
THE CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION WELCOMES A NEW DIRECTOR

LAURA E. RUMBLEY

Laura E. Rumbley is associate director of the Center for International Higher Education at Boston College. E-mail: rumbley@bc.edu.

As of September 1, 2015, the Boston College Center for International Higher Education will be under the leadership of Professor Hans de Wit. A Dutch national, de Wit currently serves as Professor of Internationalization of Higher Education at the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences and Director of the Centre for Higher Education Internationalisation (CHEI) at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in Milan, Italy. He is also affiliated in a research capacity with Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

As his professional titles imply, Hans de Wit's academic work has centered heavily on examining the phenomenon of internationalization in higher education—including its historical manifestations and rationale, its conceptual and practical dimensions, its contemporary complexities and contradictions. De Wit has published widely on this subject, and is responsible for establishing the premier scholarly publication focused on this field, the *Journal of Studies in International Education*.

Hans de Wit has been a leader in the professional arena, as well. He was a founding member of the European Association for International Education (EAIE) and is a past president of that organization. He has received awards for his contributions to the field from a wide range of practitioner organizations around the world, and was selected as a Fulbright New Century Scholar in 2005–2006.

De Wit replaces founding director Professor Philip G. Altbach, who established the Center in 1995 and guided its development over two decades into a globally recognized re-

source for information and analysis on trends and developments in higher education worldwide. Altbach will remain actively involved in CIHE activities as a research professor at Boston College's Lynch School of Education, and as editor of *International Higher Education*, CIHE's widely circulated quarterly newsletter.

Altbach has described Hans de Wit as "Mr. Internationalization" in the world of higher education," and both the CIHE team and the Boston College community at-large are delighted to welcome him. Indeed, Maureen Kenny, dean of the Lynch School of Education where the Center is housed, has said of de Wit that—in addition to his status as a globally recognized scholar in the internationalization of higher education—he "brings extensive experience in program development and administration that will facilitate our reach across our campus, the nation, and to universities worldwide, including the wide network of Jesuit and Catholic institutions."

The enthusiasm around the appointment seems mutual. Hans de Wit has expressed a special affinity for Boston College, where he spent a year as a visiting scholar in 1995. He notes, "I am excited about this new challenge, as it brings together all I have done over the years as a scholar and practitioner, allows me to walk in the footsteps of a great scholar and dear friend, and work with a qualified and enthusiastic team of scholars and doctoral students at CIHE and in the Lynch School of Education."

CIHE now moves into its third decade of existence under the new leadership of Hans de Wit, with energy and excitement for possible new directions and initiatives, rooted in a shared appreciation for the Center's distinguished past.

NEW CIHE-RELATED BOOKS

We are pleased to note that several books have recently been published that reflects research conducted by the Center for International Higher Education and our research partners. These three books speak to our longstanding interest in the academic profession and our conviction that academics are at the heart of any successful university. The research that underlies three of these volumes has been cosponsored by our continuing collaboration with the National Research University-Higher School of Economics–Moscow. The fourth is related to work cosponsored with the American Council on Education.

• *Young Faculty in the Twenty-First Century: International Perspectives*. Edited by Maria Yudkevich, Philip G. Altbach,

and Laura E. Rumbley. Albany, NY: State University of New York Press. 364 pp. \$90 (hb). This book consists of 10 national case studies—Russia, United States, South Africa, Portugal, Norway, India, Brazil, France, Germany, and China, as well as several comparative analyses. A paperback edition will be released later.

• *Academic Inbreeding and Mobility in Higher Education: Global Perspectives*. Edited by Maria Yudkevich, Philip G. Altbach, and Laura E. Rumbley. Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015. 264 pp. \$100 (hb). Faculty inbreeding is a common practice in many countries. This book discusses the problems and realities of this topic in 8 countries—Argentina, China, Japan, Russia, Slovenia, South Africa,

Spain, and Ukraine. Comparative analysis is also provided as well as a detailed review of the literature on this topic.

- *The Global Future of Higher Education and the Academic Profession*. Edited by Philip G. Altbach, Gregory Androushchak, Yaroslav Kuzminov, Maria Yudkevich, and Liz A. Reisberg. Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015. 264 pp. \$40 (pb). Note that this is a newly released paperback edition of our 2012 volume. Analyses of the challenges facing universities in the BRIC countries with special reference to the academic profession.

- *Global Opportunities and Challenges for Higher Education Leaders: Briefs on Key Themes*. Edited by Laura E. Rumbley, Robin Matross Helms, Patti McGill Peterson, and Philip G. Altbach. Rotterdam, Netherlands: Sense, 2014. 251 pp. \$45 (pb). Short essays aimed at higher education leaders are provided on 4 key themes—global engagement, China, India, and the “Southern Cone” of Latin America. The essays focus on the current challenges and opportunities of universities in these countries, the role of internationalization, the development of partnerships, and related themes. While the essays were written to inform American higher education leaders, they are globally relevant.

NEWS OF THE CENTER

We are in the process of welcoming Hans de Wit as the new Center director—see an article about Hans elsewhere in this issue. He will be joining the Boston College faculty in September and will teach a course on internationalization in the fall semester. Among our many plans is to build a master’s program focused on international higher education as part of the Boston College higher education administration graduate program.

Philip G. Altbach remains a research professor at Boston College and takes the title of Founding Director of CIHE. He will remain active in the Center’s work and will continue to edit *International Higher Education*.

On April 23, 2015 Philip G. Altbach (as keynote) and Laura E. Rumbley (as panelist) participated in an international higher education seminar at Northeastern University. On April 29, 2015 the Center co-sponsored an event at Harvard University on “Global assessment of higher education learning outcomes.” Convened by Manja Klemenčič, the session speakers included Dirk van Damme (OECD), Henry Rosovsky (Harvard University), Marjik van der Wende (former dean of Amsterdam University College), and Philip G. Altbach. Also in April, Altbach spoke at a workshop for all of the rectors of universities in Saudi Arabia. He continues to serve on the planning committee of the International Conference on Higher Education for the Saudi Ministry of Higher Education.

In May, Philip G. Altbach, along with Kara Godwin, CIHE visiting scholar, will participate in a conference on liberal arts in Shanghai, China, sponsored by the Harvard China Fund and Amsterdam University College.

The Center has recently copublished, with the American Council on Education’s Center for Internationalization and Global Engagement, number 5 in the series “International Briefs for Higher Education Leaders.” This Brief focused on the subject of international joint- and dual-degree programs.

The Center is pleased to announce that its extensive 2014 publication, *Higher Education: A Worldwide Inventory of Research Centers, Academic Programs, and Journals (3rd edition)*, is now freely available for download from the CIHE Web site. Work on the Center’s small follow-up survey from that inventory—focused explicitly on the profiles and activities of those research centers around the world that are in some way undertaking research specifically in the field of “international higher education”—is moving forward, under the direction of Center associate director Laura E. Rumbley and doctoral research assistants Ariane de Gayardon and Georgiana Mihut.

Laura E. Rumbley, Philip G. Altbach, and Hans de Wit are all active in the May conference of NAFSA: Association of International Educators, which takes place in Boston. They will be speaking at several sessions. CIHE will host a small invitational seminar at Boston College, as well, to mark the 20th anniversary of the Center’s establishment. Featured speakers include Eva Eggen-Polak (International Association of Universities) and Francisco Marmolejo (World Bank).

CIHE will again be collaborating with the Centre for Internationalisation of Higher Education (CHEI)—based at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in Milan, Italy—to produce a special issue of *International Higher Education* focused on the theme of internationalization. All inquiries about this special issue (including deadlines, article requirements, and style guide information) should be directed to Fiona Hunter, CHEI Research Associate, at chei@unicatt.it.

We warmly welcome summer 2015 visiting scholars Daniel Kontowski (University of Warsaw, Poland) and Armağan Erdoğan (Social Sciences University of Ankara, Turkey).