

Focus Group Discussion For UK Transnational Education Students in Singapore

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About SkillsFuture Singapore (SSG)

- SSG is established in Oct 2016 as a statutory board under the Ministry of Education to drive and coordinate the implementation of national SkillsFuture movement
- SkillsFuture movement aims to:
 - Promote a culture of lifelong learning through pursuit of skills mastery
 - Strengthen the ecosystem of quality education and training in Singapore

About Committee for Private Education (CPE)

- CPE was first established in Dec 2009 as a statutory board called the Council for Private Education under the Ministry of Education
- It became a part of SSG in Oct 2016 and is appointed by the SSG board to carry out functions and powers relating to Private Education (PE) Act
- CPE's key roles are to:
 - Regulate the private education institutions (PEIs)
 - Provide student services and consumer education

Profile of UK Providers & Enrolment in Singapore

- Transnational education (TNE) is delivered primarily through local providers, registered as private education institutions (PEIs) under the PE Act
- As at 31 Mar 2018, 73 out of 126 (~58%) foreign universities offering external degree programmes (EDPs) in Singapore are from United Kingdom (UK)
- As at end 2017:
 - UK EDPs had the highest enrolment by country in 2017 at 45% of total student intake
 - More than 60% of total UK TNE students were in Business & Administration type courses
 - Almost 70% of total UK TNE students were locals

Focus Group Discussion

BY INVITATION ONLY

AN EVENING WITH THE QUALITY ASSURANCE AGENCY FOR HIGHER EDUCATION



DATE : 5 MAY 2018 SATURDAY • TIME : 5PM TO 8PM • VENUE : LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE



Prior to the focus group discussion

- 20 students from 18 UK universities were nominated by PEIs in Singapore to attend the forum and complete an online survey, followed by a focus group discussion

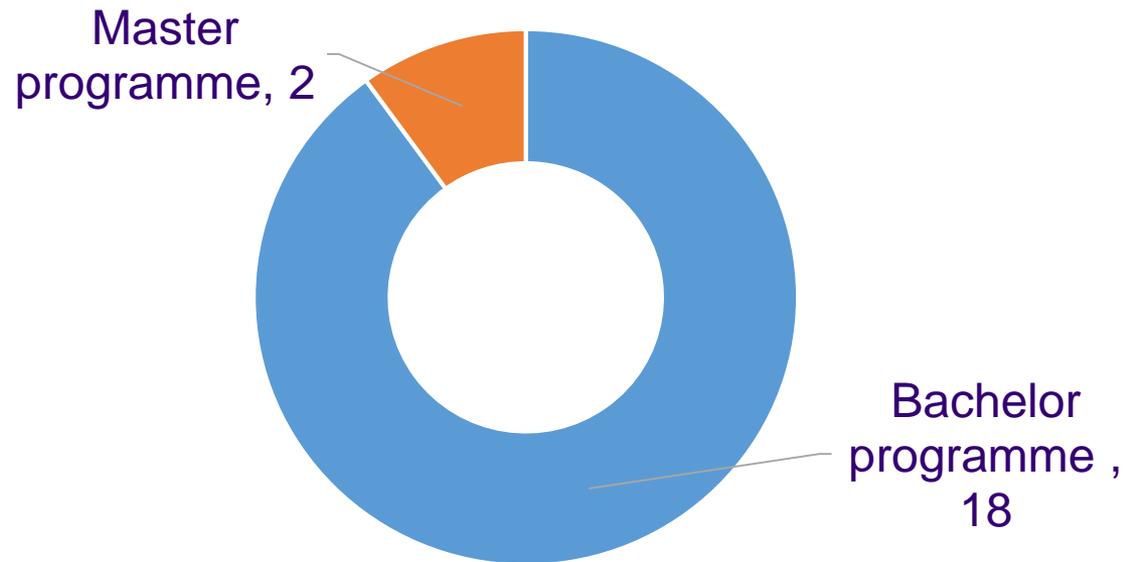


Chart 1: Composition of nominated students

Overall results, Singapore

Average Satisfactory Level

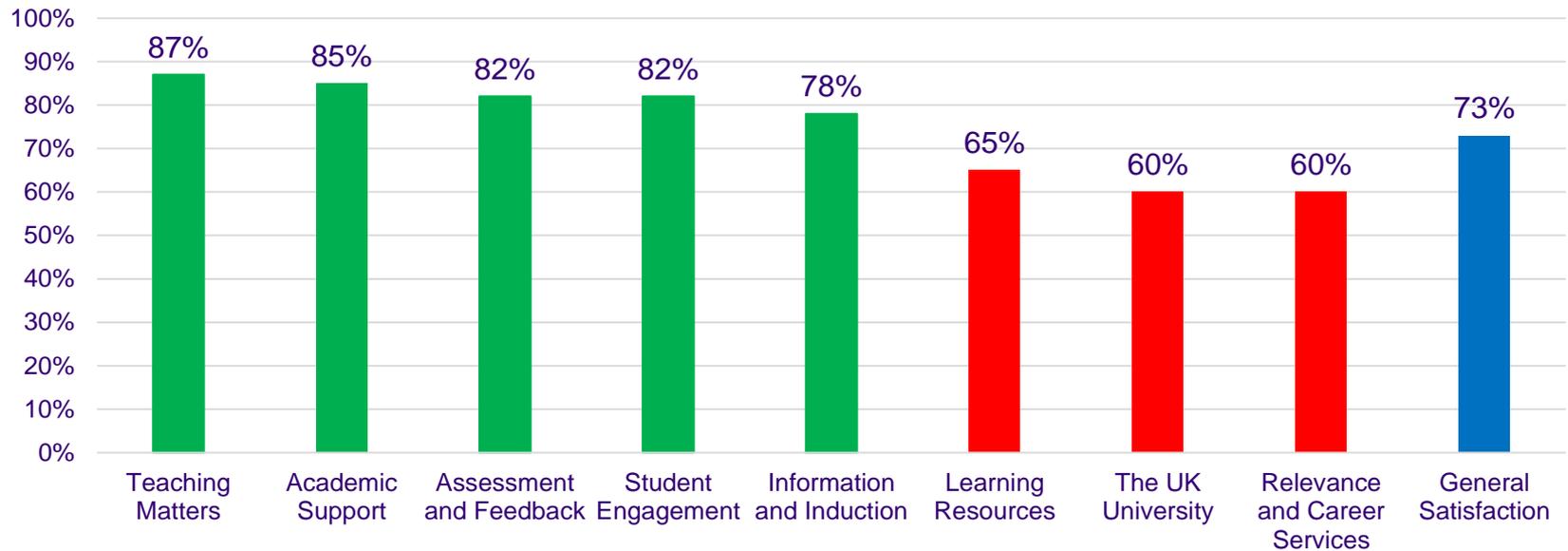


Chart 2: Average satisfactory level pertaining to UK TNE

- The General Satisfaction level is **73%**
- Students are most satisfied in areas pertaining to **Teaching Matters, Academic Support, Assessment & Feedback and Student Engagement**
- The least satisfactory areas are **Learning Resources, Relationship with UK University and Relevance & Career Services**

Top 3 Aspects of High Satisfaction

- **95%** of students agreed that they **received sufficient information** about the course before enrolling
- **90%** of students agreed that **teachers were prepared** for their works
- **90%** of student agreed that **they had the opportunity to give feedback on their learning experiences**

Top 3 Aspects of Dissatisfaction/Low Satisfaction

- Opportunities in PEIs to gain work experience through internships, attachments and industry project work (30% dissatisfied, 35% satisfied)
- The way students were made to feel part of the UK university (20% dissatisfied, 50% satisfied)
- The help students feel they would receive from the universities in finding employment (15% dissatisfied, 55% satisfied)

Post-Survey Focus Group Discussion



Some sharing by students:

- Opportunities enhancing employability and career progression, and more improvement is needed in the areas related to work and student experience
- Local lecturers were highly appreciated for academic guidance provided and acting as communication channel with universities
- More direct contact and engagement with the UK universities to strengthen their sense of belonging to these institutions
- Concerned with the possibility to complete further studies through flexible modes of delivery and good reputation of local delivery partner

Thank you



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