# No two universities can ever be the same – the infinite variety of the student experience, 22 October 2020

00:38:43 Andrea Detmer: I wonder how this argument of universities' and experiences' uniqueness fits with the largely standardised evaluation systems (of both, students' learning and HEIs)? I.e., are evaluation practices appropriate to recognise and honour this diversity?

00:51:51 Simon Marginson: Time now to write down your questions. Is Richard getting it right? How diverse and how homogenous are the university systems you know? What are the most powerful, pungent aspects of the student experience? Does physical environment matter to you? Questions please!

00:54:21 Jelena Brankovic: Thank you, Richard, this is fascinating. I found your notion of the invisible boundaries and bridges across the divides very interesting and I was wondering, how perceptive or reflexive were students of these? Was there any awareness of divisions to be an issue, maybe as something to be overcome, or was it more something that was tacit and a non-issue in and of itself?

01:02:01 Eliel Cohen: Without quite getting as far as a full-on 'framework', Burton R Clark is great in how he 'frames' and writes about the multiple purposes of universities, including the fact that students all have different trajectories and reasons for being there. He is very unapologetic about the sector having different kinds of institutions to cater to different kinds and needs of student. (He could be a bit naïve about issues of inequality though).

01:02:01 Kyungmee Lee: What will be the core implications of your study findings for universities (and academics)? What shall we do differently to help students and support their experiences? How can we move from the heterogeneity of students' experiences to a shared aim/purpose of university education? (if time allows, can you ask this one on my behalf, Simon?)

01:06:59 Lisa Lucas: I find the focus on the space dimension and architecture really interesting. Will send a link to an article researching HE in Macau using a 'critical spatial perspective' based on Foucault. But as well as theoretical the methodological challenge is also interesting. What could be used beyond interviews and focus groups?

01:09:53 Zachery Spire: This point on co-location not catalysing intra-inter group engagement I find super interesting. I wonder if we are better positioned to note this, rather than assume this is something to 'overcome'. And perhaps what tensions/questions does it inspire in your work at the physical-social-personal space?

01:10:38 Doria Abdullah: i'm just thinking about my students (1st years) who should have been in campus, but couldn't be here due to the lockdown. if we were to repeat this experiment 4 years from now, the narrative might be extensively different for this COVID-19 cohort. how should I, as an academic, help my students to feel the higher education "space" beyond their rooms and LMS? (Pls help to ask on my behalf, Prof Simon)

01:12:52 Claire Callender: The student canteens and who students sit with - is a visibly indicative of these divisions between students

01:16:30 Kyungmee Lee: thanks! Richard :)

01:19:48 Linh Nguyen: Thank you Richard for presenting very comprehensive and compelling findings. I am an international PhD student in Australia and I can identify myself with a lot of attributes in your findings. I have no specific question, just would like to say that your theoretical framework and methods remind me of Les Back's "The Academic Diary", which tells the institutional as well as individual narratives. The book touches upon the diversity of international students of course, and also the life of Goldsmith University campus, its architecture and its people. If you haven't, I strongly recommend you give that book a read. Thanks a lot for your fantastic and much-needed research.

01:21:05 Claire Callender: The original design and architecture of York University aimed to promote diverse flows of students and staff. It might be interesting looking at the research on this

01:21:57 Zachery Spire: To echo Professor Callender's point, Stefan Muthesius has an amazing text on this point. Dr William Whyte at Oxford too.

01:21:58 Eliel Cohen: Thumbs up from me regarding Walking Interviews with students around campus. I have done a few and the data collected was a lot richer for it!

01:23:21 CGHE Webinars: Our next webinar will be on Tuesday from Simon himself on 'Knowledge network or hegemonic hierarchy? Dynamism and power in global science'. Register: https://www.researchcghe.org/events/cghe-seminar/knowledge-network-or-hegemonic-hierarchy-dynamism-and-power-in-global-science/

01:23:58 CGHE Webinars: A recording of this webinar will be on the CGHE site tomorrow morning: https://www.researchcghe.org/events/cghe-seminar/no-two-universities-can-ever-be-the-same-the-infinite-variety-of-the-student-experience/

01:24:02 Doria Abdullah: thanks Richard and Simon! it's an open question (am still figuring this out too)

01:26:36 Vesna Holubek: Thanks, great research!

01:26:43 Bernard Lee: Thank you Richard and Simon! Inspiring!

01:26:47 Linh Nguyen: Thanks again Richard and Simon and every one for this great webinar.

01:26:55 Trif Victorita: Thank you!

01:27:03 Cristina Carvalho: Thank you Richard and Simon! great webinar