

# Future Higher Education Initiatives in Indonesia:

International experiences in higher education

Prof. Dr. Peter Mayer

University of Applied Sciences Osnabrück / Germany

# Transformational change is characteristic for this time of disruption

The **political landscape** of the world is changing – new powers, new institutions, new rules

# Transformational change is characteristic for this time of disruption

The **economic structures change**: there are new players in the world of economics, in terms of countries and regions, and in terms of companies. The world map in terms of economic power looked very differently 30 or 40 years ago. And the map will continue to change.

# Transformational change is characteristic for this time of disruption

The **technological development**, especially Industry 4.0 and internet of things does affect all aspects of our life.

# Transformational change is characteristic for this time of disruption

**Health risks** threaten our way of life: Covid 19 has shown the vulnerability of our societies.

# Transformational change is characteristic for this time of disruption

All these and other aspects have **fundamental implications for higher education.**

# Let us be entrepreneurial in the way we tackle the challenges

- **Entrepreneurs**

- see opportunities where others see problems,
- Can live with risks and failures,
- cherish creativity and flexibility,
- have motivation to excel.

Let us be entrepreneurial in the way we tackle the challenges

**As universities we should approach the challenges in this spirit.** Let us be entrepreneurial in our response to the changes.



# We need to rethink how we look at regional cooperation

**Regional integration will gain in importance, in politics, economics and society in general.**

It is likely that we will see a revival of regional networks, regional supply chains, regional travel, regional tourism.

Work within the regions where we live becomes more important.

# We need to rethink how we look at regional cooperation

This has implications for higher education: **Let us discover or rediscover the importance of the regions.**

A clear focus on collaboration with other regional institutions is advisable.

We should focus our attention to a different kind of skill set to equip our students for the future

The **skills for the future** which are needed to master the challenges are not the same as in the past. Let us be open for this, it is an opportunity we can and we need to grasp.

We should focus our attention to a different kind of skill set to equip our students for the future

This implies that **we need to reform**

- Our curricula
- Our modules
- Our way of teaching
- Our way of learning
- Our way of assessing
- Our textbooks
- Our class rooms

# Collaboration with industry and society

The **benefits of a close collaboration with industry** and civil society are considerable:

- Students and academics can learn a lot from **understanding and observing** from close distance what the **challenges of industry are**.
- Students can **benefit from guest lecturers** who bring to the classroom what challenges they face and what solutions they have.
- Students can see **what skills are expected in business life**.
- Industry can continue to benefit from **knowledge transfer**.

# Internationalization will be different

**Internationalization is about integrating an international and intercultural dimension into teaching and learning and research.**

# Internationalization will be different

Let us keep in mind **why we promote internationalization:**

- Cultural objectives
- Economic objectives
- Political objectives
- Social objectives.

# Regionalization in higher education will bring a redrawing of our maps of collaboration

**International mobility** will remain important, for students, for academics, for staff.

The **regional exchange programs** will gain in importance. They are important for the individual growth, but as well for the society, because it enhances the understanding of the immediate neighbours.



# Internationalization – let us use the advantages of the digital world

- It is now much easier to **invite foreign speakers** into a seminar. It should become a regular feature of classes.
- **International conferences** without the need to travel and the need to get financial resources are now much easier. **Exchange of ideas** is now easier.
- Students can collaborate internationally and learn how to work in international groups and experience different cultures. The technology is there. Let us facilitate this kind of learning.

# National and international networks of universities become more important

- **National and international networks of universities** can be helpful for
  - Offering degree programs / double degree programs
  - Opening up their curricula for students who just want to take some modules
  - Offering summer schools / winter schools
  - Major research projects
  - Offering training for academics and staff
  - Developing software solutions for universities

# Managing change will be more challenging

- Higher education and hence higher education management will become **more demanding**.
- To navigate the institutions through difficult times is not a trivial task.

# Managing change will be more challenging

- We therefore need
  - Systematic **exchange of good practices** in higher education
  - Addressing the “**How to manage universities**” is a national challenge. We need appropriate programs.
  - **Regular staff development programs** need to be offered and need to be accepted as necessity. In times of disruption and transformational change, the skills teachers and academics have can easily become outdated.

# Universities need to be faster and need some element of autonomy

- When developments are fast
- When quick decisions need to be taken
- When windows of opportunities open up
- When diversity in the world requires specific solutions,

the best way to deal with the challenges is **some kind of autonomy.**

# Universities need to be faster and need some element of autonomy

- Autonomy can mean
  - Strategic autonomy
  - Operational autonomy
  - Financial autonomy
  - Staffing autonomy
  - Academic autonomy

# Summing it up

- This time can be as well a golden opportunity
- It is the region you are in which matters most
- Skill requirements have far reaching implications
- International collaboration will be different
- Networks of universities (and industry) bring advantages
- The management of universities requires new competencies
- Some level of autonomy is needed in times of fast change

Thank you for your attention