

ABSTRACT

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Key Words: STUDENT RETENTION, INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS,
LEADERSHIP STRATEGY

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Dissertation Title: A STUDENT RETENTION STRATEGY FOR EDUCATIONAL
LEADERS IN INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS AT THAI PRIVATE
UNIVERSITIES

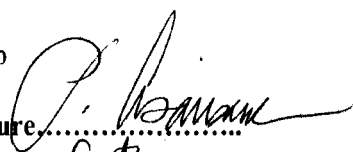
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Factors affecting student retention were examined in the context of international programs at Thai private higher education institutions (TPHEI's) for the development of a leadership strategy to affect retention. A mixed-methods study involving both quantitative and qualitative aspects was employed to determine factors affecting student retention and current practices utilized. Students, faculty and administrators of international programs were surveyed and interviewed to obtain data for the study. Results indicated that retention of students in international programs at TPHEI's was influenced by academic, social, advising, and financial issues as well as levels of degree commitment, scholastic conscientiousness and academic efficacy. Current practices utilized included academic remediation, tutoring, advising, and student monitoring systems. These findings suggest that implementation of practical interventions supported by retention research and leadership commitment to increasing academic improvement will benefit students and have an impact on student retention.

Field of Study: Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership

Graduate School of Education

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Advisor's signature.....