

New Zealand University Exchange Programmes: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly

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Abstract

The eight New Zealand Universities established their student exchange programmes in the past decade, and like their Australian counterparts, have faced a number of challenges. The common issues facing exchange practitioners worldwide are no secret: imbalances, undesirable destinations, unsuitable partners, and a lack of funding / staff resources / student awareness / faculty support. This paper explores the key trends and issues facing New Zealand exchange programmes and describes two innovative strategies that have been implemented by AUT University in Auckland.

The first part of this session considers the following questions:

- What are the challenges currently facing New Zealand exchange programmes and to what extent are they unique to Aotearoa?
- What actions have the New Zealand universities taken to deal with those challenges, and how successful have they been?

The second part of the session explores two strategies implemented by AUT University in Auckland. One which focuses on enhancing the experience of inbound exchange students, and another which utilises returning outbound students.