

Higher Education Research in Asia: What Can be Your Role In It?

Jisun Jung and Hugo Horta (Faculty of Education, The University of Hong Kong)

Abstract

Despite the rapid development of higher education in Asia, the field of higher education research has not been adequately studied in the region. The lecture traces the evolution of research in the field of higher education in Asian countries, and share ideas about the evolving higher education research communities. It identifies common and dissimilar challenges across national communities, providing insights into the relevance of a greater regional articulation of national higher education research communities, and their further integration into and contribution to the international higher educational research community as a whole. Based on historical and empirical approaches, we argue that the higher education research community in Asia needs to take the next step to become more recognized internationally while at the same time not losing sight of regional, cultural, intellectual, and societal features as geopolitics evolve in globally competitive, dynamic and uncertain paths. We further argue about the low critical mass of higher education scholars in Asia and provide some possible avenues of development for the field, where the participation and empowerment of new higher education researchers are fundamental.

Bios

Dr. Jisun Jung is an assistant professor in the Faculty of Education at the University of Hong Kong since 2015. Her current research focuses on academic profession, doctoral education, employment and postgraduate studies. She is a Co-Editor of *Higher Education Research & Development* (Taylor & Francis).

Dr. Hugo Horta is an assistant professor in the Faculty of Education at the University of Hong Kong since 2014. He formerly served as the deputy-director at the Center for Innovation, Technology and Policy Research (IN+), based at the University of Lisbon, Portugal. He worked as Advisor to the Portuguese Secretary of State of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher education, and served as National Delegates to the European Research Area Steering Committee on Human Resources and Mobility. He is a Coordinating-Editor of *Higher Education* (Springer).