The internationalisation of home curricula is receiving increasing attention and academics are becoming more prominent players in internationalisation. This has given new urgency to addressing the lack of skills of lecturers, a topic that has globally been acknowledged as one of the main obstacles to internationalisation.

The current Dutch policies (2018) consider academics’ skills for internationalisation mainly relevant for the international classroom. While this is an important aspect, it only involves a small minority of lecturers and students. The main focus should be on lecturers in domestic programmes, which constitute the overwhelming majority at universities of applied sciences (92.86% at THUAS). In September 2017, The Hague University of Applied Sciences hosted the conference ‘the missing link in internationalisation’, which focused on enhancing the skills of lecturers across programmes.

A truly internationalised curriculum cannot be shaped by international electives, facilitated by a handful of champions of internationalisation. It requires the integration of international and intercultural dimensions in teaching by all lecturers. Only then will we be able to reach our ambitious aims in equipping students with global citizenship skills, critical thinking and global perspectives.

Involving all lecturers demands a more systemic approach to professional development for internationalisation. Instead of offering training at central institutional level, professional development will need to go into departments and programmes. Therefore, this symposium goes one step beyond ‘the missing link’ and explores how we can build systemic and sustainable support for curriculum internationalisation by equipping educational developers with the competences they need.

There is much we do not know yet. What are the competences that educational developers need? What inspires them? How can they be effective in meeting the needs of lecturers in different disciplines? How can we collaborate across universities and borders to engage with different perspectives on professional development? How do we research the effects of internationalised professional development on lecturers?

Although we need to increase our insight into these complex processes, there are emerging practices that we can already learn from. Five European universities will present their practices and ambitions: Coventry University, University College Leuven Limburg, OsloMet, Georg-August University Göttingen and The Hague University of Applied Sciences. They are all, each in their own way, attempting to internationalise teaching and learning through educational developers.

Institutional cases will be the topic in the first round of discussions. A second round will involve coupling-up colleagues across institutions to discuss relevant themes such as academic mobility, teaching and learning centres, research, the role of internationalisation projects and the competences of educational developers.

The target group of this symposium are international officers, policy advisors for internationalisation, educational developers, managers of teaching centres, and those who combine any of these roles with lecturing.

Programme

Wednesday 26 September 2018
09.00 hrs
The Hague University of Applied Sciences
main campus

Beyond the champions
A symposium on internationalising professional development of lecturers

Registration and coffee
09.00 - 09.30

Opening
09.30 - 09.40

Who do we see if we look beyond the champions?
10.00 - 10.45

Breakout sessions, round 1: institutional cases
- University of Göttingen, Germany
- OsloMet, Norway
- The Hague University of Applied Sciences, The Netherlands
- Coventry University, United Kingdom
- UCLL Leuven Limburg, Belgium

Breakout session, round 2: themes
- How can we make mobility of lecturers and of educational developers meaningful as a professional development tool?
- What are the competences of an internationalisation focused educational developer?
- What are the characteristics of borderless teaching and learning centres?
- How can we make internationalisation projects benefit systemic professional development?
- What is the agenda for research on professional development for internationalisation?

Summing up and wrapping up
12.00 - 12.30

Lunch and networking
12.30 - 14.00

Address by Leonard Geluk, Chair of the Executive Board of THUAS
15.00

Inaugural lecture by Jos Beelen
17.00

Reception

You can use this link to register.