

ABSTRACTS

Sociologias, Porto Alegre, ano 9, nº 17, jan./jun. 2007, p. 346-352

Challenges to higher education

Clarissa Eckert Baeta Neves

Higher education has increasing strategic importance to nations' economic and social development as well as their future. Growing demands for that level of education have to be met with innovation, securing broader access and diversification of the offer. Europe has witnessed a bold reform movement based on the Bologna Process, creating the European space for higher education. A higher education reform is under discussion in Brazil, but many aspects remain controversial in spite of some advances after the establishment of an inclusion policy (Prouni). Access to higher education is extremely low, with only 11.5% of 18-24-year-olds going to higher education schools. This dossier calls for a reflection upon important topics for the Bologna Process: higher education and labor market; higher education funding, professor career and access; expansion; equity in higher education.

Key words: Higher Education, Bologna process, Professor's career, Higher education, Funding, Access.

European trends in undergraduate studies and quality assurance

Hans-Uwe Erichsen

This text discusses the changes in European higher education systems after the so-called Bologna Process. The first part presents and discusses the "communiqués" signed by European ministers of education who joined the process that characterizes the proposed reform: adoption of an educational system based on three cycles (bachelor, master, and doctoral studies); establishment of a Credit Transfer and Accumulation System; facilitating mobility; creation of the European Space for Higher Education, among others. The second part discusses the evaluation and accreditation/certification as means for development and quality assurance for higher education. Finally, it approaches the issue of continuing education as a challenge to higher education institutions and an opportunity to broaden access.

Key words: Bologna Process, higher education in Europe, Evaluation, Accreditation/Certification, Continuing education, Quality of higher education.

Funding higher education in Latin America

Carmen García Guadilla

This work is based on an overview of the situation of higher education in Latin America, both of its quantitative growth and its more relevant public policies. The second part examines one of those policies: that of funding public universities. The work used data based on studies by IESALC/UNESCO. Finally, an action plan is discussed for the establishment of an agenda to fund higher education.

Key words: Funding, Higher education, Universities, Latin America.

Universities VS outsourcing of higher education – the logic of broadening access while keeping inequality: the case of Brazil

Antônio Augusto Pereira Prates

This work intends to demonstrate how the large expansion in the higher education system all over the world since the 1970s results in the incorporation of market logic in the system of public management for higher education. However, such feature of public policies that has marked the vast majority of systems for management of higher education in contemporary societies has allowed isolating universities that enjoy academic reputation from those policies, keeping them as exclusive niches for members of social elites. The analysis of the Brazilian case shows an even more dramatic picture than the international one, since here, having higher education increases rather than reducing the effects of original status on social-economic status.

Key words: Higher education system, Outsourcing, Inequality, University, Social-economic status, Educational policy, Institutional model.

Access, expansion and equity in Higher Education: new challenges for educational policy

**Clarissa Eckert Baeta Neves, Leandro Raizer,
Rochele Fellini Fachinetto**

Higher education has entered the list of priorities and strategic topics for the future of nations: there is widespread belief that development requires an increase in the population's educational levels. In Brazil, however, only 11.5% of 17-24-year-olds reach higher education. How to increase access and achieve more equity with quality education is a core issue for educational policy. In the last decade, solutions were proposed for more access and equity by diversifying the system through the creation of new kinds of Higher Education Institutions, new kinds and modalities of courses, as well as affirmative action policies (PROUNI e quota policies). The analysis of statistical data, interviews, documents, and legislation reveals the current scenario: broader access as well as the establishment of inclusion policies took place mainly through the private educational system, thus generating a socially unjust effect on democratization.

Key words: higher education, diversification, equity, educational policy.

Career and institutional context in Brazil's higher education system

Elizabeth Balbachevsky

This work studies the development of the relationship between academic title and institutional career between 1992 and 2003, in Brazil's higher education institutions, based on data collected in two surveys that are representative of the academic profession in Brazil. Results obtained were surprising because they point to an increasing disorganization of career structure in Brazilian higher education institutions and a decrease in the association between title and career. The study also presents a multivariate analysis exercise to see which dimensions are relevant to explain the rise of professors to distinct career levels. Results corroborate the hypothesis that the career offered by Brazilian higher education institutions is gradually losing its ability to discriminate and reward academic performance, since the main reference on which it has been built – academic title – tended to homogenize in the last decade.

Key words: Brazil, Higher education, Academic profession, Academic career.

College education, corporation, and profession: Brazilian dilemmas and paradoxes

Edson Nunes & Márcia Marques de Carvalho

This article examines the relationship between higher education and professional occupation, based on data from the 2000 Demographic Census (IBGE), stressing occupations related to regulated professions. A large gap is seen between having a formal diploma and the real occupation of graduates. It considers that noncorrespondence between education and occupation is due mainly to the educational model, historically tied to regulated professions, which no longer meets the reality of Brazilian society.

Key words: Higher education, job market, occupation in the job market.

Education and work: the situation of employed college graduates in the job market

Márcia Lima e Alexandre Abdal

This article is aimed at understanding the impact of complete higher education on the situation of individuals in the job market. For that, its reference was a crucial attribute in terms of qualification: belonging to the formal world. Based on RAIS data, it seeks to demonstrate how the combination of quality of legal labor situation and quality of the workforce plays a significant role on income in the job market. Furthermore, in order to verify the weight of local social-productive dynamics in the workings of the job market, the issues investigated were examined in three metropolitan areas: São Paulo, Porto Alegre, and Salvador.

Key words: Formal job market; RAIS, São Paulo metropolitan area, Porto Alegre metropolitan area, Salvador metropolitan area, higher education.

ARTIGOS

ARTICLES

Trajectories and biographies: notes for a Bourdieusian analysis

Miguel Ângelo Montagner

In this article, we seek to examine the use of Pierre Bourdieu's methodology, in which the notions of habitus and field play a central role, in order to understand inner concepts such as biography and trajectory in his theory of praxis. Besides locating and pointing out the relevance of Bourdieu's works, our intention here is to extract from these debates the possible application of his theory and to propose procedures for analysis of biographical materials or life histories when they are used as a heuristic tool.

Key words: Bourdieu, trajectory, life histories, habitus.

Brief indications for the teaching of sociological theory today

Élida Rubini Liedke

The article seeks to present synthetic arguments for the relevance of studies on sociologic theory considered in terms of interpretive models, which point to subject-object relations as well as the meaning connections between themes and micro and macro societal problems. Five sets of aspects are proposed in order to build references for the analysis of distinct theoretical approaches, namely: cultural, psychosocial, psychoanalytical, political-economic and power-based relations. Finally, the article presents two diagrams illustrating classic and contemporary sociological theories, from 1830 to the present.

Key words: Sociological theory, Contemporary sociological theories, Classic sociological theories, Micro and macro-societal relations, Interpretive models, Narratives.

Workers from the manufacturing industry in the city of Caxias do Sul, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil: trajectories after dismissal within a context of industrial restructuring

Cidriana Teresa Parenza & Naira Lima Lapis

This article examines the relationship between professional trajectories after dismissal and professional attributes accumulated during professional activity. It is a research study conducted in 2003 with 20 workers dismissed from the industrial areas of mechanic and transport material in the city of Caxias do Sul. The working hypothesis is that technological innovations in the industry's labor processes place new demands in terms of professional attributes to workers, expressed in contracts, thus impacting on the possibilities for professional repositioning. At the same time, given specificities of industrial restructuring now ongoing in Brazil, it is assumed that the new demands do not extend to all work positions, thus alleviating difficulties for professional repositioning. By rebuilding the trajectories of the workers investigated, it was seen that most of them returned to the manufacturing industry, as well as those that did not have distinct attributes regarding the work with microelectronic equipment or the educational levels required by the job market. Information collected also revealed that other elements interfered in professional repositioning, such as the existence of open positions in the job market and the establishment of personal bonds.

Key words: Professional trajectories after dismissal, Professional attributes, Professional repositioning, Industrial restructuring.

INTERFACE
INTERFACE

Factors that impact on funding for higher education in Chile

**Rodolfo Schmal, Reinaldo Ruiz,
Sebastián Donoso, Martín Schaffernicht**

The article covers the main factors that impact on funding higher education in Chile, presenting the fundamentals and relations of a model to estimate the volume of resources committed and options for provision. In the last two decades the

Sociologias, Porto Alegre, ano 9, nº 17, jan./jun. 2007, p. 346-352

university market has doubled its total of students – a phenomenon that should continue, entailing serious pressures on public funding. The model proposed here points to a systems approach to the problem.

Key words: Funding education, Higher education, Funding models, Education economy, Chilean education

RESENHAS

BOOK REVIEW

A Sociologia Econômica (*Economic sociology*) STEINER, Philippe. São Paulo: Atlas, 2006.

Lucas Rodrigues Azambuja

Philippe Steiner's *A Sociologia Econômica* is an introduction and an appreciation of economic sociology studies on markets. The author approaches works including from the issue of social construction of markets to explaining their workings to its cultural meaning in modern society. Through the analysis of those studies, the author advocates a complementary relationship between economic theory and economic sociology. Therefore, it has a textbook character, since it explains and systematizes a field of knowledge for beginners and, at the same time, it presents elements of original reflection on the field.

Key words: markets, economic theory, economic sociology.