Outstanding Universities of the World

The best universities do more than just teach the leaders of tomorrow; they shape, inspire and equip students with key life skills like the drive and determination to overcome challenges and create a better, fairer society for future generations.
In a challenging and fast-paced world where knowledge and understanding provide competitive advantages, the best universities and higher education entities have adopted a portfolio of proactive and forward-thinking measures that embrace agility and innovation as they strive to prepare the dedicated students of today for the tough business arenas of tomorrow.

With many of the obstacles created by the pandemic already overcome thanks to a series of new learning practices, including online tuition and virtual lecture theaters, the sector’s successful transformation to this exciting new paradigm has generated a wealth of opening for remote working practices. At present, ESIC is the only university in Spain purely dedicated to digital economies and digital ecosystems, as part of a strategic international growth strategy. ESIC recently launched a new campus in Colombia to complement those in China and Brazil.

"A fine global standing not only opens many doors to our students, but also strongholds how we are perceived in the world, but strongholds our brand at home," explains Ramón Arilla Llorente, Rector of ESIC.

"ESIC has gone from a business school which focused on a few degrees for the local market, to a business school that has a brand at home," explains Ramón Arilla Llorente, Rector of ESIC. "We are building a three-dimensional university using two modules in parallel: the already developed and tested technologies are available for all students, and, at the same time, we are developing training/retraining courses. The comprehensive online education provided is a strong guarantee of the highest quality, professionalism and innovation."

Despite COVID-19 causing disruption, talented students can still select from a wide range of educational courses provided by innovative world-class universities.

**Outstanding Universities of the World**

**Uninettuno**

**Uninettuno reaches four corners of the world**

Established in 2005 on a quintet of core principles, the international Telematic University Uninettuno has forged a proud reputation for online learning from its base in Rome through a strong and distinctive identity based on the five key values of education, research and innovation, internationalization, inclusion and passion.

The diverse range of training paths offered by Rome-based Uninettuno include three-year and second-cycle degree courses, research doctorates, master’s degrees and high-level vocational training/retraining courses. The comprehensive online education provided is a strong guarantee of the highest quality, professionalism and innovation.

"We are building a three-dimensional university using two modules in parallel: the already developed and tested technologies are available for all students, and, at the same time, we are developing training/retraining courses. The comprehensive online education provided is a strong guarantee of the highest quality, professionalism and innovation."

According to the popular head of Uninettuno, by reflecting on the real capital of humans — knowledge — through technology and methodologies, knowledge and competences can be shared across the whole world, even in the poorest regions. This is the global wealth of the future, the development of a competence and knowledge democracy, she adds. "We must never forget the significance of Humankind if we want to change the world for the better."

**Saclay Polytech**

**Saclay Polytech mission**

"Saclay Polytech provides students with modern, flexible and professional training that equips them for the job market through the ‘SMART’ education initiative, one of the main projects carried out by the university. The SMART project trains students to work in a team, provides them with a general command of the languages of the world, and enables them to take advantage of the internationalization of the entrepreneurial sector."

"Saclay Polytech is committed to preparing students to face the challenges of the job market and to take part in international projects by providing them with skills that are in demand in the world of business and industry."

**Uninettuno**

**Uninettuno—Federico Cattaneo**

"Our alumni are not only highly competitive in terms of their skills, but also in terms of their values."

Ramón Arilla Llorente, Rector, ESIC

"We are building a three-dimensional university using two modules in parallel: the already developed and tested technologies are available for all students, and, at the same time, we are developing training/retraining courses. The comprehensive online education provided is a strong guarantee of the highest quality, professionalism and innovation.

"Of course, we keep the tuition fees low in order to have an impact in third world countries, as well. Providing knowledge and skills to all of humanity is a winning idea for building the future of a globalized and interconnected world."

"According to the popular head of Uninettuno, by reflecting on the real capital of humans — knowledge — through technology and methodologies, knowledge and competences can be shared across the whole world, even in the poorest regions. This is the global wealth of the future, the development of a competence and knowledge democracy, she adds. “We must never forget the significance of Humankind if we want to change the world for the better.”

**Prisma Reports**

**Coveted seats of learning create paths to top tables**

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SMU’s modern, eye-catching campus is an inspirational learning environment.

The modern university produces broad-based, creative and entrepreneurial leaders for the knowledge-based economy.

Premier university SMU blazes a Digital Transformation trail

SMU is driving solutions in managing climate change and sustainable city living, as well as enhancing quality of life.

SMU aims to become a thought leader and solution partner in the global society.

SMU’s students enjoy access to the latest digital learning tools and techniques.

SMU’s modern, eye-catching campus is an inspirational learning environment.

Spotlight on Sustainable Living protects the planet and boosts well-being

SMU is driving solutions in managing climate change and sustainable city living, as well as enhancing quality of life.

Premier university SMU blazes a Digital Transformation trail

SMU is driving solutions in managing climate change and sustainable city living, as well as enhancing quality of life.

Firsthand approach reaps rewards

ESIC’s Rector, Ramón Arilla Llorente, reveals what makes his educational institute really stand out from the crowd.

Educational excellence via real business experience

By utilizing the skills of current professionals, ESIC allows students to gain precious industry insight.

Educational excellence via real business experience

By utilizing the skills of current professionals, ESIC allows students to gain precious industry insight.

ESIC embraces sustainability and is determined to ensure its students can play their part in creating a better world. The business school’s strict code of ethics is focused on upholding behavior based on principles and values, where the idea of the present and future version of people are at the center.

For further information please visit www.prisma-reports.com
Businesses have important role in climate change fight

Extreme weather events have highlighted the importance of co-ordinated international action, if the battle against global warming is to be won, states a SMU expert.

From a series of deadly heatwaves and droughts that wrecked precious crops and lead to famine and social unrest, to widespread flooding and devastating tornadoes, recent extreme weather events mean success in the fight against climate change is critical for the future of humanity. World leaders made progress during the United Nations 26th Annual Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Scotland. The event wrapped up with the adoption of the Glasgow Climate Pact. Negotiated by more than 200 countries, the new pact aims to reduce global warming by reaffirming the Paris Agreement to keep temperature increases below 1.5 degrees Celsius.

The prospects for positioning Singapore as a major gateway for green finance are looking brighter.”

Dr Raj R Lall, Professorial Research Fellow, SMU

The third theme is the impact of ending deforestation on banks. Singapore has signed pacts that will have implications for businesses, including for banks’ financing activities in surrounding countries, notes Dr Lall.

The fourth COP26 takeaway is the new market for trading voluntary carbon credits. “Many of the key global financial institutions that have pledged their commitment to Net Zero have operations in Singapore so the prospects for positioning Singapore as a major gateway for green finance are looking brighter,” Dr Lall adds.

What lies beneath impact measurement in business

Accurate environmental, social and governance (ESG) impact measurements are crucial in the corporate world.

Buzzwords like “Green Economy” and “Green Finance” are embraced widely these days, but what exactly do they mean and how can companies in Singapore and elsewhere navigate the complex web of ESG impact measurement?

SMU’s Associate Professor of Finance, Han Lang, says that in a nutshell, ESG standards help guide trillions of dollars of investment worldwide and also help curb the greenwashing problem. SMU is eager to support organizations and policymakers to overcome hurdles to reliable and accurate measurements.

“In the pursuit of sustainable growth in the green economy, an effective and consistent quantitative system of measurement is critical for setting and meeting goals and keeping tabs on progress,” he says. “A more transparent and reliable ESG impact measurement standard that can be integrated with financial reporting practice is becoming an increasingly important issue for companies, investors and regulators around the world.

“There are many industry discussions and also many academic conferences on ESG, but they rarely intersect. This is what we are trying to do at the Singapore Green Finance Centre — to conduct more industry-relevant research, executive training programs and collaborations with industry partners. A sound investment strategy with both ESG and financial considerations will have implications for businesses, including for banks’ financing activities in surrounding countries, notes Dr Lall.

The Singapore Green Finance Centre is an initiative of SMU and Imperial College Business School that conducts multidisciplinary research and talent development opportunities in the area of sustainability, climate and green finance.

A key research focus is the development of an impact-weighted account framework that acts as open-source standard for measuring and valuing impact. Creating a new market for trading voluntary carbon credits means that while information and data transparency are often regarded as key challenges in ESG measurement, a more pressing concern lies in measurement methodology.

“Ultimately, impact measurement is conducted by organizations that hold the data themselves. They are typically the end-users of impact measurement so they decide how much data they want to disclose or use to measure their ESG impact.”

4 common ESG reporting problems

ESG measurements and standards help guide trillions of dollars in investment worldwide and curb the potential for greenwashing.

Uneven adoption

However, the way organizations adopt these frameworks and implement them into corporate reporting poses another significant challenge to their usage.

Low standardization

Many frameworks are being developed (e.g. Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), International Integrated Reporting Committee (IR), Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB), Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD), International Organization for Standardization 26000 (ISO-26000), etc.), but they lack standardization and comparability across these frameworks.

Lack of transparency

Many ESG ratings and metrics have been developed by third-party agencies but they often lack transparency and may not accurately reflect stakeholder welfare.

Unreliable methodology

Ultimately, impact measurement is conducted by reporting organizations, which can decide the extent to which they are comfortable with disclosing their proprietary data. Ratings are therefore subject to biases and inconsistencies.

Explore Now

IS GREEN FINANCING THE CATALYST TO A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE?

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Helping foreign firms to navigate regional hurdles on the path to success

SMU’s strategic focus on Asia’s economic, political and social issues benefits from real industry experience and the valuable knowledge of leading professors.

Perchthold’s book highlights that, when faced with a deluge of research intelligence during an assessment of a new market’s viability, firms may spend a considerable amount of unnecessary effort on areas that do not contribute greatly to decision making. It helps to develop a short-list for detailed assessment, create an issue tree — a diagram to break down a problem into smaller ones — and develop a Topology of Distance Framework, he says.

In the form of a mental map, this framework was designed by Perchthold for business leaders to compare differences in a consistent manner. “Case studies of foreign pores in the host country can then be created to assess strategies that worked or failed,” as well as redeploy reactions from local and foreign competitors when one’s firm enters the market. With these tools, firms can avoid analysis paralysis and focus on key areas that will yield results for overseas business development efforts, he explains.

“Internationalizing a business is not without its challenges. For instance, one of the primary purposes of the consortium was the creation of a distance-learning model in the context of the traditional universities, as well as those that are emerging. For this reason, the business analysis process in an international team, and avoid analysis paralysis when it comes to assessing the viability of a new market.”

In addition, rather than put off overseas business development based on generalized risks, it is more constructive to develop a game plan to mitigate them. “Visualization is the first step,” he notes. “We have a tendency to blame failures on ourselves while blaming successes on others.”

“Asia can be challenging for businesses from different Asian areas looking to expand their operations,” Perchthold says. “Understanding how dynamics vary among these nations will help businesses better navigate this diverse terrain.”

On the topic of international business risks, these are often perceived to be “insurmountable impediments to venture abroad,” he notes. “This is partially due to the generalization of risks relating to a fear of an unknown culture and market, and being an outsider in a foreign economy,” he continues.

“One set of common cognitive biases that can lead to irrational decision making. This mindset leads us to attribute successes exclusively to ourselves while blaming failures on factors outside of our control. While it might be easier to avoid biases in a one of the more common cognitive biases that can lead to irrational decision making. This mindset leads us to attribute successes exclusively to ourselves while blaming failures on factors outside of our control. While it might be easier to avoid biases in a one of the more common cognitive biases that can lead to irrational decision making. This mindset leads us to attribute successes exclusively to ourselves while blaming failures on factors outside of our control. While it might be easier to avoid biases in a one of the more common cognitive biases that can lead to irrational decision making. This mindset leads us to attribute successes exclusively to ourselves while blaming failures on factors outside of our control. 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