

Understanding Risk and Managing for Opportunities in the Global Economic Crisis

A strategy seminar offered by the
Illuminate Consulting Group

SEMINAR FRAMEWORK

The Crisis

During 2008 alone, the on-going global economic and fiscal crisis has wiped out well over USD 10 trillion in individual wealth worldwide. While some countries were hit especially hard – including the USA, the UK, and Russia – the crisis has demonstrated today's fundamental interconnectedness of national fiscal and economic systems.

This crisis has been compounded by other events such as the Madoff scandal which has resulted in higher education institutions and supporting foundations losing well in excess of USD 1 billion – and possibly much more. Higher education thus is not immune from these travails and it stands to reason that harsh lessons are still in store.

Systemic and Sustained Risk for Higher Education

ICG has created a seminar to assist higher education institutions with understanding the substantial, systemic risk this crisis poses on a multitude of fronts:

- The destruction of individual wealth has diminished many students' ability to self- or family-finance their education. Similarly, the curtailed access to student loans is proving troublesome
- International student mobility will be affected negatively. Yet dynamics will play out in highly granular ways, many of which will be subject to little influence from within higher education systems
- Philanthropic giving has already slowed down and is likely to be adversely affected for years to come. The trickle down effect into diminishing funding opportunities for students has already begun
- Policy responses to the crisis so far have paid little attention to higher education. Most initiatives can be expected to focus on capital expenditures, and domestic issues will trump areas such as international student mobility

ICG Background

ICG's background in both higher education as well as the business world – including strategy consulting and financial controlling – has allowed us to create analysis and insights which take into account both the underlying causes and complexities of the crisis as well as the levels of granularity within and between higher education systems.

SEMINAR OVERVIEW

Seminar Outline

The seminar is structured into six sections and contains a customized analysis and recommendation part for each institution:

- What is the real story behind the global financial and economic crisis, and how bad is it really?
- What do Iceland, New Zealand, and Madoff have in common? And why does this matter to international education?
- The economic picture in key recruiting countries (customized for a given institution)
- Scenarios: What are already existing, likely, and possible impacts on international mobility dynamics?
- Implications (customized for a given institution)
- Discussion

The seminar is being offered in an one to two hours format.

Opportunities on the Horizon

It is crucial to understand that in this crisis some institutions and education systems will benefit from other actors' mistakes or impaired situation. Some will stumble into such gains by circumstance; most others will have to work hard for their gains.

Insights

The goal of the seminar is to deliver three insights: First, the breadth and complexity of the current crisis. Second, the direct and indirect, as well as national and international effects on higher education. Third, the competitive advantage to be gained from expert analysis, strategy setting, rapid implementation of measures to understand risk, and the active management for opportunities.

Limitations

The seminar is not intended to substitute for a business school lecture, nor does it center on forecasting the future. It also does not aspire to deliver a comprehensive account of all aspects of the crisis. Rather, it focuses on delivering actionable learnings.

SELECT PAST ICG SEMINARS

Australia

- Australian National University
- Griffith University
- Monash University
- Queensland Department of Education
- Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology
- University of Melbourne
- University of Tasmania

Singapore

- Nanyang Technological University
- Singapore Tourism Board

Switzerland

- Bern University
- University of St. Gallen
- University of Zurich

Germany

- Cologne University
- German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)
- Hessen Department of Education
- LMU Munich
- Münster University

United Kingdom

- Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE)
Imperial College London
- University College London
- University of Cambridge

Hong Kong

- Chinese University of Hong Kong

United States of America

- Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
- University of Arizona
- University of California, Senior International Leadership Council
- University of Michigan

New Zealand

- Ministry of Education
- University of Auckland
- University of Canterbury
- Victoria Wellington University

Note

The above list includes seminars on international and advancement topics.

ICG Seminar Leaders

Dr. Daniel J. Guhr

Dr. Guhr serves as ICG's Managing Director. Prior to founding ICG, he served as a strategy consultant with the Boston Consulting Group, and as a Director of Business Development with SAP in Silicon Valley.

Dr. Guhr has authored more than twenty-five research papers and studies. In 2007-08, he contributed to more than 35 sessions at international conferences. In addition, he comments widely on educational topics in the press.

Dr. Guhr is the past President of the Oxford University Society's San Diego branch. He currently serves on the Council of the University of California at Santa Cruz's College Eight and the Board of the University of Bonn's Universitätsgesellschaft.

Dr. Guhr holds a D.Phil. in Higher Education and a M.Sc. in Educational Research Methodology from the University of Oxford, as well as a M.A. in Political Science from Brandeis University.

Dr. Guhr was also trained for three years in political science at Bonn and Harvard Universities, served as a research specialist at the Center for Studies of Higher Education at the University of California at Berkeley, and conducted research at the Max-Planck-Institute for Human Studies in Berlin.

Dr. Guhr can be contacted by e-mail at guhr@illuminategroup.com.

Dr. Rainer Haarbush

Dr. Haarbush serves as Head of ICG Europe. Before joining ICG, he served as a Senior Policy and Planning Officer at the LMU Munich's Strategy Division with responsibilities for the implementation of the Bologna Process, and the strategic development and implementation of LMU's Quality Management System.

Dr. Haarbush also served five years with the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) as director of the DAAD Information Centre in Accra and as the Director of the DAAD Information Centre in Sydney. He subsequently consulted with the International Bureau of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

Dr. Haarbush obtained a Ph.D. in Linguistics and a M.A. in Intercultural German Studies and History from Bayreuth University. Parallel to his career in education management, he taught linguistics at Bayreuth University, the University of Sydney, and at the University of Ghana, Legon.

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