

"But It Really Is Our Degree!" 20 Years of International Partnership - Lessons Learned

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The players



SUNY Empire State University

SUNY: State University of New York

System of 64 public colleges & universities in NY State Largest comprehensive university system in the U.S.

Empire State University:

Saratoga Springs, NY + multiple locations across state
Total headcount in US: approx. 17,000
Total headcount international programs approx. 1,000
Over 100,000 alumni
In international education since 1976

University of New York in Prague

Nearly 30 years

3 schools

3 program levels

Degree and non-degree programs

Students from 60+ countries

Teachers from almost 30 countries

1st Czech University to offer MŠMT registered American bachelor's degrees

Partnership origins



1998 – legalization of private higher education in Czechia

"University of New York in Prague"
Satisfying the appetite for Western-style education

Partnership model



Curriculum provided to local partner

120 US credits (240 ECTS) required for degree

Min. 30 U.S. credits must be taken with Empire

Graduates earn same degree as in USA

Oversight: EU Director, Curriculum Committee, colleges in US

Benefits?

50 years of int. program experience = no long road to partnership development

Can adapt & create programs quickly

Generous transfer credit policy

Extensive catalogue of courses & degrees

Impact over 20 years



Genuine diversity
Pedagogical approach
Growth
Further studies
Alumni

Challenges



"It really is OUR degree..."

"Customers or students?"

"Meet the students where they are"

"This is how it works here!"

"They are OUR alumni!"

20 years on: Lessons learned







Thoughts?

Thank you!