“Brexit” and the Future of UK University Cooperation with Europe

Dr Trevor McCrisken
Department of Politics and International Studies (PAIS)
PAIS Director of External Affairs
The extent of anti-Brexit bias at some of Britain’s best-known universities was laid bare last night amid a furious row.

A Tory MP was castigated this week and accused of ‘McCarthyism’ for asking universities what they were teaching about the UK’s departure from the EU.

But yesterday the Daily Mail uncovered a string of examples of senior figures at universities explicitly speaking out in favour of Remain.

Before the vote, a raft of senior academics spoke publicly to urge their students to back the UK in the EU.

Last night, one student campaigner revealed a professor had stormed up to him at a Vote Leave stall in Durham – and compared Brexit supporters to the Nazis.

Since last year’s referendum, lectures have been pulled out of pre-EU pamphlets and inviting students to meetings held by the pro-single market group Open Britain.

The Mail also found the master of Cambridge college used a graduation event this year to rail against Brexit.

One pro-Leave student yesterday said the extent of the bias had left him feeling ‘intimidated’ and afraid to speak his mind. In other developments last night:

A second Tory MP went public on the issue.
Have you – or do you know anyone who has experienced anti-Brexit bias at university?

Email university@dailymail.co.uk
BREXIT IS SHIT
We are committed at Warwick to our global community. Staff and students from the EU and countries beyond are welcomed as an integral part of our community, and we will engage fully with our partners in European research and mobility programmes. I can assure the Warwick community that we will continue to emphasise how the culture, knowledge and skills, quality research, creativity, innovativeness and civic-mindedness of all of our community greatly enriches the region and the country.

**Stuart Croft, Vice-Chancellor**

29 March 2017
Universities UK - Brexit FAQ’s

- Will EU/EEA students still be able to study at UK universities?
- The UK is not expected to withdraw from the EU until 2019, after which the immigration rules affecting EU/EEA nationals coming to the UK could potentially change.
- The longer-term implications for EU/EEA students who want to apply to study in the UK after the UK has left the EU will depend on the kind of future relationship that is agreed and the immigration system that the UK puts in place for EU/EEA nationals thereafter.
- Translation?

WE JUST DON’T KNOW
Universities UK - Brexit FAQ’s

• Will tuition fees for EU/EEA students studying at UK universities change as a result of Brexit?
  • There will be no change to the tuition fee status of current EU/EEA students attending UK universities or those applying for courses starting in 2018–19.
  • This means that EU/EEA students studying at UK universities will pay the same fees as 'home' students for the full duration of their course, even if the course finishes after the UK has left the EU.
  • The fees that EU/EEA students starting courses at UK universities after the UK has formally left the EU (i.e. from 2019–20 academic year onwards) are required to pay will depend on what is agreed as part of the UK's exit negotiations.
  • Translation?

WE JUST DON’T KNOW
Universities UK - Brexit FAQ’s

• Will UK universities continue to participate in the Erasmus+ exchange programme after Brexit?
  
• Students from UK universities currently participating in Erasmus+ have not been affected by the EU Referendum result or the triggering of Article 50.

• Following the UK-EU “phase one” agreement in December 2017, the UK will be able to participate in Erasmus+ until the end of the programme in 2020. This should allow staff and students to complete mobility periods, and receive funding, through the Erasmus+ programme until the end of the academic year 2020/21.

• UUK continues to highlight the benefits of the programme and will be urging the UK government to push for access onto the Erasmus+ successor programme, which will commence in 2021.

• Translation?

WE JUST DON’T KNOW
Will the UK continue to have access to EU funding for research and innovation?

The UK will remain in the Horizon 2020 research programme and other EU funding programmes that are part of the multiannual financial framework (MFF) until the end of 2020, as confirmed by the UK-EU phase one agreement.

This will allow for UK participants to continue to apply and use EU programmes until the end of its current inception. This includes long-term projects that are to continue after Horizon 2020 has finished, with funding for UK participants and projects unaffected “for the entire lifetime of such projects”

UUK working to secure future association onto the successor programme, Framework 9 and is contributing actively to its design.

Translation?

WE JUST DON’T KNOW
What do we hope for?

• Political change – Brexit dies – we all carry on as normal – wishful thinking?

• “Soft” Brexit for UK universities?:
  – Home fees retained for EU students – UG, MA, PhD
  – Right to remain for EU faculty and ease of hiring
  – UK universities allowed to remain in Erasmus+ successor
  – UK universities retain access to research funding

• “Hard” Brexit for UK universities?:
  – UK universities renew bilateral agreements with fees neutral exchanges
  – What happens to Double Degree fees??
WE STILL LOVE EU

#NotInMyName
#StopBrexit

#Remain
#WeLoveEU