

Higher Education Research & Development
Call for papers for the 2016 Special Issue
New frontiers: Exploring the space/s of Higher Education

Guest Editor: Dr Robyn Barnacle, RMIT (Australia)

Space and spatiality are increasingly on the agenda for higher education. A belief in the capacity of higher education to drive and transform economic and social development is widely held and has led to flows of students, academics, and knowledge around the globe. Fuelled by what has been termed 'knowledge economy optimism' (Cuthbert & Molla, 2014), we see higher education imbued with extraordinary transformative potential.

Consequently, higher education has become a highly *imagined* space, replete with intense socio-political investment. It is also an increasingly contested space, even in relation to the very concept of the university itself. On the one hand, we see the rise of the all-encompassing 'global' or entrepreneurial university (Marginson & Considine, 2000) and, on the other, the somewhat less heroic and fragile university in ruins (Readings, 1996).

In all cases, spatial considerations – whether physical, virtual or figurative – provide an opportunity to explore and re-imagine the possibilities of higher education.

This special issue of *HERD* welcomes research articles, scholarly essays and other more innovative kinds of academic writing that address considerations of space to offer insights into contemporary higher education. Themes and topics of interest could include explorations of the:

- spaces and places of research and scholarship, teaching and learning, and/or academic citizenship
- global, regional, local and/or virtual spaces of higher education
- lived, material and technologized spaces of working in higher education
- physical, social and/or imaginative spaces in higher education.

Contributions to this special issue that explore the dimensions of space and higher education are invited from higher education researchers and scholars and also others from a range of fields of inquiry that have fruitfully taken higher education as their object of study – such as geography, history, anthropology, political studies, social sciences, architecture and design, philosophy and so on.

Dates to Note:

Manuscript submission due: 31 May 2015

Anticipated Publication: late January 2016

Submitted papers should not have been previously published nor be under consideration for publication elsewhere. A guide for authors, along with other relevant information, can be found on the journal's homepage: www.tandfonline.com/herd

Submissions should be made online at *HERD*'s ScholarOne site:

<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/cher>

For further information or queries regarding this Special Issue, please contact Dr Robyn Barnacle robyn.barnacle@rmit.edu.au

References:

- Cuthbert, D. & Molla, T. (2014). PhD crisis discourse: A critical approach to the framing of the problem and some Australian 'solutions'. *Higher Education*. DOI: 10.1007/s10734-014-9760-y
- Marginson, S., & Considine, M. (2000). *The enterprise university: Power, governance and reinvention in Australia*. UK: Cambridge University Press.
- Readings, B. (1996). *The university in ruins*. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press.