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Type: Research-oriented Oral Face-to-face presentation

From Vision to Implementation: National Objectives and Classroom Practices in Japan

Saturday 17 May 2025 17:30 (25 minutes)

TITLE

From Vision to Implementation: National Objectives and Classroom Practices

RELEVANT SIG

College and University Educators (CUE)

FORMAT

Research-oriented Oral Face-to-face presentation (25 minutes, including Q&A)

Short English description

KEYWORDS

Global Human Resources, internationalizing the curriculum, Japan, higher education

First-time presenter?

ABSTRACT

The globalization of higher education is a key priority in Japan, with national policies urging universities to develop "global jinzai" (global human resources) who can think independently, collaborate across cultures, and adapt to a rapidly changing global environment. However, the mechanisms for achieving these ambitious goals remain unclear. While studies of institutional practices and classroom case studies exist, little is known about how government policies translate into classroom practices across diverse institutional contexts.

This presentation reports on a quantitative analysis of syllabi from globalized programs at four Japanese universities, focusing on course content, learning objectives, and assessment methods. The findings reveal that the syllabi demonstrate an awareness of preparing students to operate effectively in international society. However, significant gaps remain, particularly in instances where the connection between government policy and classroom practice is less evident or inconsistently applied.

This study serves as a foundation for further research, emphasizing the need to refine curricula in Japanese universities to better align with global education goals, bridge the gap between policy and practice, and enhance educational outcomes.

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