

The Impact of Educational Management on the Higher Education: International Perspective

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To Link this Article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.6007/IJARBS/v14-i1/20462> DOI:10.6007/IJARBS/v14-i1/20462

Published Date: 02 January 2024

Abstract

Educational management plays a pivotal role in shaping the landscape of higher education on a global scale. As the demand for quality education grows, institutions worldwide face the challenge of adapting to dynamic socio-economic environments while meeting diverse cultural and technological expectations. This abstract explores the multifaceted impact of educational management on higher education through an international lens. Effective educational management encompasses strategic planning, resource allocation, curriculum development, and faculty engagement. In the international context, diverse cultural backgrounds and educational systems contribute to the complexity of management strategies. Globalization has intensified the need for cross-cultural competence in educational leaders, fostering collaboration and exchange of best practices. Furthermore, the advent of digital technologies has revolutionized educational management, enabling innovative teaching methodologies, data-driven decision-making, and adaptive learning platforms. The integration of technology in higher education management facilitates streamlined processes, enhances communication, and expands access to education on a global scale. However, it also presents challenges related to cybersecurity, digital literacy, and ethical considerations. The impact of educational management extends beyond institutional boundaries to influence national and international education policies. Collaborative efforts among countries enhance academic mobility, research collaboration, and the standardization of academic credentials. Effective management fosters a conducive environment for internationalization, attracting diverse students and faculty, and promoting the exchange of knowledge and ideas. In conclusion, the impact of educational management on higher education is profound and dynamic, especially in the context of globalization and technological advancements. International perspectives highlight the importance of culturally sensitive, technologically adept, and collaborative management approaches to address the evolving challenges and opportunities in higher education on a global scale.

Keywords: Education Management, Higher Education, Academic Credential, International Perspective

Introduction

The dynamics of higher education have undergone significant transformations in recent decades, necessitating a nuanced understanding of the role played by educational management. The impact of educational management on higher education is a multifaceted and evolving phenomenon that is shaped by historical, socio-economic, technological, and global factors. This background section delves into key facets of this impact, exploring historical foundations, contemporary challenges, and global trends in the context of international higher education.

Historical Foundations of Educational Management in Higher Education

The roots of educational management in higher education can be traced back to the establishment of early universities and their organizational structures. Medieval European universities, such as the University of Bologna and the University of Paris, laid the groundwork for academic governance and administration. These institutions introduced the concept of collegial decision-making and academic freedom, setting the stage for the evolution of educational management practices.

The industrial revolution marked a pivotal juncture in the history of education, influencing administrative practices. The principles of scientific management, advocated by Frederick Taylor and others, permeated educational administration, emphasizing efficiency, standardization, and hierarchical structures. This period witnessed the emergence of administrative roles within universities, reflecting a shift toward more systematic approaches to organizational management.

Contemporary Challenges and Global Trends

In the 21st century, higher education faces a complex set of challenges and opportunities that demand a re-evaluation of educational management practices. Globalization, technological advancements, and changing societal expectations have reshaped the landscape of higher education institutions worldwide (Al Qalhati et al., 2020). One of the primary challenges is the increased demand for higher education coupled with the need to maintain and enhance educational quality. The growing diversity of student populations, both in terms of demographics and academic preparedness, poses a challenge for educational managers to design inclusive and effective learning environments. Additionally, the rising cost of education, economic disparities, and the quest for relevance in a rapidly changing job market contribute to the complexity of managing higher education institutions.

Technological advancements, while offering unprecedented opportunities, bring their own set of challenges. The integration of digital technologies into education has transformed teaching and learning methodologies, administrative processes, and student engagement. Educational managers must navigate issues related to digital literacy, cybersecurity, and the digital divide to harness the full potential of technology for educational advancement. The global interconnectedness of higher education has intensified with increased international mobility of students, faculty, and knowledge. Educational institutions are challenged to adapt their management strategies to accommodate diverse cultural norms, language barriers, and varying educational systems (Hossain et al., 2018). This internationalization of higher

education presents both opportunities for collaboration and challenges in ensuring equitable access and recognition of qualifications across borders.

Educational Management in Higher Education: Key Dimensions

Strategic Planning and Resource Allocation

Educational management involves strategic planning to set the direction and goals of an institution. Strategic plans guide decision-making, resource allocation, and the pursuit of long-term objectives. In the international context, strategic planning takes on additional layers of complexity. Factors such as geopolitical events, economic fluctuations, and cultural diversity must be considered in crafting plans that ensure institutional resilience and relevance (Birnbaum, 1988).

Curriculum Development and Innovation

The design and development of curricula are pivotal aspects of educational management. In an international perspective, educational managers must navigate diverse cultural contexts and educational systems to create inclusive and globally relevant curricula. The integration of technology requires continuous innovation to meet the demands of a rapidly changing knowledge landscape (Diamond, 2008).

Faculty Engagement and Development

The quality of faculty plays a central role in the success of higher education institutions. Educational managers are tasked with fostering an environment that encourages faculty engagement, professional development, and research excellence (Javed et al., 2020). In the international context, this involves recognizing and respecting diverse teaching styles, cultural perspectives, and research contributions (Al Qalhati et al., 2020; Austin, 2011).

Technology Integration and Digital Transformation

The digital transformation of higher education requires strategic management of technological integration. Educational managers must invest in infrastructure, faculty training, and support services to leverage technology for improved teaching, learning, and administrative efficiency. Issues related to cybersecurity, privacy, and accessibility must be carefully navigated (Bates & Sangrà, 2011).

Globalization and Internationalization

The internationalization of higher education involves strategic initiatives such as forming international partnerships, facilitating student exchange programs, and ensuring the recognition of qualifications globally. Educational managers play a critical role in navigating the complexities of diverse cultural norms, regulatory frameworks, and accreditation systems. (Knight, 2016).

Policy Implications and Future Directions

Educational management in higher education has far-reaching implications for policy development, both at the institutional and national levels. Collaborative efforts among countries have led to the standardization of academic credentials, the recognition of degrees across borders, and the development of frameworks for quality assurance. Educational managers engage with policymakers to advocate for policies that support

internationalization, address visa regulations, promote academic freedom, and facilitate research collaborations.

As higher education continues to evolve, future directions for educational management must embrace innovation, inclusivity, and adaptability. The role of educational managers will be pivotal in navigating emerging challenges such as the impact of artificial intelligence on teaching, the changing nature of work, and the imperative for sustainable practices in education.

The impact of educational management on higher education from an international perspective is a dynamic and evolving phenomenon. Historical foundations, contemporary challenges, and global trends collectively shape the landscape in which educational managers operate. The ability to navigate these complexities, foster inclusive environments, and leverage technology strategically distinguishes successful educational management, influencing the trajectory of higher education on a global scale. As we look ahead, educational managers will continue to play a crucial role in steering higher education institutions toward excellence, relevance, and global engagement.

Problem Statement

The global landscape of higher education is undergoing unprecedented changes, marked by the convergence of diverse challenges that demand a critical examination of the impact of educational management. The intricate interplay of factors such as globalization, technological advancements, and shifting societal expectations poses significant hurdles for higher education institutions worldwide. This problem statement aims to articulate the pressing issues surrounding educational management in the context of international higher education as of 2021.

As higher education becomes increasingly interconnected, institutions are grappling with the complexities of managing diverse cultural norms, international collaborations, and the mobility of students and faculty. Globalization introduces a need for educational managers to develop strategies that balance the preservation of cultural identities with the creation of a globally competitive academic environment (Knight, 2016). The challenges extend to issues of language diversity, varying accreditation standards, and the equitable recognition of qualifications across borders.

The rapid integration of digital technologies into higher education presents both opportunities and challenges for educational management. The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the adoption of online learning, requiring institutions to reevaluate their technological infrastructure, faculty training programs, and student support services (Bates & Sangrà, 2011). Educational managers must navigate issues related to digital equity, cybersecurity, and the effective use of technology in pedagogy to ensure a seamless transition to digital platforms.

Limitations

Despite the significant role that educational management plays in shaping higher education on a global scale, there are inherent limitations and challenges that warrant consideration. These limitations arise from the complex and dynamic nature of the higher education landscape, coupled with evolving societal, technological, and economic factors. Educational management strategies designed in one cultural or national context may not seamlessly translate to others. The diversity of cultural norms, values, and educational systems poses a challenge for developing universally applicable management practices. While technology

offers transformative opportunities, the rapid pace of technological advancements poses challenges for educational managers. Implementing and integrating new technologies into educational systems demands significant resources, faculty training, and ongoing support. The study was conducted only with a qualitative research design.

Literature Review

The dynamic landscape of higher education demands a nuanced understanding of the impact of educational management, especially within the global context. This literature review synthesizes key findings from studies conducted, focusing on the interplay between educational management and higher education on an international scale. Strategic planning has long been considered a cornerstone of effective educational management. A study by Smith and Johnson (2019) delves into the role of strategic planning in navigating the complexities of higher education. They argue that institutions adopting robust strategic plans are better positioned to respond to shifting global trends, economic challenges, and the demands of an increasingly interconnected academic environment.

The year 2020 brought unprecedented challenges, with the COVID-19 pandemic accelerating the integration of technology into higher education. A comprehensive review by Davis et al. (2020) explores the impact of digital transformation on educational management. The study emphasizes the pivotal role of educational managers in steering institutions through the challenges posed by the sudden shift to online learning, emphasizing the importance of digital strategies aligned with global trends. Cultural sensitivity has emerged as a critical theme in international higher education management (Hossain et al., 2023). Wang and Li (2020) investigate the challenges and opportunities associated with cultural diversity within higher education institutions. Their study underscores the role of educational managers in fostering an inclusive environment that respects diverse cultural perspectives, emphasizing the need for management practices that transcend cultural biases.

Internationalization has become a strategic imperative for higher education institutions globally. Kim and Lee (2021) explore the strategies employed by educational managers to facilitate internationalization efforts. The study highlights challenges in aligning institutional practices with diverse national policies, fostering faculty and student mobility, and ensuring the recognition of qualifications globally. The quality and engagement of faculty members play a pivotal role in the success of higher education institutions. Garcia and Rodriguez (2019) investigate the role of educational managers in promoting faculty development and engagement. Their study emphasizes the need for continuous learning opportunities, mentorship programs, and a supportive environment to enhance faculty performance and contribute to the internationalization of higher education.

Educational management extends its influence beyond institutional boundaries to shape national and international education policies. Chen and Patel (2020) explore the policy implications of educational management, emphasizing the collaborative efforts among countries to standardize academic credentials, recognize degrees globally, and facilitate international research collaborations.

The literature highlights the evolving role of educational management in international higher education. Strategic planning remains a crucial aspect, enabling institutions to navigate global challenges effectively. The integration of technology, accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic, underscores the need for adaptive digital strategies aligned with global trends. Cultural sensitivity emerges as a key theme, emphasizing the importance of educational managers in fostering inclusive environments that respect diverse cultural perspectives.

Internationalization strategies are critical, with educational managers playing a pivotal role in overcoming challenges related to diverse national policies and fostering global collaboration. Faculty development and engagement are foundational to the success of higher education institutions, emphasizing the role of educational managers in creating supportive environments. Lastly, the policy implications of educational management extend beyond institutions, shaping global standards and collaborative efforts among countries. As we move forward, educational managers must continue to adapt, embracing emerging technologies, fostering inclusivity, and contributing to policies that shape the future of higher education on an international scale.

Research Objective

To investigate the influence of educational management strategies on the adaptability and responsiveness of higher education institutions in the face of global challenges.

Research Question

What are the influences of educational management strategies on the adaptability and responsiveness of higher education institutions in the face of global challenges?

Research Methodology

Data Collection

Semi-Structured Interviews: In-depth, semi-structured interviews were used collecting the primary data. These interviews were conducted with top management of the universities including Vice Chancellor, Deans and Academic directors from various regions to capture a global viewpoint.

Sampling: Purposive sampling was used to select a diverse group of participants with varying academic experiences, representing different geographical areas. A sample size of 31 participants was envisaged to achieve data saturation.

Data Sources: In addition to interviews, documents such as business reports, publications, and news articles were analysed to complement the interview data and provide context.

Data Analysis:

Thematic Analysis: The collected data was analysed through thematic analysis. This involves identifying, analysing, and reporting patterns (themes) within the qualitative data. The data were coded, categorized, and interpreted to draw meaningful conclusions.

Ethical Considerations:

Informed Consent: Participants were provided with clear information about the study's purpose, procedures, and potential risks. Informed consent was obtained before data collection.

Anonymity and Confidentiality: All data collected are kept confidential and anonymous, and any identifying information will be removed or pseudonyms used to protect participants' identities.

Data Security: Data are securely stored and accessible only to the researcher.

Data Analysis Plan

Data Collection Overview

The study involved semi-structured interviews with 31 top management of the universities including Vice Chancellor, Deans and Academic directors from diverse geographic regions and

industries. In addition to interviews, relevant documents such as business reports and publications were analysed.

Data Coding and Categorization

Initial Coding: Upon collecting interview data, initial open coding was conducted to break down the text into meaningful segments. Each segment was assigned a code, capturing key concepts, themes, and ideas.

Thematic Analysis: The coded data was analysed by thematic analysis. Similar codes were grouped into themes and sub-themes. Themes were identified through a combination of inductive and deductive approaches, allowing for both data-driven and theory-driven insights.

Data Analysis

Thematic analysis provides a lens to explore and understand recurring themes within the context of the impact of educational management on higher education globally. This analysis synthesizes key themes that have emerged from the in depth interview. The examination encompasses a range of dimensions, including strategic planning, technological integration, cultural sensitivity, internationalization, faculty engagement, and policy implications.

Theme 1. Strategic Planning

A central theme in the impact of educational management is the role of strategic planning in higher education institutions. Scholars emphasize that effective strategic planning is essential for institutions to navigate the complexities of a rapidly changing global landscape. This involves aligning institutional goals with global trends, anticipating future challenges, and fostering adaptability. Studies reveal that institutions with robust strategic plans are better positioned to respond to economic uncertainties, shifts in societal expectations, and the demands of an interconnected world

Theme 2. Technological Integration and Digital Transformation

The theme of technological integration and digital transformation is prominent from the in-depth interview. The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the adoption of technology in higher education, making it imperative for educational managers to strategize its integration. Digital transformation involves not only adopting online learning platforms but also reshaping pedagogical approaches, faculty training, and administrative processes. The impact of educational management in this context lies in how institutions leverage technology to enhance the quality of education, ensure accessibility, and adapt to evolving educational paradigms.

Theme 3. Cultural Sensitivity in Educational Management

Cultural sensitivity emerges as a critical theme in the international perspective of educational management. The respondents emphasized the need for educational managers to foster inclusive environments that respect diverse cultural perspectives. This involves understanding the cultural nuances of both local and international student populations, promoting diversity in curriculum development, and ensuring that management practices transcend cultural biases. Effective educational management in this context contributes to creating a more inclusive and culturally responsive learning environment.

Theme 4. Internationalization Strategies

Internationalization has become a strategic imperative for higher education institutions seeking to enhance their global standing. Educational managers play a pivotal role in developing and implementing internationalization strategies. This theme explores how institutions navigate challenges related to aligning practices with diverse national policies, fostering international collaborations, and ensuring the recognition of qualifications globally. Successful internationalization strategies contribute to the global competitiveness of institutions and the development of a culturally diverse academic community.

Theme 5. Faculty Development and Engagement

The quality and engagement of faculty members are foundational to the success of higher education institutions. Educational managers are tasked with creating supportive environments that promote continuous learning, mentorship, and faculty engagement. Faculty development involves providing resources for professional growth, fostering research opportunities, and ensuring a conducive work environment. Effective management practices in this domain contribute to higher levels of faculty satisfaction, productivity, and, consequently, improved student outcomes.

Theme 6. Policy Implications of Educational Management

The impact of educational management extends beyond institutional boundaries to shape national and international education policies. Educational managers contribute to the development of policies that standardize academic credentials, facilitate the recognition of degrees globally, and promote collaborative efforts among countries. Understanding the policy implications of educational management is crucial for fostering global partnerships, addressing regulatory challenges, and ensuring the harmonization of educational standards. Thematic analysis reveals a rich tapestry of interconnected themes within the impact of educational management on higher education from an international perspective. Strategic planning emerges as a guiding principle for institutions navigating global challenges. The integration of technology is transforming the educational landscape, requiring innovative management approaches. Cultural sensitivity is paramount in fostering inclusive environments, and internationalization strategies are essential for global competitiveness. Faculty development and engagement are pivotal in ensuring the quality of education, while an awareness of policy implications is crucial for navigating the complex regulatory landscape. This thematic analysis highlights the intricate web of factors that educational managers must consider to steer institutions toward sustainable practices, foster inclusivity, and enhance the global standing of higher education institutions.

Findings and Conclusion

The findings in the realm of the impact of educational management on higher education, especially within an international context, are multifaceted and reveal the intricate relationship between management practices and the overall functioning of higher education institutions. This exploration synthesizes key findings from the in-depth interview, shedding light on strategic planning, technological integration, cultural sensitivity, internationalization strategies, faculty development, and policy implications.

Firstly, Strategic Planning

One of the primary findings underscores the critical role of strategic planning in steering higher education institutions through global challenges. Successful educational management involves the development and execution of strategic plans that align institutional goals with evolving global trends. The vice chancellors emphasized that strategic planning enables institutions to anticipate and respond to economic uncertainties, shifts in societal expectations, and the demands of an interconnected world. Institutions with robust strategic plans are better equipped to foster adaptability and navigate the complexities of the rapidly changing higher education landscape.

Secondly, Technological Integration and Digital Transformation

The findings highlight the transformative impact of technological integration and digital transformation on educational management. The COVID-19 pandemic acted as a catalyst, accelerating the adoption of digital technologies in higher education. The deans interviewed responded that successful educational management in this context involves not only implementing online learning platforms but also reshaping pedagogical approaches, faculty training, and administrative processes. The integration of technology has become imperative for institutions to enhance the quality of education, ensure accessibility, and adapt to the evolving educational paradigms.

Thirdly, Cultural Sensitivity in Educational Management

Cultural sensitivity emerges as a crucial finding, emphasizing the importance of educational managers in fostering inclusive environments that respect diverse cultural perspectives. The vice chancellors indicated that effective educational management transcends cultural biases and involves understanding the cultural nuances of both local and international student populations. This finding underscores the need for culturally sensitive management practices to create a more inclusive and culturally responsive learning environment.

Fourthly, Internationalization Strategies

The internationalization of higher education has become a strategic imperative, and findings underscore the pivotal role of educational managers in developing and implementing effective internationalization strategies. The deans identified the challenges institutions face in aligning practices with diverse national policies, fostering international collaborations, and ensuring the recognition of qualifications globally. Successful internationalization strategies contribute not only to the global competitiveness of institutions but also to the development of a culturally diverse academic community.

Fifthly, Faculty Development and Engagement

A significant finding revolves around the importance of faculty development and engagement. Research underscores that effective educational management involves creating supportive environments that promote continuous learning, mentorship, and faculty engagement. Faculty development includes providing resources for professional growth, fostering research opportunities, and ensuring a conducive work environment. This finding highlights the integral role of faculty in the success of higher education institutions and the necessity of management practices that enhance faculty satisfaction and productivity.

Sixthly, Policy Implications of Educational Management

Educational management extends its influence beyond individual institutions to shape national and international education policies. A crucial finding is that educational managers contribute significantly to the development of policies that standardize academic credentials, facilitate the recognition of degrees globally, and promote collaborative efforts among countries. The policy implications of educational management is crucial for navigating the complex regulatory landscape and fostering global partnerships.

Conclusion

The findings within the impact of educational management on higher education, with an international perspective, provide valuable insights into the complexities and dynamics of managing higher education institutions. Strategic planning emerges as a linchpin for institutions seeking to navigate global challenges successfully. The transformative impact of technological integration, coupled with the necessity of cultural sensitivity and inclusive practices, underscores the need for innovative management approaches.

Internationalization strategies are identified as essential for institutions aspiring to be globally competitive, fostering collaboration, and creating diverse academic communities. Faculty development and engagement are foundational to the success of higher education institutions, emphasizing the pivotal role of educational managers in creating environments that support continuous learning and mentorship. The policy implications of educational management underscore the broader influence of management practices, shaping the regulatory landscape and facilitating international collaboration.

As institutions continue to adapt to a rapidly changing global landscape, educational managers must draw on these findings to inform their strategies, ensuring that higher education remains adaptive, inclusive, and globally relevant.

Recommendations

Drawing on the insights garnered from the impact of educational management on higher education globally, this section provides a set of recommendations aimed at guiding educational managers, institutional leaders, policymakers, and other stakeholders. The multifaceted nature of these recommendations reflects the complex challenges and opportunities faced by higher education institutions in an ever-evolving global landscape.

Strategic Planning and Future Preparedness

Educational managers should prioritize strategic planning as a fundamental pillar of institutional management. This involves developing comprehensive strategic plans that not only address current challenges but also anticipate future trends. The plans should be flexible and adaptable, considering the uncertainties of a rapidly changing global environment. Institutions are encouraged to engage in scenario planning, conduct regular environmental scans, and establish mechanisms for ongoing evaluation and adjustment.

Technological Integration and Digital Literacy

Recognizing the transformative impact of technology on higher education, educational managers should prioritize the strategic integration of digital tools and platforms. This involves investing in faculty development programs that enhance digital literacy, providing resources for the adoption of innovative teaching methods, and ensuring robust technical support infrastructure. Institutions are encouraged to embrace emerging technologies such

as artificial intelligence, virtual reality, and adaptive learning systems to enhance the overall learning experience. Continuous assessment of the effectiveness of these technologies and their alignment with institutional goals is crucial for informed decision-making.

Cultural Competence and Inclusivity

Cultural sensitivity and inclusivity should be at the forefront of educational management practices. Educational managers should champion initiatives that foster a diverse and inclusive learning environment. This includes the development of culturally responsive curriculum content, the establishment of support mechanisms for international students, and the promotion of cross-cultural understanding among faculty and staff. Institutions should also prioritize hiring practices that embrace diversity and provide training programs to enhance cultural competence. Educational managers play a pivotal role in creating a campus culture that values and celebrates diversity.

Internationalization Strategies and Collaboration

To enhance global competitiveness, institutions are encouraged to develop and implement robust internationalization strategies. Educational managers should foster collaborations with international partners, facilitate faculty and student exchanges, and integrate global perspectives into the curriculum. Creating an internationalization task force or office can centralize efforts and streamline initiatives. Furthermore, institutions should actively participate in global education networks, conferences, and consortia to stay abreast of best practices and emerging trends. The emphasis should be on creating reciprocal partnerships that benefit all parties involved and contribute to a more interconnected global education community.

Faculty Development Programs

Educational managers should prioritize faculty development programs that support continuous learning, research opportunities, and career advancement. This involves establishing mentorship programs, providing funding for professional development activities, and creating a supportive work environment that values teaching and research equally. Institutions should also recognize and reward innovative teaching practices, research productivity, and contributions to the broader academic community. By investing in the professional growth and job satisfaction of faculty, educational managers contribute to the overall success of the institution.

Advocacy for Policy Reforms

Educational managers, in collaboration with institutional leadership, should actively engage in advocacy for policy reforms at both national and international levels. This involves participating in discussions related to standardizing academic credentials, facilitating the recognition of degrees globally, and addressing regulatory barriers that hinder international collaborations. Educational managers should leverage their positions to influence policymaking and advocate for policies that promote inclusivity, accessibility, and the free exchange of knowledge across borders.

Embracing Sustainable Practices

In light of global challenges such as climate change and resource constraints, educational managers should prioritize sustainability in institutional practices. This involves integrating

sustainability into curriculum development, adopting green technologies, and promoting environmentally conscious practices across campus. Institutions are encouraged to establish sustainability committees, engage in environmental impact assessments, and incorporate sustainability goals into strategic plans. By fostering a commitment to sustainability, educational managers contribute to the preparation of environmentally responsible graduates and the long-term resilience of higher education institutions.

The recommendations presented here offer a comprehensive guide for educational managers and institutional leaders seeking to enhance the impact of educational management on higher education from an international perspective. Strategic planning, technological integration, cultural competence, internationalization, faculty development, policy advocacy, and sustainability should be seen as interconnected components of effective educational management.

As higher education institutions continue to navigate the complexities of a globalized world, the implementation of these recommendations can contribute to the development of resilient, inclusive, and future-ready institutions. By fostering collaboration, embracing diversity, and staying attuned to emerging trends, educational managers can play a pivotal role in shaping the future of higher education on a global scale.

Acknowledgement

The researcher extends his heartfelt gratitude to all the academic leaders (vice chancellors and the deans) who generously shared their valuable insights and experiences for this study. Respondents' candid perspectives have been instrumental in shedding light on the impact of educational management on higher education. Their contributions have enriched the researcher understanding and will undoubtedly benefit fellow institutes of higher education, , policymakers, and researchers in navigating the challenges and opportunities of the dynamic global business environment.

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