Friday 16 May

**Looking Outwards to the Global World: The Drive for Internationalizing Universities in Hong Kong and Asia**

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**Abstract**

The rise of the knowledge-based economy has considerably transformed not only the higher education systems but also the underlying values and the design of curricula in higher education. In order to enhance the globalcompetence of university graduates, universities across different parts of the globe have started comprehensive reviews of the curricula and introduced new strategies to transform the university learning and teaching approach from the 'teacher-centred' orientation to a more 'student-centred' orientation.

Acknowledging the growing needs to better prepare students for living and working in an increasingly culturally diverse and socially complex world, universities not only in the West but also in the East have developed new teaching and learning strategies to promote multiculturalism and internationalization of curricula. This paper is set out in this background to examine what major values underlying the design of new curricula in coping with the globalization challenges and what are the major curriculum changes at the University of Hong Kong and its counterparts in other Asian societies. The paper will be concluded by a critical reflection on globalization and curriculum changes.