? At present, institutions tend to assert enhanced employability but rarely offer data.

This event is timely following the recent release of the 'National Strategy on Work Integrated Learning in University Education' by Universities Australia, Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, alongside others.

The employability of international graduates has emerged as both a priority and a challenge for Australian educational institutions. This seminar is the vehicle to launch a set of three guides for Australian education providers, employers and students, produced by IEAA in a project-supported by the Victorian Government Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources and the Australian Government Department of Education and Training.

These Australian initiatives are made as universities worldwide are under pressure to more clearly connect degree-level study and employability, regardless of any international experience. Clarity on employability is positioned, by governments in particular, as an important way to evaluate public and private investment in higher education. How are institutions attempting to speak more directly to employability, curriculum, work experience and enhanced reporting? Revival of interest in competency-based learning is a case in point. To what extent does international experience or an international study body feature in these and other efforts?

Finally, in response to government and market disquiet about perceived 'return-on-investment' from higher education, various 'alternative providers' have emerged, seeking to complement or compete with a conventional degree with a promise of enhanced employability. Examples include General Assembly, Fullbridge and Minerva in the US, and Deakin Digital in Australia. What exactly are these providers offering, and what is the balance between collaboration and competition with conventional universities? To what extent does an international experience characterise these purported innovations?

This one-day event hosted by the Observatory, in partnership with IEAA, will explore trends, examine the nature of the evidence, and sketch out directions for future research.

Time: 9:00am – 5:30pm
Venue: RMIT University
Storey Hall (Building 22)
Level 7, Conference Room
342 Swanston Street
Melbourne

PROGRAMME

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTERS
9.00am	Registration and networking	
9.30am	Welcome To the OBHE and IEAA events	Phil Honeywood CEO, IEAA
9.45am	'Setting the Scene' i-graduate domestic and international student worldwide satisfaction data, with a focus on employability and social integration	Will Archer Chief Executive, i-graduate Kevin Brett Director, i-graduate Australia
10.30am	MORNING TEA	
11.00am	'What's out there already?' Critical examination of 'employability' initiatives from conventional universities and alternative providers, noting emphases on internationalisation Q&A	Richard Garrett, Director, The Observatory on Borderless Higher Education
12.15pm	LUNCH	
1.00pm	Information systems, the student journey and employment A lead in to small group discussion	
1.15pm	Reflection Small group discussions about the morning sessions, adding participant perspectives and examples with opportunity to report back.	Chair: Chris Ziguas Deputy Dean, International RMIT University
2.00pm	Launch of Employer and Institution Guide Release of the IEAA Employability Guides	Dr Cate Gribble Senior Research Fellow Deakin University
2.45pm	AFTERNOON TEA	
3.15pm	Panel discussion A mix of local university leaders and speakers	Richard Garrett / Will Archer
4.15pm	'What next?' Summary and key takeaways	Richard Garrett
4.30PM NETWORKING RECEPTION		
5.30PM CLOSE		

	OBHE Thursday 9 July	OBHE and Mid-Winter Seminar Thursday and Friday 9-10 July
Full Fee	AUD300.00	AUD500.00
Member IEAA/OBHE	AUD200.00	AUD350.00
Student*	AUD100.00	AUD150.00

* PhD students need to email admin@ieaa.org.au to register for this event

www.ieaa.org.au/obhe