

Annual Report 2005 - The International Committee

Results

The student exchange – registered in the international exchange programme – at CBS in 2005 was 779 out-going and 1,153 in-coming students including 288 foreign students at the International Summer University Programme. This is a decrease in outgoing numbers, but an increase in incoming numbers. This is mainly due to the removal of the CBS scholarship to students studying outside Europe. Free movers and trainees, who formerly received scholarships from CBS, no longer have a reason to go through the International Office. There were therefore no registered free movers or trainees at the International Office in the fall semester of 2005. To these figures we should add 1260 foreign students enrolled as degree students in our full time programmes (B.A, B.Sc., M.A., M.Sc., and MBA.)

The ratio of exchanges to graduates reached 30%, which is a lower ration than in 2004, partially due to registration issues explained above, but also due to a very high growth in the number of graduates. Our portfolio of exchange agreements reached 331. We have continued the expansion of our network of strong partner universities in Asia and added several attractive new partners in the US, including Wharton.

Our CEMS MIM programme admitted 46 new students (35 in 2004) to the program and graduated 22 candidates (15 in 2004).

In terms of programmes and courses offered in English we offered 300 courses in our 2005-06 catalogue (231 in 2004-2005). 23 Graduate and 28 Undergraduate courses were offered on our International Summer University Programme (compared to a total of 32 in 2004). The number of CBS programmes completely taught in English were 5 bachelor programmes, 13 master programmes and 5 executive programmes; altogether 23 programmes compared with 6 programmes in 1999.

Challenges

Our focus is increasingly on new modes of co-operation with our partners. Double-degrees and joint degrees, as supported by the EU Erasmus Mundus programme are an item that partner schools wish to discuss with us. In 2005, a double degree agreement was established with Università Bocconi, including the SMC concentration of cand.merc. But also other forms such as double-exchange, academic internship, team-taught courses and short tailor-made programmes for students from our partner universities will be part of the internationalization portfolio. Stern Business School has asked us to repeat the very successful visit organized last May for a group of 30 of their MBA students.

Compared with student exchange business these initiatives generally require more institutional resources. They require programme harmonisation and the need for stringent selection criteria for partners. The International committee recommends that each study programme selects a limited number of partners with whom they build relationships demanding a greater commitment on both sides. This could take many forms leading to a double-degree arrangement as an important milestone. Essential will be our efforts to receive proper ranking and accreditation and our internal efforts to secure high quality in our programs. The current level of resources available for study programmes entail larger classes, less student professor contact and fewer student deliverables than our chosen pedagogy would recommend. In the long run, this is an issue that must be addressed if we are to live up to our own level of ambitions.

Another challenge is the fee-paying foreign student issue. Non-EU (and non-EØS) students, who are not part of an exchange agreement, will have to pay tuition from 2006. Last year we wrote that CBS should use this opportunity to ensure more resources by enrolling enrol highly qualified students (and that we should) “enhance our capability in international marketing. Not only our FT-MBA program but also the bachelor and master programs in general should demonstrate competitive competence by tapping into the growing world market of higher education.” The limited resources have prohibited these intentions in being met.

The working group assigned to propose a Language Policy for the CBS has completed its work and delivered its report. English language proficiency is an issue which increasing demands our attention if we are to ensure that the many programmes offered in that language are going to be able to deliver the calibre of graduates that competitive international corporations would like to see as their future employees.

Finally, we must recognise that successful internationalisation starts at home and includes many non-academic issues. Student services such as library, study administration, agreement administration housing, course catalogue and timetables and some services that domestic students do not demand, must be taken into account. A new effort launched by the CBS administration to upgrade the student services offered to all students but in particular the international full degree students will hopefully mark the will of the CBS to internationalise at all levels in the year to come.

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