

Degree Granting from Both Sides of the Border: The Community College Baccalaureate in the U.S. & Canada



DEVELOPMENTS & ISSUES IN CANADA & ONTARIO

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HIGHER EDUCATION SUMMIT

NOVEMBER 17-18, 2013

College Degree Granting in Canada: Overview



- Started in the West, but now the predominant location is Ontario
- Permitted in BC, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, & PEI
- Still expanding in Ontario, less so in BC, and hardly at all in Alberta
- Principal motivations: to improve access to the baccalaureate degree; to provide a new type of preparation for the workforce that combines hands-on learning with high level knowledge

Colleges Awarding Degrees in Canada



<u>Province</u>	<u>Colleges</u>	<u>Programs</u>
British Columbia	10	34
Alberta	5	17 (a)
Manitoba	3	13 (b)
Ontario	12	79
Prince Edward Island	1	1

- (a) 11 programs are at the polytechnics (NAIT, SAIT)
- (b) 10 programs are at University College of the North, mainly B.A.s and B.Ed.s

Major Development in BC & Alberta



- The colleges that were most active in awarding baccalaureate degrees have become universities but with continued mandate for college activities
- 5 new “special purpose, teaching” universities in British Columbia (Capilano, Fraser Valley, Kwantlen Polytechnic, Thompson Rivers, and Vancouver Island)
- 2 new teaching-focused universities in Alberta (MacEwan and Mount Royal)
- Issues
 - the data on numbers of college degree programs
 - institutional evolution

College Baccalaureate in Ontario: Issues



- Differentiation between colleges & universities (Drummond Report, Plant Commission)
- Proposed new three-year baccalaureate degrees in colleges
- Approval process for college baccalaureate degrees – Ontario is an outlier

College-University Differentiation



- Credentials awarded - degrees vs. diplomas, **but this is not the only basis of differentiation**
- Applied vs. Academic Orientation
- Colleges are more teaching-oriented
- Colleges are more accessible – they admit a more diverse student body in terms of socioeconomic and educational backgrounds
- Colleges are more responsive to government policy objectives

College Baccalaureates in “Parallel” Systems



• Netherlands	<i>Hogescholen</i> (HBOs)	75
• Finland	Polytechnics	60
• Flanders	University-Colleges	53
• Ireland	Institutes of Technology	52
• Denmark	Colleges	40
• Germany	<i>Fachhochschulen</i> (FH)	40
• Austria	<i>Fachhochschulen</i> (FH)	21
• New Zealand	ITPs	20

Proposed 3 Year Baccalaureate Degrees



- Ontario one of the few places in the world that has 3 yr. PSE programs that *don't* result in a degree (~600)
- Advanced Diploma programs seem to meet the baccalaureate degree standard of the European Higher Education Area and the Ontario qualification standard for the baccalaureate degree
- Many 3 yr. colleges degrees in other jurisdictions
- Ontario universities offer 3 yr. degrees
- Accuracy & competitiveness of present credential?
- A 3 yr. industry-focused baccalaureate degree would meet needs of industry & of students

College Degree Approval Internationally



- Degree qualification standards elsewhere are less detailed and include references to preparation for work (e.g. “practice-related knowledge)
- Quality standards elsewhere are fewer, less detailed and less prescriptive
- Most other jurisdictions have quite different admission requirements for entry to college and entry to university baccalaureate programs
- Most other jurisdictions have less prescriptive requirements for academic credentials of faculty

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