Pacific International Journal, Vol. 6(3), 177-182; 2023 ISSN (Print) 2663-8991, ISSN (Online) 2616-4825

DOI: 10.55014/pij.v6i3.447 https://rclss.com/index.php/pij



Synergy of Internationalization Strategies and Talent Cultivation for Interna **Organizations: A Study of Chinese Universities**

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Abstract: The concept of internationalization holds growing significance in higher education, particularly for Chinese universities, as they enhance global engagement, cross-cultural exchange, and international collaboration. Simultaneously, international organizations play a pivotal role in addressing global challenges and advancing sustainable development. This study explores the intersection of China's university internationalization strategies and talent cultivation for international organizations. Chinese universities have embraced varied internationalization endeavors, equipping graduates with intercultural competencies, global perspectives, and effective cross-cultural skills. These efforts align with international organizations' multifaceted needs, requiring a workforce adept at navigating complex global landscapes and addressing intricate issues. The study examines core elements of internationalization strategies impacting talent development, including alignment with international organizations, integration of cutting-edge research, interdisciplinary and intercultural social practice, and fostering diversified global outlooks. By aligning with international organizations' agendas, promoting global perspectives, and integrating academic research, universities pave a path for students to excel in international roles. Encouraging interdisciplinary and intercultural social practices enhances teamwork, social governance, and service-oriented skills—crucial competencies for international organizations. This study recommends aligning internationalization strategies with United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, addressing global challenges, and fostering international collaborative cultivation. These pillars are crucial for universities aspiring to nurture talents poised for international organizational roles.

Keywords: Internationalization strategy, talent cultivation, international organizations, global challenges, interdisciplinary, intercultural, sustainable development, Chinese universities.

I. Introduction

In recent decades, the concept of internationalization has gained immense importance in the higher education landscape, particularly among Chinese universities. As China's role in global affairs continues to expand, universities in the country have been actively pursuing internationalization strategies to enhance their global presence, promote crosscultural exchange, and foster collaboration with international partners[1][2]. Concurrently, international organizations play a pivotal role in addressing global challenges, facilitating international cooperation, and promoting sustainable development[3]. Given the interconnectedness of these two trends, there is a growing need to examine the influence of China's university internationalization strategies on the cultivation of talents for international organizations.

Chinese universities, driven by the goal of producing globally competent graduates, have been implementing a range of internationalization initiatives such as establishing partnerships with foreign universities, offering bilingual programs, encouraging student and faculty exchanges, and conducting joint research projects with international collaborators[4]. These strategies aim to equip students with intercultural competencies, global perspectives, and the ability to operate effectively in diverse cultural and linguistic environments. Simultaneously, international organizations require a diverse and well-prepared workforce capable of navigating complex geopolitical landscapes, transcending cultural barriers, and addressing multifaceted global issues.

II. Elements of Internationalization Strategy Affecting Talent Development in International Organizations

Talent development in international organizations revolves around the central objective of fostering global competence. Tsinghua University's Global Strategy, released in 2016, provides a comprehensive analysis of global competence, encompassing six core qualities at cognitive, interpersonal, and personal levels. These qualities empower individuals to learn, work, and interact effectively in international and multicultural environments [5]. The university's internationalization strategy plays a vital role in guiding talent cultivation in international organizations, fulfilling its responsibility and commitment to the global community through academic research, social service, and international cooperation.

[Received 06 Aug 2023; Accepted 09 Sep 2023; Published (online) 30, September, 2023]

2.1 Guiding Talent Cultivation through Internationalization Strategy

The internationalization strategy of world-class universities sets the overarching goal for talent cultivation and establishes the tone for developing talents in international organizations at the highest level. For instance, MIT's Global Strategy aims to nurture innovative, cooperative, efficient, and wise future leaders, whose core values include perseverance in seeking knowledge and wisdom, finding innovative solutions to challenges, maintaining honesty and integrity, respecting others and diverse cultures, and upholding diversity [6]. University College London's Global Engagement Strategy emphasizes the importance of fostering students' global perspectives to prepare them for internationalized lives and careers [7]. Similarly, the National University of Singapore's Global Strategy: A Five Year Plan aims to cultivate internationally adept talents adaptable to any country and cultural environment [8]. Tsinghua University's Global Strategy 2030 strives to cultivate "a globally competent student body and a globally excellent faculty," effectively serving the national strategy and contributing to the construction of a global community [9]. The Global Open Development Strategy of Nanjing University (2020-2030) aims to cultivate highly internationalized talents with a global vision who possess a deep understanding of international affairs and rules, are proficient in foreign languages, excel in business, and carry the spirit of creativity and practicality, enabling them to "learn about China and contribute to the world" [10]. Youjiang Medical University For Nationalities, Guang Xi recognizes talents as the core strategic resource of the university, prioritizing talent development and positioning the strategy of talent strengthening at the core of the university's construction and development.

The internationalization strategy of domestic universities entails localized requirements for training talents in international organizations. Building on their Chinese roots, these universities focus on cultivating talents with outstanding business skills, international cultural literacy, and a profound understanding of international organizations, global governance, and new development concepts. For instance, Tsinghua University includes "self-awareness and self-confidence" as core qualities of global competence, stressing the importance of understanding one's cultural heritage, maintaining a unique personality, and continuous self-improvement [10]. Nanjing University also emphasizes nationalism and a deep understanding of China as prerequisites for talent cultivation.

2.2 Integrating Cutting-Edge Academic Research into the Talent Cultivation Process

Universities' internationalization strategies place significant emphasis on integrating academic research with talent development. By addressing global hot topics and regional economic and social needs, universities engage in forward-looking academic research to enhance the innovation and global governance capabilities of their talents. University College London, for example, focuses on fostering research and specialized expertise in fields such as enterprise, innovation, and translational medicine to contribute effective solutions to global challenges [7]. Similarly, Youjiang Medical University For Nationalities, Guang Xi, collaborates with over 600 international students from more than 20 countries, undertaking Chinese-foreign cooperative school projects, fostering international scientific research cooperation and talent cultivation, and expanding partnerships with reputable foreign institutions to enrich educational resources and promote internationalization.

Beijing Foreign Studies University (BFSU) pursues the goal of cultivating high-level, globally oriented talents with exceptional vision and professional skills. To achieve this, BFSU has devised multiple innovative approaches, such as the "Internationalization Strategic Talent Cultivation Program" for foreign language majors, the Comprehensive Multilingual Top Talent Cultivation Program, the Excellence in Global Governance Undergraduate Platform, and the New Major of Inter-university Comprehensive Talent Cultivation.

The Global Alliance of Universities on Climate, initiated and established by Tsinghua University and other prestigious universities, focuses on collaborative research, student activities, talent cultivation, green campuses, and public engagement in the field of climate change. The alliance comprises 15 world-class universities from nine countries spanning six continents. The Chinese government has included the relevant work of this alliance in the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Secretariat.

2.3 Interdisciplinary and Intercultural Social Practice

The university's internationalization strategy not only prioritizes enhancing students' proficiency in interdisciplinary and intercultural development but also underscores the integration of curricula with practical experience. This integration ensures that graduates bring analytical prowess, insightful abilities, and academic skills to their professional roles. The university facilitates expert career guidance and urges students to engage in social service initiatives, fostering the nurturing of attributes critical to international organizational competence, including a sense of service, teamwork acumen, and social governance proficiency.

Collaboration between academia and enterprises furnishes a platform for students' career advancement, bolstering their capacity for active participation in social entities. Simultaneously, the engagement of industry experts in corporate projects serves to disseminate research-based knowledge throughout society, underpinning informed societal decision-making. In the Netherlands, Utrecht University advocates for the cultivation of students' interdisciplinary competencies and global outlook, motivating students to enhance leadership acumen and personal development through their involvement in representative advisory endeavors and community services. Similarly, the Entrepreneurship Society at the University of Helsinki in Finland provides like-minded students with cohesive communities, offering complimentary co-working spaces, accelerator programs, intensive workshops, mentorship opportunities, and

entrepreneurial forums. This fosters a thriving ecosystem connecting students, researchers, and the broader community, cultivating an environment conducive to fledgling ventures. Noteworthy is CarbonLink, an enterprise established by experts and scholars from the University of Helsinki, which has pioneered the creation of a real-time carbon footprint calculator. Meanwhile, Tsinghua University propels students to partake in international internships, spanning corporate and international organizational contexts, facilitating profound comprehension of global regulations, international affairs, and global governance. This university further instates overseas practical environments, exemplified by the "Silk Road New Exploration" program, aligned with the "Belt and Road" initiative. To illustrate, the "Silk Road New Exploration" initiative orchestrates diverse practice cohorts to Central Asia, East Africa, and analogous regions. NU fervently encourages and supports students to undertake internships and positions within international organizations, while concurrently expanding platforms for international innovation and entrepreneurship to amplify students' innovative and practical skills in multicultural milieus.

2.4 Diversified Cultivation through a Global Lens

Integral to the university's internationalization strategy, international cooperation constitutes a pivotal facet. Through the establishment of regional and global strategic partnerships, a symbiotic exchange of talent and research among universities is facilitated, serving as a robust foundation for nurturing talents requisite for international organizations. Strategic collaborations among world-renowned universities facilitate the cultivation of a global outlook and comprehension of cultural and regional variances, bolstering aptitude in responding to regional or worldwide quandaries. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) aspires to erect a dynamic innovation nexus and a more equitable world, charting paths to this vision encompassing regional task forces, the formulation of regional strategic recommendations and action schemes, as well as fortified collaboration with Chinese institutions in domains such as climate change, clean energy, and environmental sustainability. Japan's University of Tokyo aspires to erect a global community and forge a worldwide mesh of interconnected communication, poised to confront global challenges collectively. The University of Helsinki diligently advances its research and talent development agenda, envisioning a future characterized by resilience, equity, and sustainability. Meanwhile, Tsinghua University has persistently championed the establishment of international research collaboration networks with prestigious universities and research institutions, propelling pioneering fundamental science research. As of 2021, Tsinghua University has inked strategic research cooperation accords with 16 esteemed institutions, including the University of Cambridge (UK), Imperial College (UK), the University of Tokyo (Japan), Tohoku University (Japan), the University of Toronto (Canada), the University of Alberta (Canada), St. Petersburg's Imperial College of Science and Technology (Russia), and Germany's RWTH Aachen University. Through these alliances, over 170 joint seed-funded initiatives have been initiated.

A university's global perspective and its selection of strategic partners wield profound ramifications for cultivating talents equipped for international organizations. A world-class institution with global leadership must possess the dexterity to collaborate with partners spanning diverse developmental stages across the globe. Historical evolution and geographical considerations often engender variances in universities' partner preferences, particularly among premier institutions engaging with developing nations. MIT, for instance, is intent on gleaning insights from its global partners, constantly endeavoring to uncover new resources and allies through region-specific summits; Africa features prominently in MIT's strategic focus. On a different trajectory, the University of Helsinki's strategic partners span Asia, Africa, and Europe. Peking University, the University of Edinburgh in the UK, Stockholm University in Sweden, and Kenya's University of Nairobi are pivotal strategic counterparts for the University of Helsinki. The University of Helsinki actively participates in the Finnish Higher Education Institutions Cooperation and Development Initiative (HEI-ICI), underpinning cooperation between Finnish institutions and their counterparts in developing nations to elevate higher education standards in these countries. In contrast, several Chinese universities center their collaborations predominantly on developed regions like Europe and the United States, warranting heightened substantive cooperation with developing countries.

Central to the internationalization strategy of esteemed universities is the impetus to catalyze international exchanges among both faculty and students, alongside the establishment of joint international training programs. The University of Copenhagen, for instance, emphasizes the delivery of superlative global learning opportunities, encompassing an array of 53 distinguished English-taught master's programs, in excess of 50 international summer courses, multidisciplinary virtual modules, and collaborative initiatives with other premier institutions. Tsinghua University, on its part, is dedicated to furnishing high-caliber, multi-tier overseas study endeavors for all students. Annual curricular offerings span diverse overseas undertakings, spanning exchange programs, official study-abroad initiatives, overseas training modules, short-term courses, and cultural exchanges. To fortify cultural exchange, Tsinghua University has erected overseas bases, including the Global Innovation Academy, the Sino-Italian Design and Innovation Base, the Southeast Asia Center, and the Latin America Center. This enhances cultural interchanges. Tsinghua University, in collaboration with renowned global counterparts, has instituted 54 joint degree programs and 28 English-taught postgraduate programs, of which 11 joint programs have been acclaimed as "International Cooperation Programs for Cultivating Innovative Talents" by the China Scholarship Council.

Presently, domestic institutions of higher learning have increasingly refined the framework for Chinese-foreign collaborative talent cultivation programs for international organizations. Instances include the cooperative education

initiative between Peking University's School of International Relations and the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies at Geneva, catering to undergraduate and master's degree programs. Furthermore, the Fudan-LSE "Global Political Economy" master's program and Tsinghua University's "Public Policy for Sustainable Development" master's program, jointly offered with the University of Geneva, exemplify initiatives that mirror the direction of talent cultivation for international organizations. Moreover, Youjiang Medical University for Nationalities in Guang Xi extends financial support to undergraduates pursuing doctoral degrees abroad via direct entry or master's programs, with the ensuing objective of directly contributing to the university's development upon graduation.

III. Implementing the UN Development Agenda and Addressing Global Issues

3.1 Integrating Internationalization Strategies with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, introduced by the United Nations in 2015, aims to achieve sustainable development across social, economic, and environmental dimensions between 2015 and 2030. It outlines 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to address pressing global issues such as hunger, poverty, health, sanitation, and climate change. This programmatic document guides global development efforts over the specified time frame. For universities, as core participants in social development and human progress, actively implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development holds great significance. Aligning university internationalization strategies with the UN's global planning document plays a pivotal role in the university's development and the training of talents for international organizations. It also enables students to gain a deeper understanding of the United Nations' work by continually focusing on the SDGs.

Foreign research universities have been early adopters of integrating university development with the SDGs. Top European universities, in particular, have actively formulated relevant university development strategies and action plans following the release of the SDGs. Dutch universities, for example, have made significant contributions to the realization of the SDGs by incorporating SDG-related courses and degree programs into talent cultivation, conducting interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary research on SDGs, and establishing extensive collaborative networks for social services to achieve the SDGs [12]. For instance, Utrecht University places sustainable development at the core of its internationalization strategy and mission, aiming to train students and conduct scientific research to promote global sustainability and innovation [13]. The university offers an undergraduate degree program in Global Sustainability that combines social and natural sciences to enhance students' problem-solving abilities in sustainability-related issues [14]. Moreover, Utrecht University provides specialized master's degree programs such as Sustainable Business and Innovation, Sustainability, Energy Science, Innovation Science, and Water Science and Management, all focusing on sustainable development research [15]. This integrated approach to talent training in sustainability-related fields exposes students to SDG-related experiences and job opportunities. Universities in Nordic countries also demonstrate strong commitment to implementing the SDGs. For instance, the University of Oslo and the University of Helsinki have placed sustainable development at the heart of their development strategies, integrating sustainability themes into all educational programs, ensuring that they nurture responsible academics to contribute to societal development. Additionally, they combine research outcomes in their core disciplines to achieve carbon-neutral objectives [16][17]. Among Asian countries, Japan has been particularly proactive in responding to the SDGs. The University of Tokyo, in its internationalization strategy, assigns significant importance to the SDGs, using them as a framework to fulfill its mission of disseminating knowledge and fostering a harmonious society. To address the SDGs, the university launched the Future Society Initiative (FSI) in 2017 and established the Global Public Sector Center in August 2020, aiming to provide solutions to global issues and promote social transformation.

In recent years, domestic universities have gradually embraced the SDGs in their vision. For example, Tsinghua University organized the "University-Sustainable Development" forum and released the "Tsinghua University SDG Action Report"[18], which summarizes the university's actions and efforts in implementing the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), showcasing Tsinghua University's comprehensive practices and achievements in sustainable development initiatives. Similarly, Zhejiang University has launched joint initiatives and action plans related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in collaboration with global higher education institutions, integrating the university's development objectives with the global agenda, and establishing ZJU SDGs as a distinctive brand.

3.2 Addressing Global Challenges and Issues in Internationalization Strategy

International organizations seek talents with academic expertise and a global perspective, and those with multidisciplinary knowledge and skills are often better suited for roles in such organizations. Universities' internationalization strategies prioritize the cultivation of international talents capable of solving global problems, encouraging the integration of knowledge and practical experience to equip students for opportunities within international organizations.

Foreign research universities currently emphasize global issues and propose campus action initiatives as part of their internationalization development. For example, MIT's internationalization strategy focuses on research in complex social issues such as energy, water, food, transportation, safety, health, environment, and economic development. The university proactively initiates solutions to global challenges, with particular attention to climate change and urbanization, and establishes collaborations with target countries and regions to strengthen global cooperation. Utrecht

University has developed a 2030 campus carbon neutrality plan with specific targets, such as reducing carbon emissions by encouraging faculty and staff to commute by bicycle. Similarly, University College London prioritizes carbon footprint reduction and aims to enhance partnerships through global academic cooperation, contributing to solutions for inequality through research excellence. The University of Copenhagen emphasizes its 2030 Sustainable Development System, focusing on climate, resources, health, and biodiversity, and strives for a 60 percent waste recycling rate by 2030 as part of their resource recycling efforts among students and staff, ensuring efficient resource utilization.

IV. Conclusion and Recommendations

In conclusion, this paper advances a series of recommendations following an exhaustive analysis of the four foundational elements within the internationalization strategy embraced by world-class universities. These pivotal components significantly influence the cultivation of talents geared towards international organizations. These recommendations are firmly grounded in the alignment of the internationalization strategy with the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the proactive response to global predicaments, and the symbiotic amalgamation of the prevailing global development landscape with the evolution of higher education institutions.

4.1 International Organizations

A paramount imperative resides in harmonizing the internationalization strategy with the developmental pursuits championed by international organizations. The cultivation of talents intended for engagement with international organizations represents an intricate, multi-faceted endeavor. It necessitates a fusion of specialized knowledge, linguistic proficiency, and a host of other competencies. This pursuit is intrinsically interwoven with the trajectories of individual careers. The United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, epitomized by its 17 Sustainable Development Goals, provides an instrumental blueprint, propelling young individuals into engagement with international entities and affording them insights into the pivotal human developmental issues underpinning the global landscape. A nuanced comprehension of international organizations' developmental agendas not only fosters a conducive environment for nascent intellects to fathom the mechanics of these institutions but also imbues them with an enduring dedication to contribute effectively within this sphere. Universities, in their formulation of internationalization strategies, are thus urged to incorporate the developmental objectives espoused by international organizations in a more comprehensive manner. This strategic confluence will, in turn, serve as the guiding beacon for the cultivation of talents intended for international organizations, encapsulating a panoramic framework.

4.2 Global Challenges

A heightened emphasis on global challenges spanning diverse sectors and fields is essential. This entails active participation in the formulation of action programs and global initiatives. The internationalization strategy transcends mere conceptualization and serves as an actionable agenda for university development. We advocate for the proactive advancement of pressing global issues such as climate change and environmental governance. This entails affording young individuals the opportunity to actively engage in shaping regulations and action plans aimed at addressing these challenges. Engagement through multilateral platforms such as the United Nations and the Association of Universities, coupled with involvement in cross-disciplinary and cross-cultural cutting-edge scientific research endeavors, is vital. Such endeavors align with the aspiration to contribute to the realization of the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, guided by China's distinctive wisdom. The cultivation of talent cohorts equipped to tackle global governance challenges, particularly in pivotal domains like climate change, underscores universities' pivotal role in profound global governance, problem-solving, and fulfilling the imperatives of national and regional development.

4.2 International Collaborative Cultivation

The pursuit of cultivating talents for international organizations remains an ongoing endeavor, achieved through the framework of high-level Chinese-foreign cooperative education and international joint cultivation. The comprehensive leveraging of advantages offered by premier domestic and overseas universities, encompassing disciplines and talent development, stands pivotal. This endeavor involves the integration of accomplished teams and instructional resources, alongside the aggregation of first-rate scientific research capabilities. Bilingual pedagogy and active engagement in seminars addressing global concerns constitute the pathways toward nurturing adept talents equipped with exceptional academic acumen, an innovative mindset, and a global outlook. Such individuals are well-equipped to navigate roles within international organizations.

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