

What's Next? Students' expectations of an international education and life after graduation

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The consistent and, in some markets, remarkable growth in the volume of students seeking an education at overseas institutions speaks to the desirability of international education as an experience.

Much of the marketing of international education leads by asserting the benefits as experiential ones: the exposure to foreign cultures, to languages, making new friends, and expanding one's worldview.

As agents, student advocates, institutions, and policy makers, the industry is continually striving to improve student preparedness, onshore support services, and integration; to deliver the best possible experience while students remain at international institutions.

In addition to these experiential factors, the primacy of rankings and affordability of both tuition and living costs as drivers in students' decision-making substantiates the view that students are focused on graduate outcomes. Better understanding the measures by which students determine the success of their international education, as well as the perceived barriers to achieving their career goals, helps us support them in achieving the outcomes they desire.

Drawing on the latest research conducted by IDP Education, this session will focus on students' expectations of life after graduation. It will also examine:

- How students will evaluate the success of their international study experience;
- Expectations of the institutions' role in career support; and
- The perceived barriers and opportunities once they graduate.

Key Words

Student experience, graduate outcomes, international students, international student support, international student needs, international education agent