News of the Center

The Center’s highly productive research collaboration with the National Research University-Higher School of Economics in Moscow continues to produce exciting projects. The newest project relates to case studies of the impact of rankings on universities in 10 selected countries. Researchers will examine how policies relating to rankings and the general “rankings mania” impact institutions “on the ground.” The result of our recent collaboration, relating to the phenomenon of faculty inbreeding in 8 different countries, will be published in the coming months as a book by Palgrave-Macmillan. Finally, a separate volume focused on the experiences of young faculty in 10 different countries—coedited by Masha Yudkevich, Philip G. Altbach, and Laura E. Rumbley—should be published later this year by the State University of New York Press. This is yet another result of our joint research activities with the Higher School of Economics in Moscow.

Philip G. Altbach continues his work on the 5-100 Committee on Higher Education Competitiveness of the Russian Government. This program recently awarded more than US$300 million to a select group of Russian universities to reform with the aim of internationalizing, improving governance, and achieving more competitiveness on the world stage.

The Center has recently completed the fourth installment in its ongoing series with the American Council on Education, “International Briefs for Higher Education Leaders.” The most recent number was focused on “Argentina, Brazil and Chile: Engaging the ‘Southern Cone.’” The full set of existing Briefs will be published in book form later in 2014. Additional Briefs will be forthcoming in this series.

Philip G. Altbach represented the Center at the British Council’s “Going Global” conference in Miami, Florida. Among other activities, he presented the findings of a study cocommissioned by the British Council and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), and conducted by the Center and Global Opportunities Group, headed by David Engberg, on the rationales and outcomes of 11 national scholarship programs for overseas study. He will participate in the Higher School of Economics International Advisory Council meeting in St. Petersburg, Russia, in late May, and will be speaking at the European Association for International Education’s conference in Prague.

Improvements for International Higher Education

This issue of International Higher Education marks a significant change in our publication arrangements. We have joined the “Open Journal System,” a publication network of the Boston College library. This new arrangement provides easier access to, and searchability of, IHE and more effective archiving of our issues. It also provides significantly improved visibility on Internet-search engines. While there may be an adjustment period for some of our readers, this new system greatly improves our reach.

We invite you to explore our new IHE homepage (http://ejournals.bc.edu/ojs/index.php/ihe), which currently features this issue of IHE, as well as the previous two issues. All back issues of IHE will eventually migrate to the new site, and we will inform subscribers of this development at the appropriate time. For now, all back issues of IHE can be found in their more familiar location on the CIHE Web site: http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/research/cihe/ihe/issues.html.

A New Initiative: Higher Education Internationalization Theme Issue

Beginning at the end of 2014, IHE will add a fifth issue each year, specifically focusing on internationalization issues. This issue will be edited by Hans de Wit, director of the Center for Higher Education Internationalization at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in Milan, Italy. This issue will bring IHE’s analytic perspective to the broad issues of internationalization. For further information, please contact Hans de Wit. His e-mail address is: j.w.m.de.wit@hva.nl.