

## **Local-International Student Engagement: Challenging some Myths and Assumptions**

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### **Abstract:**

This paper focuses on unpacking the myths and assumptions around engagement between international and local students. By exploring current literature on socialisation and practices within the higher education sector, the discussion will concentrate on possible research agendas in the area of socialisation and localinternational student engagement. The paper will highlight some of the strengths of current literature and practice as well as some of the gaps that need to be addressed.

The myths and assumptions discussed in the paper include;

- What is the meaning of the local-international dichotomy?
- Why is the focus only on how international students adapt?
- Why is there a disproportionate focus on support services providing leadership on engagement, rather than through academic teaching and learning?
- Why is English as a second language often cited as the barrier to engagement?
- What is Australia's host culture?
- Does internationalisation of curriculum mean a resultant internationalised cohort by default?

The outcomes, through answering these questions, are to enrich understanding and research in international education.