

CAMPUS REPORT

IASAS-NASPA: 4th Global Summit on Student Affairs and Services

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The International Association of Student Affairs and Services (IASAS) and NASPA Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education have collaborated over the past decade on a biennial basis, sponsoring the Global Summit on Student Affairs and Services. In the past, the Summit has taken place in Washington, D.C.; Rome, Italy; and Cape Town, South Africa.

This year, the Summit took place in Santiago, Chile, on 24–26 October 2018. La Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (UC) and sister institution DUOC served as hosts. Specially selected representatives from countries from across the globe were invited to take part in discussions regarding delivering on and implementing the United Nations Development Programme Sustainable Development Goals within the local and regional higher education sectors from which the representatives came.

Below are outcomes from this global gathering of student affairs and services leaders from higher and tertiary education sectors around the world.

The planning committee used the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a guide and framework for the Summit. Participants were sent a survey prior to the programme asking which of the 17 SDGs were most relevant to them and their work in their home countries. The following six SDGs were those that had 52% consensus or more from Summit participants:

- Good Health and Well-being
- Quality Education
- Gender Equity
- Decent Work and Economic Growth
- Reduced Inequalities
- Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

During the Global Summit, participants discussed each of the top six SDGs in small groups. Many also provided short presentations on current examples of how participants have an impact on specific SDGs within their regions. These updates and small group activities provided rich opportunities to understand commonalities in their work in the region and around the world, holding true to the outcomes of past Global Summits. At the end of

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two days of intellectual dialogue, several SDGs arose as most central to the work of student affairs and services leaders and practitioners in higher education.

The same two SDGs emerged as the top two most important SDGs from three separate groups working independently. The third SDG selected by each group was three different SDGs from each group. The salience of the top two was extraordinary:

- Quality Education
- Reduced Inequalities

The three others that emerged with slightly less salience were:

- Decent Work and Economic Growth
- Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- Good Health and Well-being

Participants left the Global Summit with a deeper understanding of the SDGs and plans for spreading and implementing these ideas. Leaders shared examples of how they would accomplish this task and how they can use the SDGs as a framework for educating college students on global citizenship. Participants left with a clear understanding of their responsibility to make an impact on world problems and the importance of supporting the United Nations Development Programme in goal attainment. Participants discussed partnerships and collaborations across regions in order to promote the delivery on SDGs.

The Global Summit is not only an event where the leaders in higher education student affairs and services join to deepen their understanding and enhance their impact, but it is also a coming together of like-minded people from far-flung corners of the world. Together we realise our shared humanity that motivates us to use higher education in more effective ways to impact the world in sustainable ways to make it a better place for everyone.

For more information, see: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1A-vuzLj86TUP_RJPhqGaJsdTiZWzu_eO/view

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