



# Going Global 2017

The conference for leaders  
of international education



## Going Global 2017 Themes: Global cities: connecting talent, driving change

We live in an era characterized by both globalisation and urbanisation with more than half of the world's people living in cities and towns. Universities and colleges are the global connectors among the world's fast-evolving knowledge economies and cities are the beating hearts of innovation. This urban-global age provides tertiary education institutions with unprecedented opportunities to mobilise their expertise, prepare young people for the future and drive forward research and policy agendas at the city, national and global levels. Yet the urban-global age also poses challenges for universities and colleges and the cities and towns of which they are a part, not least because of the changing nature and locations of tertiary education delivery.

**Going Global 2017 explores how universities and colleges support city-regional economies and social and civic engagement, connecting the world's cities to global knowledge and talent and addressing global challenges.**

We examine this through four lenses:

- **Research and innovation:** a focus on how international collaborations provide cities with access to the world class knowledge and connections needed to grow and sustain their innovation and creativity; how, from urban anchors, institutions are developing as dynamic global 'multipliers' connecting cities, businesses and communities globally
- **Talent development and flows:** how institutions' role in producing highly skilled local, national and international talent facilitates the global flow and maintenance of international networks of influential alumni fostering the success of cities; how the life of students in multinational cities impacts their personal career journeys, contributing to the diverse communities they join
- **Societies and communities:** how institutions' understanding of social challenges and social change across the world contributes to international debates around the winners and losers inherent in the growth of cities; how, as global connectors, they can engage local students, citizens and communities in building a connected global civic society able to deliver wider equity and prosperity
- **Leadership:** how, as part of the leadership of cities, tertiary institutions contribute to the global positioning and influence of cities, to their diversity; how their leadership connects international with national and local policy initiatives

For more information, please visit Going Global website:

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/going-global/themes>

