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The Institute's International Strategy and air travel - a personal view

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International strategy

2007–12

Key objectives:



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1. Research and scholarship with global perspective and impact.
2. Collaborative partnerships and commitment to the Millennium Development Goals.
3. Positive partnership with developing countries.
4. International orientation of all our staff
5. Expand student recruitment.
6. Curricula and teaching relevant to global student body.
7. Network of alumni and contacts.
8. International coverage of Library

Implementation



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- Objective 2: To actively seek collaborative partnerships with leading institutions in other countries, including the developing world, in order to develop our **research** and **teaching** programmes, and our **consultancy work** in an international context.
- 4.4 Staff will be **encouraged to attend international conferences** and where possible supported to do so.
- 5.4 The number, quality and range of **countries targeted** in promotion and recruitment will be critically examined. Factors considered will include the countries from which most students are recruited currently, the need to recruit from the widest possible range of countries throughout the world, and the **policy on agents**.

Conferences – why?



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- To learn – may achieve more at home on website
- To present – may achieve more submitting for publication
- To network – yes but can also use video conferences
- Paid to give plenary – YES (but can offer to do on line and be paid more)
- To see the World! If travelling might as well make full use of visit

Research - how?



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To what extent do you need to travel:

- Work with local partners – collaborative / supportive
- SKYPE
- The telephone!

Teaching - how?



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- Paid work – but other methods too
- Offer to provide by SKYPE
- By ELUMINATE (in many ways more intense than face to face teaching)
- Cohort based full on-line courses
- Not just international, also national and life arrangement issues

Recruitment - methods?



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- Agents – 15 in 20 countries working locally
- Recruitment trips- encompass academic lectures, meetings with partners, alumni and agent development as well as exhibitions.
- Promotional lectures via video

In sum:



- Many of the aims of the international strategy can be achieved without leaving our offices.
- Need to change our own and others' culture about international work
- Need to make support mainstream (eg video confs)
- Some aspects of implementation could be tweaked to reflect environmental issues
 - conference attendance
 - conference organisation
 - finance polices
 - travel policies (eg fewer trips but clearer purposes and Business Class for long distances?)