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Editorial: Complicating the First Year for Higher Education Governance and Policy

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Editorial:**Completing the First Year for Higher Education Governance and Policy**

Exchange of information between among scholars, policy makers and practitioners of higher education in different country contexts contribute to the reinforcement of higher education systems of individual countries. One of the aims of Higher Education Governance and Policy (HEGP) is to facilitate such a scholarly dialogue among higher education researchers, policy makers and administrators around the world. In the second issue of the first volume HEGP introduces five articles which address different issues surrounding higher education systems.

The first article of the second issue entitled as “Engineering graduates in India: determinants of their employment and earnings” by Tilak examined the determinants of employment probabilities of engineering graduates and determinants of their earnings in India. The results of the analysis indicate that education and related factors are the main predictors of employment of engineering graduates. However, education related factors, job related factors and gender determine the earnings of the engineering graduates. The results of the study provide important insights for employment and earnings of engineering graduates.

The second article of the issue entitled as “South Africa as a geopolitical hub for migration and international student mobility” by Schoole and Lee discusses the phenomenon of regional hub and the underlying causes of regional hub position of South Africa for student mobility in the Sub-Saharan region. The article shows that there is a convergence between the cases of South-Africa and other regional hubs of international student mobility. However, the article documents some divergent reasons in regional hub position of South-Africa compared to other regional hubs in other continents.

The third article entitled as “Trends in governance and management of the Malaysian academic profession (2007-2013): evolution or devolution?” by Azman analyses the academics’ role in the governance of the Malaysian higher education system over a period of five years with the aim of providing a perspective of how Malaysian academics perceive the governance and management practices in their institutions. Based on the data collected within the framework of Changing Academic Profession (CAP) in 2007 and 2013, the study documented that academics exercise different patterns of shared governance on different issues (e.g., personnel, regulation of academic work, institutional policies) at different levels. The academics find themselves uninfluential in determining institutional policies at the school/faculty and institutional levels. As in the case of many other countries, the authority to determine institutional policies, appointment of top management and formation to upper bodies is cumulated in the hands of top management in the Malaysian higher education system.

The fourth article entitled as “Quality of work life, work life balance and career satisfaction: faculty perceptions” by Arif and Iqbal examined the quality of work life (QWL) in higher education in Pakistan. The study investigated the relationship between QWL attributes, work-life balance (WLB), and career satisfaction (CS). The results depicted that WLB strongly predicts career satisfaction. However, perceptions of inequality regarding faculty promotions, workload distribution, and allocated work hours affected QWL negatively. The results are instrumental for academic leadership in assisting their academics for ensuring quality work-life accomplish satisfaction and commitment of their academic staff members.

The final article of this issue entitled as “The emergence of the new Mexican academic meritocracy” by Galaz Fontes discusses the role of National Researchers System (SNI) in Mexico in structuring the

academic profession in the country and the emergence of academic meritocracy in the country. Fontes argued that academic meritocracy should be built not only on SNI but on the diversity which characterizes the Mexican academic profession.

Hopefully the articles of this issue will facilitate exchange of ideas and practices among higher education scholars and policy makers around the world.

Yasar Kondakci
Editor