

Values and Ethics – the Borderless Perspectives



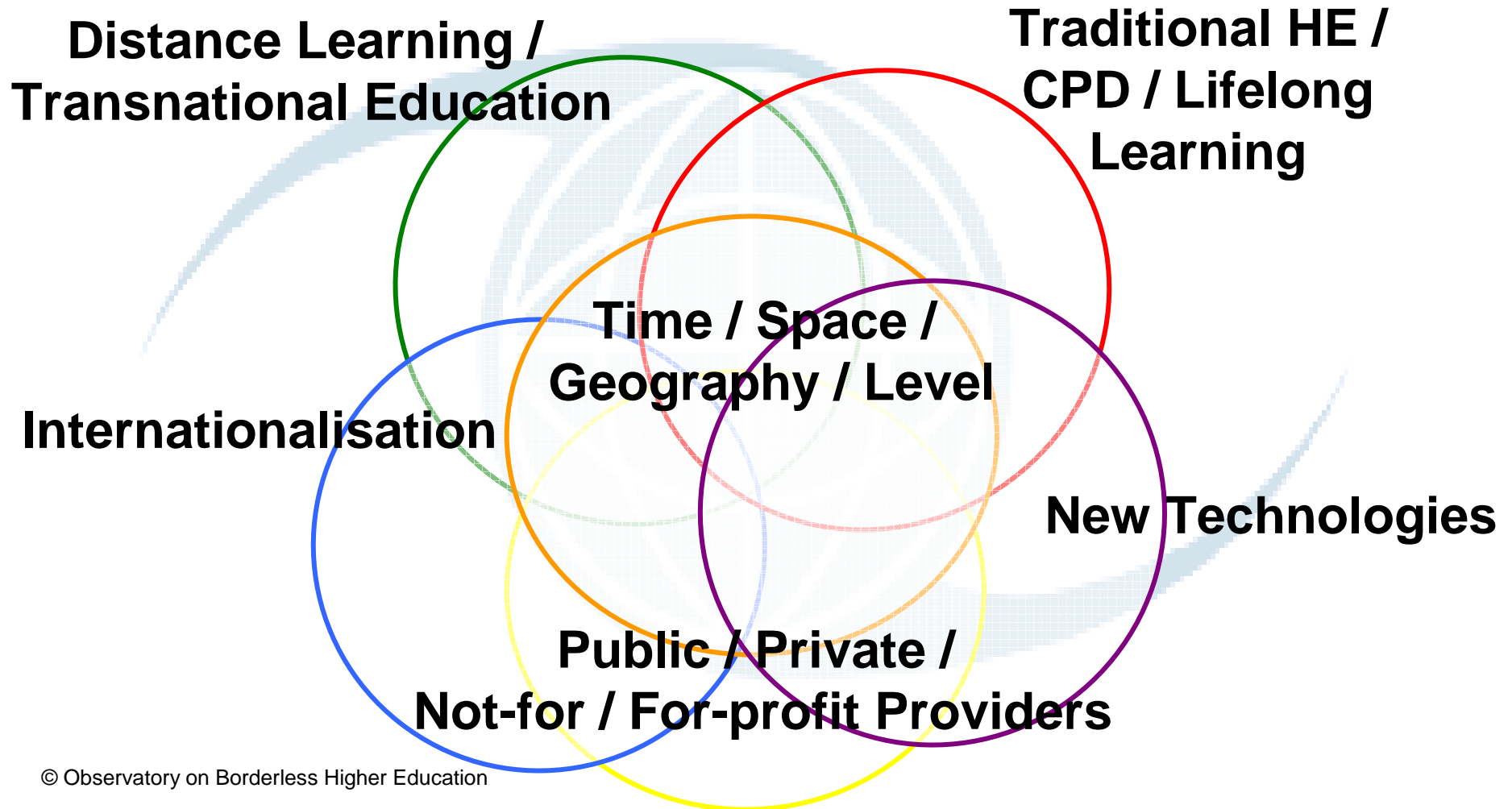
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***Line Verbik, Deputy Director,
Observatory on Borderless Higher
Education, London, UK***

Overview...

- The Observatory on Borderless Higher Education
- Context and Issues
- Perspectives on Student Mobility and Transnational Education – Hosts and Sources
- Concluding comments

'Borderless' Higher Education



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Context and Issues

Globalisation and Internationalisation issues and indicators:

- Academic and programme mobility
- Education as a tradable commodity or a public good?
- Sub-standard provision and public protection/reputation/service
- Locus of responsibility
- Dichotomy of public versus private

The 'Host' perspective

Focus on *Study Abroad* and
Transnational Education:

Benefits:

- *Contribution to the solving of local capacity and quality problems*
- **Contribute to domestic capacity**
- **Mentor local institutions**
- **Stem study abroad**
- **Attract international students**
- **Stimulate local economy**
- **R&D tie-ins**

The 'Host' perspective

Challenges:

- *Outflow of financial and academic resources*
- *Brain drain*
- *Relevance of foreign qualifications*
- Possible brain-drain upon graduation
- Relevance of degree to local context
- Narrow subject focus and possibly high costs
- Quality assurance issues and continuity
- Participation issues
- Dominated by North-South movement

Possible beneficial initiatives – Hosts

- **Regulatory frameworks and incentives to ensure closer fit with wider developmental goals**
- **Regional co-operation in affected areas**
- **Increased domestic educational opportunities**
- **Domestic ‘return home’ initiatives, including scholarships**

The 'Source' perspective

Study Abroad and Transnational Education:

Benefits:

- *Financial and academic short and long-term benefits*
- Reach new markets/ students
- Revenue generation
- Diversify delivery
- Internationalise institution
- R&D tie-ins
- Niche provision

The 'Source' perspective

Challenges:

- *Over-dependence on income from foreign students*
- *Increasing reliance on skilled immigration*
- **Unclear quality assurance responsibilities**
- **Uncertain operating environment**
- **Tension between sustainable initiatives and contribution to developmental activities**

Possible beneficial initiatives – Sources

- Regulatory frameworks to outline source countries' responsibilities
- National and International (binding) guidelines and perhaps quality assurance mechanisms
- Responsible recruiting
- Non-commercial international initiatives
- Long-term commitment and investments

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