

**Conference on International Higher Education  
Boston College, October 23-24, 2020**

Over the past 25 years, institutions of higher education around the world have had to balance the effects of massification with contradictory forces related to the emergence of the global knowledge economy. We have also experienced the development and maturing of information technology, including the Internet, artificial intelligence, and a myriad of related aspects. The effects of these seismic shifts have been dramatic. Massification has stimulated the rise of the private sector and commercialization. The global knowledge economy has contributed to the dominance of English as the global scientific language, dramatic increases in student and faculty mobility, and internationalization in multiple forms. Technology has fundamentally altered all three of the university's key functions (teaching, research and service). Although many of these changes have been positive, many other have posed deep challenges for higher education systems, and we must recognize that higher education has failed in some ways to meet these important challenges. While offering unprecedented access, universities have also contributed to social divisions and inequalities. In many countries, large numbers of students do not complete their degrees, and the cost of study has greatly increased in most places. Higher education is also facing worldwide challenges of increased nationalism and populism. For the most part, universities have failed to emphasize social responsibility. At the start of a new decade, it is important to reflect on the implications of these failures and to imagine what role higher education may play in our collective future.

**The conference**

This theme will be the focus of the upcoming **Conference on International Higher Education**, organized by the *Center for International Higher Education* (CIHE) on the occasion of its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The conference will be held at Boston College on October 23 and 24, 2020.

For the past 25 years, CIHE has been at the forefront of research, analysis and teaching relating to international higher education. This conference will be a platform to celebrate that occasion by bringing together senior academics and leaders in international higher education around the world, alumni and friends/partners of CIHE, as well as other scholars, doctoral students and postdocs with an interest in the field. We intend for this to be the first of a regular conference on international higher education, to be organized in Boston every other year.

The conference will be organized around two tracks: international and comparative higher education, and the internationalization of higher education. The event will include invited keynote presenters, panel discussions and presentations of individual papers. Confirmed keynote speakers include Philip G. Altbach and Hans de Wit (Boston College), Simon Marginson (University of Oxford, UK), Rajani Naidoo (University of Bath, UK) and Ly Tran (Deakin University, Australia). It is the intention to publish some of the presented papers in special issues of *Higher Education* and *Journal of Studies in International Education*. There is no guarantee that a paper selected for inclusion in the conference program will be published in either journal, but all selected papers will be considered.

Registration fees will be charged as follows:

- General: \$200
- Student: \$50

**Call for papers**

We invite you to send us a proposal for a paper, with a title, an abstract of maximum 500 words and a short bio of 175 words. Submissions should be sent to [internationalhighered@bc.edu](mailto:internationalhighered@bc.edu) by **April 15, 2020**. Please explicitly label your email "Conference submission". Presenters will be informed by May 15 if their paper has been accepted.