

研究撮要

每年離開本地前往海外參加交流計劃的學生正不斷上升。海外交流計劃 (overseas exchange program, OEP) 不僅擴闊學生的國際視野, 更讓學生在個人成長上有所獲益。為了分別理解海外交流計劃對大學生在個人技能/ 知識和就業上的影響, 本論文共進行了兩個研究。首個研究運用了半實驗研究方法 (quasi-experimental study) 共訪問了 303 位留在本土和 61 位赴海外交流的學生, 從而比較他們在四個月後於國際視野, 普遍自我勝任感, 社交自我勝任感和自我評估的英文會話及書寫能力的差別。此研究用了單因子變異數分析及以課外活動參與為共變數, 研究顯示, 於四個月後, 相較留在本土的參加者, 赴海外交流的學生在國際視野和社交自我勝任感都有明顯差距。而在普遍自我勝任感上, 赴海外交流的學生和留在本土的參加者則有一般的差異。在自我評估的英文會話及書寫能力上, 兩者於四個月後並無差異。我們於第二個研究裡訪問了 117 位本地大學學位畢業生, 而其中 63 位參加者曾於大學時期參與至少為期四星期的海外交流計劃。此研究運用了單因子變異數分析及以過去英語成績, 課外活動參與和大學平均積點為共變數。結果發現, 曾於大學時參與海外交流計劃的學生能獲得較高的起薪工資, 但在畢業後所獲的工作提聘數目上則沒有分別。另外, 本研究亦以聚焦小組和個人訪問的方法共訪問了 10 位曾參與海外交流計劃的在職大學畢業生, 希望能透過品質數據分析使我們更明白海外交流計劃對大學生在個人技能/ 知識和就業上的影響。

ABSTRACT

A growing number of students leave their home environment and participate in overseas exchange programs (OEP) every year. The OEP not only represents international learning but also contributes to students' personal development. Two studies presented here were intended to address the impact of the OEP on students' increased skills/ knowledge and its influence on employment-related outcomes. The first study surveyed 303 students staying at campus and 61 OEP participants to compare their changes in cultural cosmopolitanism, general self-efficacy, social self-efficacy, perceived spoken English competence and perceived written English competence after a four-month period. Results from the ANCOVA on the dependent variables between the experimental and control group, using extra-curricular activities participation as a covariate, revealed that OEP students, compared to the control group, showed a significant improvement in cultural cosmopolitanism and social self-efficacy and a moderately significant increase in general self-efficacy but failed to demonstrate improvements in perceived written English competence and perceived spoken English competence. In the second study, 107 university graduates were surveyed of which 58 participants joined OEP of at least four weeks during their undergraduate program. Graduates with OEP experience were also found to receive a higher starting salary upon entry into the job market but not a greater number of job

offers. Further research on cross-cultural exchange programs and applications from the research findings to exchange program enhancement were discussed. In addition, the qualitative data from 10 participants collected in focus groups and interviews were reported to substantiate the impact of OEP on students' knowledge/skills and their greater attractiveness to employers in the early stage of career.