Turkish-American University Partnerships

A Workshop Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State
University of Ankara
December 10, 2015
Overview of U.S. Higher Education and Accreditation

Linda Tobash
Senior Director of Policy, Knowledge and Data
World Education Services, New York

WES Knowledge Resource Exchange
Clare
What is the first word that comes to mind when you hear U.S. Higher Education?
Objectives

- Philosophical Underpinnings
- Diversity of Institutions & Accreditation
- Students
- Governance
- Key Trends
There is no system, just individual units, individual stars in the sky.
Only an astronomer with a telescope could look at it and see a solar system.

***Dr. Tratchenberg, Former President, George Washington University

_Crisis of Confidence Threatens Colleges._ Karin Fishcer. **Chronicle of Higher Education, May 20, 2011**
U.S. Higher Education System

Decentralized with limited government control
U.S. Higher Education System
Key Philosophical Beliefs

- Belief in limited government and freedom of expression
- Belief in capitalism and rationality of markets
- Belief in equal opportunity and social mobility

Partially taken from Diversity, Access, & the Role of the Marketplace, ACE, 2004
Institutions
“Pluralism” in the types of institutions considered a strength of the system
Over 4,600 Accredited Degree-Granting Institutions

- Public: 37%
- Private Not-for-Profit: 26%
- Private For Profit: 37%

Source: 2015 Carnegie Classification
Percentage of Institutions based on HIGHEST degree offered

**Number of Institutions**

- Doctorate: 297
- Master's: 724
- Baccalaureate: 810
- Associate’s: 1,919
- Special Focus: 853
- Tribal: 32

Source: 2015 Carnegie Classification
http://carnegieclassifications.iu.edu
The Carnegie Classification System
can an institution’s classification tell us?

- It is accredited
- Primary focus or highest level of degree awarded
- Setting (and specific location)
- Public or private
- Not-for-profit or for-profit institution
- Size

Visit: http://carnegieclassifications.iu.edu
How many accrediting organizations/ agencies that accredit institutions are there in the U.S.?
Decentralized Process

• No federal governmental body oversees or funds the direct quality control of institutions.

• Accreditation is a process of external quality review
  - Non-governmental, independent, peer review
  - Voluntary process
  - Self-regulated
  - Peer supported/funded
Institutional Accreditation: Two Types of Agencies

Institutional Accreditation

• Regional Accrediting Agencies

• National Accrediting Agencies
Accreditation: Two Types

Institutional Accreditation
• Regional Accrediting Agencies
• National Accrediting Agencies

Programmatic Accreditation
• Program/Discipline/Professional Accrediting Agencies
Accrediting Agency Recognition Bodies

Council for Higher Education Accreditation

U.S. Department of Education
Relationship among Institutions Accredited by Recognized Accrediting Organizations, Recognized Accrediting Organizations and Recognition Bodies*

Institutions and Programs
- 22,654 Accredited Programs
- 7,818 Accredited Institutions

Accrediting Organizations**
- 62 Programmatic Accrediting Organizations
- 18 Institutional Accrediting Organizations
  - Regional (7)
  - Faith-based (4)
  - Private Career (7)

Recognition Bodies
- Government Regulation
- U.S. Department of Education
- Self Regulation
  - Council for Higher Education Accreditation

Create, fund, participate in Review and accredit

*2011 CHEA Almanac of External Quality Review
**Some accrediting organizations are recognized only by CHEA, some only by USDE, some by both.
Useful Websites

Council for Higher Education Accreditation: www.chea.org

Students
Students

- 20.3 million estimated in 2014-2015 academic year
  - 43% male & 57% female
  - Over 5% international
    - 974,926
      - Turkey sent 10,724 and ranks 13th in sending countries
  - 72% enroll in public institutions

- 87% undergraduate level
  - 7.6 million associate’s
  - 10.6 million bachelor’s

- 13% graduate level
  - 2.9 million graduate

Sources:
*U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Services
Academic Education Progression

- **Associate's Degree**
  - 2 years
  - 60 credits

- **High School Diploma**
  - 4 years
  - Grades 9 to 12

- **Bachelor's Degree**
  - 4 years
  - 120 credits

- **Master's Degree**
  - 1 to 2 years
  - 30 to 48 credits

- **Research Doctorate**
  - 4+ years
  - 75 to 90 credits and dissertation
Structure of U.S. Higher Education
Adapted from U.S. Department of Education Source, National Center for Education Statistics
Attracting U.S. Students
Globally Mobile Degree Students
Top Hosting Countries

2014
Worldwide: 4.5 million students

- US: 20%
- UK: 11%
- China: 8%
- France: 7%
- Germany: 6%
- Australia: 6%
- Canada: 5%
- Japan: 3%
- All Others: 35%

Source: Atlas of Student Mobility
http://www.iie.org/projectatlas
Globally Mobile Degree Students
Top Hosting Countries

2001: Worldwide: 2.1 million students
- US: 28%
- UK: 11%
- Germany: 9%
- France: 7%
- Australia: 4%
- Japan: 3%
- Spain: 2%
- Belgium: 2%
- All Others: 34%

2014: Worldwide: 4.5 million students
- US: 20%
- UK: 11%
- China: 8%
- France: 7%
- Germany: 6%
- Australia: 6%
- Canada: 5%
- Japan: 3%
- All Others: 35%

Source: Atlas of Student Mobility
http://www.iie.org/projectatlas
Nearly 290,000 studied abroad for academic credit in 2013/14
Europe is the leading destination
TRENDS

Top Study Areas

- STEM -- 23%
- Social Sciences -- 22%
- Business -- 20%
- Humanities -- 10%
- Fine and Applied Arts -- 8%
TRENDS

Duration

- Summer term – 38%
- One semester – 33%
- 8 weeks or less during academic term – 15%
- January term – 7%
- Full academic year – 3%
OTHER TRENDS

• Additional 46,000 full degree-seeking
  – Evenly split between undergraduate and master’s degree – 42%
  – Doctoral -16%

Additional 15,089 in non-degree activities
  – Work
  – Internships
  – Volunteering
    • Sometimes co-curricular activities
PUSH FACTORS
PULL FACTORS
Barriers
Figure 1: Market Share of Countries Hosting U.S. Students Pursuing Degrees Abroad

- United Kingdom: 36%
- Canada: 20%
- France: 10%
- Germany: 9%
- New Zealand: 5%
- Australia: 5%
- China: 5%
- Netherlands: 4%
- Spain: 2%
- Sweden: 1%
- Ireland: 2%
- Japan: 1%
- Denmark: <1%
- Malaysia: <1%
Governance

SHARED
Who is in charge at the institutional level?

**Shared** by many players
- The Governing Board
- **The President** -- ‘The Living Logo’
  - “the Administration”
- The Faculty
- The Students
- External Audiences
  - alumni
  - donors
  - parents
Trends

- Emphasis on Study Abroad & Linkages
- Changing Demographics
- Technology & Innovation
- Emphasis on Outcomes & Assessment
- Costs
Reflection

What word did you write on your index card when we started?

Has it changed?
Side A:
What do you know now that you didn’t know when we began?

Side B:
What would you like to learn more about and/or do you have a specific question you would like answered?