

# Geography is our friend: Space and scale in higher education

10 November 2022



00:18:34 James Robson: Welcome everyone, please type your questions here and I'll call on you as appropriate once we move into the Q&A

00:41:44 Susan Robertson: Harvey's 'Space a Keyword' is a very useful piece of writing as he also links Lefebvre's body and the psychic (as a scale) effects to the material and imagined. This helps us think about the internalisation of discourses - eg. Competition/competitive individualism

00:42:47 Susan Robertson: I've written recently on global rankings and scale and linked it to an invitation to see 'vertically/hierarchically' - as in vertical vision

00:43:02 Ronald Barnett: 'Discipline' has appeared within the 'local' sphere in the 'multiple scales' diagram - but does it not spread across the other circles BUT with different force across the disciplines?

00:44:59 Nitya Timsina: The global rankings of HEIs is a Western and biased understanding. Where is the place for our oldest Sanskrit education?

00:45:04 Susan Robertson: Collinge writes about nodal scales, however; a scale acts as a platform from which to project a claim to dominance

00:48:38 James Robson: Do keep adding questions and reflections here.

00:49:37 Gabriella Hizume: Soderbaum & Hettne

00:49:51 Pete Leihy: pan-national region is a bit of a misnomer... should be pan-regional space, or multinational region

00:50:13 Ronald Barnett: There are multiple rules of space and place!

00:52:05 Victorița Trif: Congratulations! The reflections are very inspired.

00:57:17 Miguel Perez-Milans: Thanks for your comment, Susan Robertson, I fully agree with your point, and indeed it allows us to trace interdisciplinary links (i.e. Foucault's work on governmentality of the self) while also opening epistemological avenues to the study of lived experiences and practices

00:58:04 Linh Nguyen: Thank you so much Simon for the hopeful conclusion. Your thought-provoking arguments remind me of Michel de Certeau's writing on the map and the tour knowledge. From my understanding, students and non-academic audience may be lured by the power of ranking tables and other marketized discourses, as such, they may be

limited by the "tour knowledge". How can help them, and ourselves as practitioners in the field of higher education, to have a more precise insights into the map knowledge of the global scales that you have discussed today? Thanks so much. :)

01:06:00 Linh Nguyen: sure

01:06:06 Linh Nguyen: thank you

01:06:30 Susan Robertson: Rescaling and scale jumping are very important political moves - a point that Susan Sell makes regarding trade agreements

01:06:51 Susan Robertson: Which of course involve education as a services sector

01:07:31 James Robson: Any final questions for Simon?

01:08:14 Nidhi Sabharwal: Thank you very much for this learning opportunity. Your views on the following: Social structures influence creation of academic and social spaces in HEIs' classrooms & campuses in turn influencing daily practices & student agency (freedom)

01:09:17 CGHE Webinars: Thank you for joining us today. A recording of this session will be posted on the CGHE site: <https://www.researchcghe.org/events/cghe-seminar/geography-is-our-friend-space-and-scale-in-higher-education/>

01:09:44 CGHE Webinars: Our next webinar, 'Setting off the Dominoes: A Theory of Change for Scaled Interdisciplinarity at a Liberal Arts and Science University in China', will take place on Tuesday from 2pm (UK). You can register here: [https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0uf-uopjgvG9e3UKdx8tFQzI\\_0ZqlheUxk](https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0uf-uopjgvG9e3UKdx8tFQzI_0ZqlheUxk)

01:11:13 Linh Nguyen: So true Simon, and can we be cartographers ourselves? :)

01:12:31 Victorița Trif: Thank you!

01:12:40 Pete Leihy: great set of presentations, this

01:12:52 Gabriella Hizume: Thank you very much

01:13:10 Mahruf Shohel: Great presentation and discussion. Thanks everyone!

01:13:44 Susan Robertson: We could rank universities on another set of ideas fuelled by social justice (redistribution, recognition etc).

01:14:02 Gabriella Hizume: 🙄

01:14:03 Ana Angelita Rocha: Thank you very much.

01:14:31 Mariya Ivancheva: Wondering if we're not thinking of university space a bit in the abstract - how about the actual buildings, privatization and financialization of services etc. that are going on - otherwise we shift from the level of state/capital to body with nothing inbetween. but universities are big employers and participants in cities/urban space through all sorts of interventions

01:14:38 Linh Nguyen: Thank you Simon and James and everyone for the great seminar and discussion, I really appreciate it and have lots of take-home messages. Looking forward to reading and learning more about the questions discussed today.

01:16:01 Susan Robertson: Agree with you Mariya - universities are important institutions in places with spatial horizons...

01:16:15 Nitya Timsina: Simon's so much faith in agency and structure theory needs to be challenged

01:17:05 Pete Leihy: QS has just released its first ever sustainability rankings – but how can you track your university's environmental, social and governance (ESG) impact?

01:17:13 Pete Leihy: Just arrived in my inbox!

01:18:07 Alexey Zheleznov (EUSP): 🙌 thank you very much!