Siberia, between centre and periphery

Next Generation Perspectives on Internationalisation

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Overview

- Centre vs periphery: what does the research show?
- Responses from the periphery
- Case study: Siberia
- Questions
- Bibliography
Research focus on the ‘centre’

• IDP Database of Research on International Education
  • Currently over 15,400 books, articles, conference papers and reports on various aspects of international education from around the world
  • www.idp.com/researchdatabase

• 2015 research project to analyse 3,235 database records published between 2011 and 2014
  • Hot topics
  • Country of focus
  • Publication type
  • Research methods

www.apaie2018.org
COUNTRY FOCUS

167
Research looks at 167 countries/regions

50.2%
of research looks at English-speaking countries

Declining focus on Australia, relative to increase in international records

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Responses from the ‘periphery’

• The Globalization of Internationalization: Emerging Voices and Perspectives (De Wit, Gacel-Avila, Jones, & Jooste, 2017)

• Seeks to redress the predominance of English-speaking and Western European paradigms in international education research

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Responses from the ‘periphery’

• **The Future Agenda for Internationalization in Higher Education** (Proctor & Rumbley, 2018)

• Next generation insights into research, policy, and practice:
  • New contexts
  • New modes
  • New topics

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Next generation perspectives

• Dimensions of internationalization that are known to be under-researched
• Emerging researchers and analysts with new questions, concerns and insights
• **Foreword** by Jane Knight and Hans de Wit
• Opening chapter in each section authored by a recognised expert in tandem with an emerging researcher:
  • **New contexts** – Hiroshi Ota & Kiyomi Horiuchi, Japan
  • **New modes** – Richard Garrett & Rachael Merola, USA
  • **New topics** – Fiona Hunter & Neil Sparnon, Italy/UK

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Siberia, between centre and periphery

• Chapter 6 “From periphery to the center: international aspirations of regional universities in Siberia”

• Dina Uzhegova, Melbourne Centre for the Study of Higher Education, University of Melbourne, Australia
The Bear Begins to Wake: Russia Internationalizes

When it comes to the internationalization of higher education, the Russian Bear has reared its head. Despite the country's stability, the situation is surprising, with internationalizing at the global stage.

Russia

State kicks off plans for world-class universities

Eugene Vorotnikov 09 February 2013 Issue No:258

The Russian government has started implementing its ambitious plans to boost the country’s leading universities’ performance in the international arena. According to Igor Fedyukin, the deputy minister of education, this year 15 universities will receive special state grants, and at the initial stage the subsidies will be worth RUB9 billion (US$270 million).

The action is being taken under an existing state programme to develop education from 2013-20 and a special plan to improve leading universities, which was approved by Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev.
Group of leading universities
Russian Academic Excellence Project
Project 5-100

Federal Universities - 10
National Research Universities - 29
Special Status Universities - 2
Centers for Collective Scientific Equipment Use - 41

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Siberian Federal District
Centre-periphery imbalance

- National research Universities – 15 out of 29 are located in Moscow and St Petersburg
- Project 5-100 – 9 out of 21 universities are located in Moscow and St Petersburg
- Moscow accounts for 50% of Russian research articles
Siberia – what comes to mind?
Negative image

“All because we are located in Siberia – the word ‘Siberia’ is scary.”

“Siberia, the name ‘Siberia’ itself has a very, very negative image that is hard to fight. We are located in Siberia and for them (foreign student) it is scary.”
Historical past

Due to the proximity to the ‘closed administrative-territorial formations’ or ‘closed cities’ foreigners required special permission to enter cities where some Siberian universities are located.

ATTENTION!!!
Entrance of the foreign citizens is strictly prohibited without special permission

ВНИМАНИЕ !!!
Въезд иностранных граждан без специального разрешения категорически запрещён
Historical past

“Language, mindset of the staff, but all this is also connected with the city, and region; to what extent it is internationalized itself. To better understand, at some point the Krasnoyarsk region, Krasnoyarsk was a closed city and now we are open but it doesn't mean that everything has change in a moment. One also needs to understand this... this peculiarity... all these things they are interlinked.”

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Historical past

“There is a lack of language skills, in principle the lack of skills in communication with foreign colleagues, lack of understanding of it [internationalisation] from the academic side.”

“Internationalisation has to happen in the mind. People need to start looking a little bit differently at the world and cooperation in general... People need to be more flexible towards the world and other things.”
Siberia is a natural bridge between Europe and Asia

• The 2012 APEC Summit, held in Vladivostok, came as an important and symbolic move toward a reorientation of Russia’s foreign policy toward Asia.

• Annex D of the APEC Economic Leaders' Declaration issued after the summit was devoted to strengthening cross-border education collaboration.

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Looking East?

“Yes, there is such focus [Asia]. But this doesn't mean that we started paying less attention to the West, but the East in this particular case is closer to us...”

“Of course, geographically it is all Asia-Pacific region, but this said, we don't want to limit ourselves to only this direction.”

- “First of all, we are not oriented on Europe, we mainly oriented towards Asia-Pacific region...”
- “But we don't cross out Europe.”

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# Universities’ reference group

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<tr>
<th>Universities’ Reference Group</th>
<th>Europe</th>
<th>North America</th>
<th>Asia-Pacific</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Novosibirsk State University</strong></td>
<td>VU University Amsterdam (The Netherlands)</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Sungkyunkwan University</strong> (South Korea) <strong>National Tsing Hua University</strong> (Taiwan)</td>
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<td><strong>Tomsk State University</strong></td>
<td>Lund University (Sweden) Utrecht University (The Netherlands)</td>
<td>University of Texas Austin (USA)</td>
<td><strong>National Taiwan University</strong> (Taiwan) <strong>Fudan University</strong> (China)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tomsk Polytechnic University</strong></td>
<td>Royal Institute of Technology (Sweden)</td>
<td>Arizona State University (USA)</td>
<td><strong>Nanyang Technological University</strong> (Singapore)</td>
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Questions?

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Want to know more?

• ‘From periphery to the center: international aspirations of regional universities in Siberia.’

• Dina Uzhegova

• Chapter 6 in *The Future Agenda for Internationalization in Higher Education* (due out May 2018)

www.apaie2018.org
Bibliography


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Session evaluation

• Please use the APAIE 2018 conference app to complete a session evaluation

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