Quality Culture vs. Political Culture: Negotiating Online Higher Education Delivery in Federated States

Nancy K. Parker
INQAAHE 2011
Overview

- National and Sub-national identities
- Colonial background
- Fiscal Directives
- Changing System Goals
- Reauthorization and rule making in the US
- Competitive pressure in Canada
Even if education is primarily a matter of the regions, higher education, by reason of its costs and the mobility of students and researchers alike is more likely to require some form of federal or inter-regional co-operation (Sweden, 2003, p. 154).
# Fast Facts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U.S.A.</th>
<th>Canada</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population: 311,075,911</td>
<td>Population: 34,278,406</td>
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<tr>
<td>Land mass: 9,629,091 sq km</td>
<td>Land mass: 9,976,140 sq km</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sub-territories: 50 states, 5 territories and D.C.</td>
<td>Political subdivisions: 10 provinces, 3 territories</td>
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</table>

“a nation of states”

“pact or compact –the French fact not diminished”
## Colonial Foundations of H.E

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Colony</th>
<th>Chartered</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New College (Harvard)</td>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>1650 (1636 f)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William &amp; Mary</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>1673</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collegiate School (Yale)</td>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>1701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of New Jersey (Princeton)</td>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>1746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academy of Philadelphia</td>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>1751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King’s College (Columbia)</td>
<td>New York</td>
<td>1754</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of the English Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantation (Brown)</td>
<td>Rhode Island</td>
<td>1764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queen’s College (Rutgers)</td>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>1766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dartmouth</td>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>1769</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
US Regional Accreditation Bodies

- Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (est. 1919)
- New England Association of Schools and Colleges (est. 1885)
- North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
- Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges
- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
- Western Association of Schools and Colleges
Colonial Foundations Canada

- Seminaire de Quebec 1663 ...chartered as Laval 1852
- King’s College (NS) 1789; Dalhousie 1818
- King’s College (ON) 1827 later U of T
- Queen’s College (ON) 1841
Fiscal Directives

- National Research Council 1919
- Veteran’s Assistance Plan
- Direct Institutional Grants
- Joint Student Loan Program 1964
- Established Program Financing – Social Union Framework
- Canadian Foundation for Innovation
- Knowledge Infrastructure Program

Willingness to spend does not grant power to legislate
Jefferson: educated citizenry defense against tyranny
Shaping Settlement (Land Grants A&Ms)
Truman Commission 1947: preserving democracy – promoting equality of opportunity
Nation at Risk: 1980’s global competition
Spelling’s Commission 2006: personal economic attainment – labor force development
## Growth and Complexity

### Title IV Degree Granting Institutions By Control

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public</td>
<td>1582</td>
<td>1681</td>
<td>1676</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Non-Profit</td>
<td>1478</td>
<td>1695</td>
<td>1629</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For Profit</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>672</td>
<td>1101</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adapted from (NCES, 2010-13)

http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d09/tables/dt09_265.asp
# Fall Enrollment in US Degree granting institutions

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public</td>
<td>10,577,963</td>
<td>11,309,399</td>
<td>13,972,153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Non-Profit</td>
<td>2,732,174</td>
<td>3,051,626</td>
<td>3,661,519</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For Profit</td>
<td>229,423</td>
<td>430,199</td>
<td>1,469,142</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Adapted from (NCES, 2010–13)
http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d09/tables/dt09_189.asp
Reauthorization & Rule making

- 2008 Higher Education Act Re-authorization lengthy negotiations (5 years late & 14 extensions)
- Distance Education has new requirements on verification of student identities
- Rulemaking negotiations to address loan default rates and other concerns
- State regulations reinforced
If an institution is offering postsecondary education through distance or correspondence education to students in a State in which it is not physically located, the institution must meet any State requirements for it to be legally offering postsecondary distance or correspondence education in that State. We are further providing that an institution must be able to document upon request by the Department that it has the applicable State approval.

Amendment to HEA Oct 29, 2009
History shows that existing state and federal regulatory authority over private institutions of higher education, in addition to private legal recourse, actions by accrediting organizations and market mechanisms (consumer and investor choices) is sufficient to penalize those organizations that act outside of the law. Requiring additional state oversight duplicates accreditation, levies additional compliance costs on institutions of higher education, and could potentially compromise their independence. (Coffman, 2010)
Reciprocal Recognition

- Western Governor’s University 2003 Inter-Regional Accrediting Committee
- Free trade zone? WTO or Interstate commerce?

- Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA) – BC & Alberta
- Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission

- Is the price of regulatory compliance the new barrier to entry for new online programs?
Competitive Pressures

- Diversity new prospect for Canadian regulators
- Pressures from colleges seeking degree granting status
- For profit ventures
- Provincial funding disparities (price war?)
- Lack of coherence and large impacts from disreputable operators – Kingston group example
Questions?

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