



# The OBSERVATORY

## on borderless higher education

### Crossing tomorrow's higher education borders today

The Observatory on Borderless Higher Education is an international strategic information service investigating how, why and where education crosses geographical, political, economic and intellectual borders.

Our services are aimed at tertiary education institutions, organisations, policy-makers and individuals, who are actively pursuing international or cross-border educational initiatives, who are considering developing such activities and those who have a strategic interest in current global higher education developments.

**“The OBHE is arguably the leading authority on borderless education in the world and is undertaking leading edge applied research on a broad spectrum of related issues.”**

*Dr Jane Knight, Adjunct Professor, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education,  
University of Toronto, Canada*

[www.obhe.ac.uk](http://www.obhe.ac.uk)

## About The Observatory

The Observatory was established in 2002 in response to the growing prevalence of cross-border developments in the higher education arena, and their significance for education leaders and policy-makers. By identifying emerging trends and analysing 'best practice' in policy, assessment and quality assurance frameworks, The Observatory strives to separate the 'hype' from reality by conducting high-level research and disseminating it to higher education policy-makers and leaders. A policy analysis subscription service with more than 180 organisational members in 50 countries, The Observatory:

- Researches and analyses developments in how HE crosses borders across all continents and all modes of delivery;
- Offers monthly reports and news analyses with global coverage;
- Undertakes annual studies of overseas branch campuses and international student mobility, both of which act as benchmarks of activity across the globe;
- Provides timely and unique analyses of current policy relating to HE delivery overseas, public-private partnerships, and new funding models;
- Provides valued information to HE leaders and policy-makers worldwide, enabling them to make informed decisions about their current and future cross-border activities; and
- Operates a unique back catalogue of reports, data, analysis and news coverage in relation to international and cross-border higher education activity over the past seven years

## The Observatory examines and analyses. . .

- Developing markets, particularly outside the English-speaking world;
- New providers in transnational higher education, including the private sector;
- Emerging trends in higher education technology and distance learning;
- Quality assurance and regulatory models at the institutional, regional and international level;
- Contractual and financial models for the delivery of cross-border higher education;
- Patterns and trends in international student mobility and the student experience;
- International collaboration, including the establishment of overseas branch campuses; and
- Scopes of globalisation and internationalisation of universities and educational corporations worldwide

## Our Governance Structure

Led by a Chief Executive Officer, The Observatory is under the direction of an Advisory Group of leading higher education professionals which advises on the major strategic directions and goals of the organisation. The Observatory's Global Council is a representative body of university administrators and academic staff, government officials, organisational representatives and business executives from across the world, which provides advice regarding research priorities, international trends, regional developments and editorial reviews.

## Subscribe now to receive . . .

- Unlimited access to The Observatory's research **Reports** for your institution's senior management, administrators, academic staff and students;
- **Breaking News** articles analysing recent developments in the transnational higher education market, which provide in-depth and critical understanding of emerging issues and implications;
- **Strategic Information Services** provided on a consultancy basis to help higher education institutions and business organisations understand the implications of borderless higher education initiatives;
- **Contact details** for the Observatory's institutional subscribers, allowing you to expand your global professional network;
- An **Online Discussion Forum** area where subscribers can discuss issues, best practices and models for cross-border higher education;
- **Reduced rates** to attend The Observatory's seminars and 2009 World Conference; and
- **Information** about major higher education conferences and seminars taking place across the world

## Current Subscribers include . . .

- 100+ universities across every continent worldwide
- UNESCO and The World Bank;
- the International Association of Universities (IAU);
- the European University Association (EUA);
- the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU);
- the Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA) and the UK's Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA);
- Polycom, Inc., Eduventures and Laureate Education, Inc.;
- Government departments in countries including Australia, Belgium, Grenada, Jamaica, Mauritius, New Zealand and the United Arab Emirates;
- the Association of Universities and Colleges Canada (AUCC), the Irish Universities Association (IUA), the Southern African Regional Universities Association (SARUA), and the Netherlands Organization for International Cooperation in Higher Education (Nuffic)
- the Commonwealth of Learning (COL), the European Distance Education Network (EDEN), the United States Distance Learning Association (USDLA), and the Western Co-operative for Educational Telecommunications (WCET)

**“I believe that subscription to The Observatory represents excellent value for money. The quality, quantity and immediacy of report topics enable me to keep abreast of key issues. In the current climate of higher education this is great value for money.”**

*Sir Graeme Davies, Vice-Chancellor, University of London, United Kingdom*

**“The Observatory provides a unique window on new and important developments in higher education. The quality of its reports and news items makes it an invaluable source of information for decision makers, practitioners and researchers in both industrial and developing countries.”**

*Jamil Salmi, Sector Manager, Education Department, The World Bank*

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**“The Observatory provides a really important service to the busy and increasingly pressurised leaders in higher education. It targets the kind of information necessary to decision-making about the strategies fundamental to survival in a complex and fast changing HE landscape. Highly recommended.”**

*Professor Brenda Gourley, Vice-Chancellor, The Open University, United Kingdom*

**“The Observatory is a key resource for us in keeping up-to-date with fast-moving developments in higher education initiatives, policies and players around the world. The reports and briefs, both timely and thoughtful, are essential reading for key staff.**

**As a small organisation that has to be fleet-of-foot we would not be able to keep up by relying on our own resources. We gain intelligence and ideas which help our own strategic planning.”**

*Stuart Hamilton, CEO, Open Universities Australia*