

## Foreword

Much has been written about the loss of attractiveness of the United States as a destination of choice in the global marketplace for international students. This assertion is based on the context of the unwelcoming political climate for immigrants and intensifying competition among institutions for recruiting international students.

However, what is missing in this assertion are untapped opportunities for the American higher education institutions. According to OECD, in 2015, international students comprised of only 5% in the total tertiary enrollment as compared to 18% for the United Kingdom, 15% for Australia, 11% for Canada and 8% for Germany.

While recent data indicates that many American institutions are experiencing a decline in international student enrollment, they must channelize their efforts and thoughts in overcoming challenges and maximizing the untapped opportunity of attracting and supporting international students.

In my article, *Three Waves of International Student Mobility*, I analyzed the changes in international student mobility from the lens of three overlapping Waves each spanning seven years between 1999-2020. Here a Wave is defined by the key events and trends impacting international student mobility within temporal periods.

The first two Waves coincided with 9/11 and the global financial recession. The Third Wave is being shaped by new political environment triggered by 2016 UK referendum to leave the European Union and the 2016 American presidential election. International enrollment at U.S. universities and colleges suffered temporary declines in both Waves before recovering and growing to a higher level.

In the Third Wave, institutions are facing increasing global competition to attract international students, and at the same time, students are expecting more regarding value for money and employability outcomes. This is where institutions must innovate not only to grow international student enrollment but also balance it with corresponding support services that advance student success.

In other words, making the most of the opportunities in this environment would require administrators, academicians, and policy-makers at any higher education institution in the U.S. or a competing destination to understand the issues and insights surrounding international student mobility and experiences.

The latest book—*International Student Mobility and Opportunities for Growth in the Global Marketplace*—by Dr. Krishna Bista fills this gap and advances the research agenda. Dr. Bista has extensively researched and published on international and comparative education with a focus on international students. I had an opportunity to work closely with him not only as a special issue editor for the October/November 2016 issue of the *Journal on International Student Success* but also an advisory board member of the Journal.

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In this book, the authors lay the foundation with an introductory chapter on recent issues and tensions related to international student mobility. The four sections of the book—International Student Mobility Trends, Cross-Cultural Competency and Global Perspectives, International Student Experiences and Opportunities and Student Decision Making and Global Marketplace—not only address critical issues related to international students but also provide a comparative perspective from contributors around the world.

In sum, the book is a recommended resource for researchers, students, and practitioners who aim to deepen their understanding of the issues related to international students and enhance the impact of their work.

*Rahul Choudaha*

*StudyPortals, The Netherlands*

**Rahul Choudaha** is a recognized scholar-practitioner with expertise on mobility, enrollment and experiences of international students. He is Executive Vice President of Global Engagement, Research & Intelligence at Studyportals—a Dutch organization focused on advancing international student mobility and making education choice transparent. Choudaha has presented over 100 sessions at professional conferences and has been quoted in global media. He is a research associate at the Center for Studies in Higher Education at the University of California, Berkeley. Previously, he has taught graduate courses on International Higher Education at New York University and Baruch College. Choudaha received the Tony Adams Award for Excellence from the European Association of International Education and served as the editor of the special issue of the *Journal of International Students*. He serves on the editorial board of the *Journal of Studies in International Education*. He blogs and tweets as DrEducation. Choudaha holds a doctorate in higher education administration, master's in business management, and a bachelor's in electronics engineering.