

Universities in the Knowledge Economy

Concepts and Theories: Governance and Ranking

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Change forces and challenges for Higher Education Institutions (HEIs):

- Globalisation
- Knowledge Society/Economy
- Massification
- New forms of funding
- Increased competition
- Accountability





Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) Responses:

- Partnership (diffused by international organisations like the World Bank and OECD)
 - Internationalization
 - Inter- Regionalization
- Governance
 - New Public Management/Network Governance/Neo-Weberian
- Evaluation
 - Quality Assurance
 - Ranking and Benchmarking
 - Risk Managament/Reputational-risk Management







Dilemma between the Traditional Role and Change Forces:

- The change forces affect not all parts of universities to the same extent
- New hyprid models of traditional and modern elements have evolved
- Effects are visible in for example:
 - Quality of education compromised
 - Academic values
 - Features of the academic profession
 - Organisational structure (loose coupling tradition affected)
 - Policies
 - Education models
 - Curriculum





Questions for Discussion

- In relative terms, the top ranking universites are the conservative research universites of the US and UK:
 - What is the implication of this in terms of governance, 'Harvard Here' modeling and considering a single university "best" in the realm of universality of the university?
- Are universities still able to fulfill their obligation towards the benefit of the whole society? What are the long- and short-term effects on classical academic values like 'university autonomy' and 'academic freedom?





Questions for Discussion

How can public governance maintain its influence in those institutions that could potentially escape local, national and supranational governance, such as off-shore branch campuses? How does the international/national policies arrive on the local agenda as a result of negotiation between various levels of agents?





Questions for Discussion

- How do new modes of governance affect the emergence of education models and what are the consequences?
- How do new modes of governance change the nation state's role and affect policy making processes?
- What policy networks and policy regimes produce HE policies across national territorial boundaries, regionally, trans-regionally?





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