Does international student mobility have an impact on labour market entry?

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1. Introduction

- Context of globalization and programs to promote Transnational Educational Mobility (TEM). Ex: ERASMUS

Could TEM facilitate transition between graduation and labor market?

2. Literature review

- On the Labor Market, several variables can have an impact on employability: social network, home university’s ranking, personal characteristics such as grade obtained, non-cognitive skills, education level and having parents in the company.

Could student international mobility also have a positive impact on labor market entrance?

- In many researches, international experience is used as an explanatory variable that can influence for several aspects on the labor markets:

   - Elements on which international experience can have an impact
     - Transnational human capital = “Stocks of knowledge and personal skills that enable a person to operate in different fields beyond the individual nation-state”
     - Cultural intelligence = capacity to function effectively in a multicultural environment
     - Cultural sensitivity
     - Career plan & Labor migration
     - Wage
     - Employability

Hypothesis: students who studied abroad experienced a faster school to work transitions

3. Data & Methods

- Sample: 280 graduated students from The Warocqué School of Business and Economics/University of Mons – Belgium.
- Among them 76 experienced a mobility during their study (accredited semesters).

- Cross-sectional multivariate linear regression model of the number of months required to get a job (mo2job) as a function of independent explanatory variables where:

  \[ mo2job_i = \alpha + x_i\beta + z_i\gamma + e_i\delta + u_i \]

4. Results

Model 1: OLS estimates of a basic model of the empirical relationship between intstudy and intintern with mo2job, without any student or cohort controls
- 3.2 months for students who participated in international study exchange programs.
- 75% reduction of the average time required to find a job after graduation

Models 2 & 3: OLS we include subsequently the yearly cohort effects in Model 2 and the information about a graduate’s grades, resit exams, stateschol and gender in Model 3
- 2.10 months (statistically significant at the 5% level).
- decrease of nearly 50% of the average number of months to get a job after graduation

Model 4: Tobit
- participation in an international study exchange program is associated with a 57% reduction in the average number of months before a graduate gets a job.

References