

# COVID and the recruitment of Chinese international students: Reflections from education agents in China, 22 July 2020



00:26:03 Miaolung Shih: Hi everyone

00:30:56 Simon Marginson: Prepare your question early and you have the best chance of being asked to say it in the webinar. Who will be first?

00:31:53 Miguel Antonio Lim: Dear colleagues, a full copy of the report is available here: [https://www.research.manchester.ac.uk/portal/files/173092496/Ying\\_et\\_al.\\_2020\\_final.pdf](https://www.research.manchester.ac.uk/portal/files/173092496/Ying_et_al._2020_final.pdf)

00:41:46 Michal Erik: The recording will be saved in order to then could be revised?

00:43:04 Simon Marginson: Questions questions questions .....?

00:43:51 Simon Marginson: Questions are the key to learning (in the Western tradition) 'The unexamined life is not worth living' (Socrates)

00:45:02 Morten Hansen: What an excellent presentation indeed!

Have you seen any movement in the per student commission, paid to agents? Do you have data or comments on commission levels?

00:45:08 Simon Marginson: If you don't ask you will never know

00:45:45 Simon Marginson: You are a good person Morten. Thank you for your question

00:45:50 Simon Marginson: your

00:46:04 Sazana Jayadeva: Very interesting so far! Did consultants feel Chinese student mobility to other study destinations has been affected as much as to the UK?

00:46:32 Sarah Lee: Interesting research! Do you think agents play a significant role in uni applications (I heard most students around me gained information from uni websites and DIYed their applications)

00:48:03 Heather Eggins: Can you give us a breakdown of the figures for the groups of students? I would like to see detailed figures for each group. Can you tell us more about the group already in the UK and how much use they made of agents?

00:49:48 Simon Marginson: Questions in this order - Morten Hansen, Sazana Jayadeva, Sarah Lee, Heather Eggins

00:50:39 Miguel Antonio Lim: The BBC coverage, with insights from other stakeholders and which seems to address what media thinks are the wider issues of public interest can be found here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-53416337>

00:50:58 Ava Hardin: your research may not go into this, but with fewer students working with education agents this year, are more Chinese students looking to take a gap year?

00:55:54 Amita Gambhir: May we get the recording of

00:55:59 David Law: % of recruitment via agents to UK varies a lot from one country to another and in some countries the agency is clearly focussed on UK destinations and not the MESDCs as a group. What % of recruitment is via agents? Do big agencies influence the destination country?

00:56:09 Amita Gambhir: the meeting

01:00:06 Zachery Spire: Brilliant discussion, many thanks for your insights.

01:01:58 Dominique Luthringer: would you please be able to send the registration link for the conference? Thanks!

01:02:44 Miguel Antonio Lim: For those interested in the recent CGHE webinars on US-China geopolitics of research and our webinar today on Chinese international student mobility, please consider contributing and attending the annual December China HE conference we host at the Uni of Manchester: <https://spark.adobe.com/page/Qe6DB0fHirUyI/>

01:05:58 Zhuangzhuang Dai: Would Universities and agents take measures to deal with research/learning dishonesty?

01:09:15 JIE LIU: Thanks for the talk which is interesting. My question is as the agent appears to be the main bridge between a university and a Chinese applicant, what measures are in place to ensure that a univ. can really recruit a student who does meet the expectations and from the perspective of a student, a program turns out to be the same as it was preached by the agent?

01:09:15 Miguel Antonio Lim: @sazana, thank you for your question. Every year, the New Oriental Group - one of the largest agents across China, holds an annual survey. Results show, for the first time, that the UK is now the 'most preferred' destination.

01:09:32 Miguel Antonio Lim: Unfortunately this report is not online (only in print)

01:10:48 Simon Marginson: Questions in this order - Ava Hardin, David Law, Zachery Spire

01:11:03 Sazana Jayadeva: @Miguel: thanks, that really so interesting!

01:11:43 Bowen Xu: Thanks for the great presentation. Given the emerging tension between the UK and China regarding the recent HK law legislation and Huawei Ban, will the new

geopolitics exacerbate HE crisis in UK and how will this further impact Chinese students' international mobility pattern?

01:11:49 stella si: top universities in UK do not pay commissions to agents.

01:12:24 Simon Marginson: questions in this order David Law, Zachery Spire, Jie Lu, Bowen Xu

01:12:45 Miguel Antonio Lim: 2020 New Oriental survey of Chinese students shows preferred country for study abroad (by percentage): UK: 42%, USA: 37%, Australia: 16%, Canada: 16%...etc

01:14:07 Zhuangzhuang Dai: That's very interesting data. Do you know the sample size of this survey @Miguel?

01:14:33 Sin Yee Koh: @Miguel, is the survey report available publicly?

01:16:04 Miguel Antonio Lim: @zhuangzhuang and @Sin Yee Koh - details in report available but only in print. Please email us later for details: ying.yang-3@manchester.ac.uk

01:16:50 Miguel Antonio Lim: \*details of New Oriental report

01:17:00 Sin Yee Koh: Thanks!

01:20:09 Simon Marginson: We have time for one or two more questions

01:20:41 CGHE Webinars: Hi all, just a quick note that to get the latest CGHE research and hear about our upcoming webinars, you can join our mailing list here:

<https://researchcghe.us12.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=16ff8239ab5aa3c8d4f636725&id=1cadde4c55>

01:21:17 CGHE Webinars: A recording of this webinar will be on the CGHE website tomorrow morning: <https://www.researchcghe.org/events/cghe-seminar/covid-and-the-recruitment-of-chinese-international-students-reflections-from-education-agents-in-china/>

01:21:23 Simon Marginson: Bowen Xu followed by Miguel Lim

01:21:45 Jie Ma: Hi very interesting research! I wonder would education agents suggest students to take a gap year if they have concerns over limited cultural experience to study in the UK in this coming fall, or would agents tend to encourage students to accept the online course in order to keep those applicants?

01:27:24 Zhuangzhuang Dai: Well said, Simon. Thank you very much to all speakers.

01:27:36 Paola Eiras: Thank you for great presentation!

01:27:41 Stephen Rayner: Thank you Ying, Jenna, Miguel, Simon

01:27:55 Ava Hardin: Thank you Ying and Jenna!

01:28:05 Jenna Mittelmeier: Thanks everyone for joining us!

01:28:14 Sazana Jayadeva: Really interesting research -- thanks so much!

01:28:37 Ying Yang: thank you very much for joining us !

01:28:42 Gagan Sahni: Thanks to all speakers.

01:30:21 Hatice Kilickaya: It was very great presentation, thanks to all!

01:30:25 Trif Victorița: Thank you!

01:30:51 Aleksandra Sakowska: Very rich discussion, thank you!

01:31:10 Miaolung Shih: Thank you!

01:31:15 Graeme Slater: Great presentation - Well done Ying, Jenna and Miguel!

01:31:17 Janine Melvin: thanks everyone - very interesting!

01:31:21 Yuting You: Thank you so much for your contribution. Interesting topic.

01:31:30 JIE LIU: Thanks and bye for now.