

Why are US universities so good?

2 March 2021



00:28:24 Mutia Alnimrat: hi to everyone

00:42:50 Simon Marginson: It's time now to consider your questions for Dr Shailendra Mehta. Should universities throughout the world be alumni controlled? Would this improve the functioning of institutions and their contributions to society?

00:43:55 Simon Marginson: Questions, questions, questions - don't be shy

00:46:51 Hongwei Gu: Aside from the fact that US universities are very good, how are US institutions plan to address the challenge of declining enrolment of international students?

00:47:42 Tung Tung Chan: Can the success of alumni governance be explained via mimetic isomorphism? If all universities would follow this model, wouldn't this reproduce and reinforce social inequality and social mobility?

00:48:38 Mohamad Moghadam: Thanks a lot for your presentation. You put the emphasis on alumni engagement in the governance of the university. But it seems that the ecosystem which makes it possible to have participatory governance in HE has more important effect to be on the top list of world prestigious universities.

00:49:06 Lee Rensimer: Fascinating - thank you, Shailendra. I have a question about defining public and private institutions, which in the US context is not always clear cut. Some of those on the public university list are half public appropriations, half privately funded. And this proportion has impact on board appointments. How do you work through these issues in your study?

00:50:53 Fiona Ross: I recognise the power of investing personal emotions in governance, but how do you mitigate against the dangers of reinforcing privilege inherent in the model?.

00:51:18 Simon Marginson: Hongwei Gu, Lee Rensimer, Mohamad Moghadam, Tung Tung Chan, Fiona Ross

00:51:24 Hongwei Gu: thank you Shailendra for your interesting talk.

00:51:27 Mutia Alnimrat: WHAT ABOUT THE ACREDITATION FOR THE UNIVERSITIES THAT HAVE LOW RANK?

00:53:27 Mutia Alnimrat: Dr.MUTIA Alnimrat.Jordan

00:58:38 Simon Marginson: more questions please

01:01:59 Rosemary Deem: How would this approach work in less elite universities in the world, where alumni are not rich, don't have much spare time and don't necessarily have a great affection for the institution where they acquired a degree?

01:03:51 Zachery Sprie: Is it possible, the influence of alumni on quality of university is more opaque than these direct lines between prospective-present and future alumni students? The halo effect I can accept, however, the direct impact seems unstable to me. Are we not simply holding our elite HEIs on a pedestal largely for the same reasons we hold other socially created and maintained institutions of authority in human social activity and social life a lot of social capital (ala Bourdieu).

01:05:20 David Law: In 'average' institutions, outside the elite, how would alumni governance overcome orthodoxy? Rising stars need to break the mould!

01:07:39 Cristina Carvalho: I was wondering about the huge importance of sports to financing in the US universities. Is this importance for all, public, private, non-profit and for-profit institutions? What are the implications of decrease of big sport competitions for US universities during the Pandemic crisis?

01:08:16 CGHE Webinars: Thank you for joining us today. A recording of this webinar will be on the CGHE site tomorrow morning: <https://www.researchcghe.org/events/cghe-seminar/why-are-us-universities-so-good/>

01:09:49 CGHE Webinars: Our next webinar will be on Thursday, 'For-profit higher education in Brazil: Strategies, movements and consequences'. You can register here: <https://www.researchcghe.org/events/cghe-seminar/for-profit-higher-education-in-brazil-strategies-movements-and-consequences/>

01:12:17 Attracta Halpin: In Ireland, legislation is proposed to reform governing authorities of universities by appointing all members on the basis of competency - in matters connected to the functions of the university. With alumni governance, what mechanisms are in place to ensure that governing authorities have the competence to govern?

01:19:54 Lee Rensimer: These are particular hub and spoke models of multi-campus universities with a single board

01:20:51 David Law: Nottingham has done very well! (England, China, Malaysia)

01:21:47 Fiona Ross: Thank you for an interesting talk and discussion.

01:22:00 Zachery Sprie: What about UCLA & Stanford, sports and elite institutions (Public & Private) would be contrasting experiences to this.

01:23:44 Victorița Trif: Thank you!

01:24:49 David Law: Excellent session. Thank you.

01:25:03 Zachery Sprie: Thanks colleagues. As ever, great discussion.