Degree Granting from Both Sides of the Border: The Community College Baccalaureate in the U.S. & Canada
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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Colleges</th>
<th>Programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>British Columbia</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alberta</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>17 (a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manitoba</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13 (b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ontario</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prince Edward Island</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>Hogescholen (HBOs)</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>Polytechnics</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flanders</td>
<td>University-Colleges</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>Institutes of Technology</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>Colleges</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Fachhochschulen (FH)</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>Fachhochschulen (FH)</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>ITPs</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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
References: College Baccalaureate In Canada


A few more references

- Skolnik, M.L. (2012). College baccalaureate degrees and the diversification of baccalaureate production in Ontario. Toronto: Author. [http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/lhae/Faculty_Staff/782/Michael_Skolnik.html](http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/lhae/Faculty_Staff/782/Michael_Skolnik.html).

