Interaction between domestic and international students: a case study on the perspective of CIDE students

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FINDINGS

DEMOGRAPHICS

CLASRM RINTERACTIONS

Domestic U.S. students held more favorable perception about international students' contribution for class enrichment than international students.

FRIENDSHIP PATTERNS

87% of domestic U.S. students reported that it is easy to make friends with international students. Only 53% of international students indicated that it is easy to make friends with domestic U.S. students.

ATTITUDE TOWARDS ISSS INTEGRATION PROGRAMS

63% of domestic students think that ISSS programs are not well publicized. Department could also make more effort to facilitate integration.

“ITRRCRTH N SITN'T SASSST THRT N TATION BRTL N RNTL S TDS WLL HPRN AUMTNLY A NTH THY HVIING RNTL S TDS ON CAMPUS WLL NCESSRTY ACHIEV OURL NTL RZT OAL”

(Leask, 2002)

KEYWORDS

• International students
• American students
• Attitude towards interaction
• Interaction between domestic and international students
• Students' integration
• Case studies

INTRODUCTION

Case study conducted in Fall 2009

Purpose

to explore current level of the interaction and attitudes between domestic U.S. and international students within the Comparative and International Development Education (CIDE) program at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities.

This study finds that the presence of international students is insufficient to promote interactions as structured interventions are desired and needed to foster these interactions.

METHODOLOGY

To consider students' perception on the interaction with students from diverse nationalities, 2 online surveys were administered to all 122 current CIDE students (85 domestic / 37 international students)

• Survey 1 for domestic U.S. students
• Survey 2 for international students

The analysis and discussion is organized around previous studies from the perspectives of international students as research focusing on the perspectives of domestic students is limited.

LIMITATION

• Time constraints. Survey was for 16 days and yielded 39% response rate. Responses could be increased with more time to send out reminder emails.
• Mixed methods is not possible given the short time to complete the study.
• Topic is important and can be extend beyond CIDE.

LITERATURE CITED

Leask, B. (2002), Crossing the bridge from both sides - strategies to assist International and Australian students to meet each other half way. Paper presented at the 17th NLC Annual Conference, ‘Innovating the Next Wave’, Launceston, Tasmania.

FOR FURTHER INFO

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