Ecce Homo Academicus

The Revaluation of Higher Education Values

J. Britt Holbrook

holbrook@njit.edu

@jbrittholbrook

4S Annual Conference
Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
September 2, 2018
"You realise that the state we should be in is perfection, that we're not in it, and the reason we're here is to find it."

– Marianne Faithfull
Presentation

- Standardization
- Evaluation
- Transformation
- Transvaluation
- Academic flourishing-ation
- Mode: conjectures and refutations
Standardization

• Enforces standards
• Tends to make everything the same (replication)
• Resists change
• Encourages conservatism
• Uses peer review
Evaluation

- Relies on standards
- Requires individuals to meet standards and exhibit originality
- Rarely changes
- Punishes risk taking
- Relies on peer review
Transformation

• Defies standards
• Intends to shake everything up
• Requires (sometimes radical) change
• Encourages risk taking
• Uses modified peer review
Transvaluation

- Redefines standards
- Tends to begin with – and value – individuals
- Embodies change
- Exemplifies risk taking
- Challenges established methods of evaluation
Academic Flourishing

- Seeks new standards
- Individuals seek to meet standards *and* exhibit originality
- Judged relative to individuals and changes as individuals become who they are
- Requires risk taking
- Extends peer review
Evaluating Academic Flourishing

• Recognizes new/different/developing standards
• Encourages individuals to meet standards *and* exhibit originality
• Changes in response to good arguments (non-dogmatic)
• Rewards risk taking
• Uses peer review along with other means
56 Indicators of Impact

H-index
G-index
Universal H-index
HM-index (standardizes co-authorship)
Peer review
Place of publication
# of pubs
# of citations
Book sales
Article Product downloads
Website hits
Media mentions
Quotes in media
Quotes in policy
Developing a metric that people use
Rabble rousing
Muckraking
Lawsuits
Arrests
Cited in testimonials
Town hall meetings

Social networking contacts
Increased diversity
Degree of ID/TD
Degree of transformativity
ID/TD rigor
CSID advisors
Special problem requests with CSID faculty
Internationalization
Grant $
Audience size @ CSID events
Success of faculty fellows
Esteem of senior fellows
Success of graduate / UG presentations & grants
Posters?
Impact factor of journals in which CSID publishes
Number of Angry letters from important people
Mention by policy makers
Meetings with important ppl
Invitations to present
Invitations to consult
Invitations to evaluate
Protests/demonstrations/sit-ins
Coining/debunking phrase or buzzword
Trending in social media
Esteem surveys
Trust/reputation
Rankings
Blog mentions
Student surveys
Student testimonials
Faculty recommendations
Faculty award/prize
Textbooks
Influencing curriculum creation
Participating in public education programs
References

Frodeman, Robert & Holbrook, J. Britt. The Promise and Perils of Transformative Research, report, March 2012; (digital.library.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metadc84363/:accessed August 30, 2018), University of North Texas Libraries, Digital Library, digital.library.unt.edu; crediting UNT College of Arts and Sciences.


Holbrook, J. Britt; Barr, Kelli R. & Brown, Keith Wayne. Research Impact: We need negative metrics too, article, May 23, 2013; [London, United Kingdom]. (digital.library.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metadc171453/: accessed August 30, 2018),University of North Texas Libraries, Digital Library, digital.library.unt.edu; crediting UNT College of Arts and Sciences.


Image of Rabbit – Duck (or Duck –Rabbit) is in the public domain.