



# GLOBAL HIGHER EDUCATION DURING COVID-19

Policy, Society, and Technology

Edited by **Joshua S. McKeown** | **Krishna Bista** | **Roy Y. Chan**

Foreword by Yingyi Ma

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# Foreword

*Yingyi Ma*

COVID-19 is upending daily life, and its impact on global higher education (HE) is seismic. How to understand the impacts and improve policy and practice in the field of international HE during and post-COVID? Colleges and universities around the world are wondering about the above questions, and this book has provided a much-needed discussion for those questions.

The editors of this book have done a tremendous job in assembling a wide range of in-depth studies, both in terms of substantive topics and geographic regions. The topics range from the role of HE in society, crisis and innovation through technology in HE, international student experiences navigating the pandemic, national policies, international academic relations, public and private university responses, and the innovative engagement efforts of global HE institutions. Despite the expansive topics, various articles share the theme of exploring the traditional and changing roles of HE in society. Part I presents a few studies grounded in diverse national contexts that show how HE operates and adapts to society changed by the pandemic.

I commend the editors for their efforts to include a wide variety of contexts of HE institutions in different countries. While the impacts of COVID-19 on HE may be uncertain, what is certain is the increasing inequality among countries in dealing with the pandemic due to the unequal access to resources, technologies, and public health management. Part II in this book, in particular, focuses on the Global South (lower-income countries). The studies have shown the devastating impact on HE in countries of the global south due to the faltering economy during the pandemic as well as the incredible resilience of faculty and students in these countries to lessen the hardship through impressive innovations.

Technology-powered online education has been the quintessential innovation of 21st-century HE. Technology is liberating as much as limiting. COVID-19 has forced global HE to confront, leverage, and manage the power of technology to engage with students, experiment, and explore new pedagogy. The editors of this book have presented a wide range of empirically based studies in different HE settings to show that technology is indeed the double-edged sword, and it is incumbent on global HE leaders and educators to figure out innovative ways to use technology well, while fully recognizing and managing its limitations. Part III has been devoted to this theme.

This book is for anyone who is interested in HE in the global world, including but not limited to scholars, teachers, administrators, and students, and for any concerned citizens to reimagine and redesign the global HE in a new era.

## **Bio**

**Yingyi Ma** is an Associate Professor of Sociology and Director of Asian/Asian American Studies. She is the Provost Faculty Fellow on internationalization at Syracuse University (New York), carrying the term between 2020 and 2022, where she leads and supports culturally responsive pedagogy and programs for international education and partnership. She received her Ph.D. in sociology from Johns Hopkins University in 2007. Ma's research addresses education and migration in the U.S. and China and she has published about 30 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, in addition to books. She is the author of *Ambitious and Anxious: How Chinese College Students Succeed and Struggle in American Higher Education* (Columbia University Press, 2021). This book has won multiple awards from the Comparative and International Education Association and has been featured in national and international news media such as *The Washington Post* and *Times Higher Education*. She is the co-editor of *Understanding International Students from Asia in American Universities: Learning and Living Globalization* (2017), which has won the honorable mention of the Best Book Award from the Comparative and International Education Association's Study Abroad and International Students Section.

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## Praises for this volume

COVID-19 pandemic and digital innovation are making unprecedented disruption to the global higher education landscape. These disruptions have increased academic discussion on how to reimagine the future of higher education after post-COVID 19. Thus, the book, *Global Higher Education During COVID-19: Policy, Society, and Technology* problematized these realities from a global policy context with policy recommendations on issues of racial justice, funding, technology among others. Therefore, I would like to congratulate the editors: *Joshua S. McKeown, Krishna Bista, and Roy T. Chan* for this excellent publication.

*Dr. KS Adeyemo, Senior Lecturer, University of Pretoria,  
South Africa*

*Global Higher Education During COVID-19: Policy, Society, and Technology* is a highly recommended resource for higher education institution policymakers and educators around the globe. Not only does this book provide invaluable insights from higher education institution policymakers, educators, and students during the COVID-19 pandemic, but it also offers useful suggestions on dealing with possible challenges and seeking opportunities in future higher education.

*Dr. Misty So-Sum Wai-Cook, Centre for English Language  
Studies, National University of Singapore*

It's a timely book reporting the most recent responses of international higher education across the world during the Covid-19 pandemic. Besides providing the theoretical contributions, the book also offers practical implications for stakeholders, including policymakers, education managers and practitioners, international students, and parents.

*Dr. Hiep Pham, Director, Center for Research and Practice on  
Education, Phu Xuan University, Vietnam*

*Global Higher Education During COVID-19: Policy, Society, and Technology* is timely and relevant providing a critically engaged reflective account of geographically diverse higher education institutions' response and practice during the COVID-19 pandemic. This book illuminates some of the current

impediments to higher education internationalization within the context of COVID-19 and provides insights into shared learning experiences that address new challenges to internationalisation imposed by the pandemic. A must read for international higher education specialists, practitioners, scholars and researchers.

*Dr. Tasmeeera Singh, Advisor, International Office,  
University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa*

A worldwide phenomenon: Strategies and inspiration to address the challenges and opportunities for the new normal in the field of global higher education. I cannot recommend it highly enough.

*Dr. Daisy Kee Mui Hung, Associate Professor,  
Universiti Sains Malaysia, Malaysia*

The movement of people across borders furthered the spread of Covid-19. This inevitably impacted international higher education, which although not reducible to student mobility is its primary form. *Global Higher Education during COVID-19: Policy, Society, and Technology* is therefore a timely edited collection that begins to unpack the multifaceted impact the pandemic has had on higher education worldwide. It adds to the growing conversation on reimagining higher education. The collection will be valuable to current and future scholars of higher education, offering an important snapshot of policy and practice during the pandemic.

*Dr. Will Brehm, Lecturer of Education and International  
Development, UCL Institute of Education, UK*

With the COVID-19 crisis having upended higher education around the world, this timely book provides a deep and much-needed analysis of the roles and responsibilities of universities going forward. It sheds light not only on the shared challenges countries have faced, but also reveals how the impact of the pandemic has varied in important ways across countries.

*Dr. Rajika Bhandari, Author/Advisor,  
STAR Scholar Network, USA*

Case studies provide valuable baseline information for practitioners of higher education as the world begins to emerge from the pandemic. A must-read for those looking to understand how various regions reacted, and how institutional systems changed their models to survive.

*Dr. L. Amber Brugnoli, Assoc Vice-President and  
Executive Director for Global Affairs  
West Virginia University, USA*

This book presents a comprehensive and rigorous worldwide account of Covid-19 impact, challenges and new opportunities. It stands out as a ground-breaking valuable companion for all those involved in the future of internationalization in higher education.

*Dr. Elena de Prada Creo, Vice Dean for International Affairs  
Facultad de CC. Empresariales y Turismo, Spain*

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Global Higher Education During COVID-19: Policy, Society, and  
Technology

*Joshua S. McKeown, Krishna Bista, and Roy Y. Chan*

# **Global Higher Education During COVID-19**

## **Policy, Society, and Technology**

*Global Higher Education During COVID-19: Policy, Society, and Technology* explores the impacts of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) for institutions of higher education worldwide. Specifically, this book responds to the growing need for new insights and perspectives to improve higher education policy and practice in the era of COVID-19. The sub-theme that runs through this book concerns the changing roles and responsibilities of higher education leaders and the demand to rethink global higher education post-COVID. Topics in this book include: international student experiences, pedagogical innovations through technology, challenges to existing organizational cultures and societal roles, international academic relations, and shifting national policy implications for global higher education.

With the increasing threat of COVID-19 on all aspects of the global economy and workforce, this book serves as an opportunity for teacher-scholars, policymakers, and university administrators to reconsider and reimagine their work and the role of higher education in a global context. The ultimate goal of this book is to provide a critical reflection on the opportunities and challenges brought by COVID-19 and how tertiary education systems around the world learn from each other to address them.

**Joshua S. McKeown, PhD**, is Associate Provost for International Education & Programs at SUNY Oswego and International Education Leadership Fellow at the University at Albany, USA.

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**Krishna Bista**

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In memory of those who lost their lives during the COVID-19 global pandemic (as of August 2021):

**4.38 Million**

And to the 204 million heroes worldwide who recovered from the disease.



# Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	xiii
<i>List of Tables</i>	xv
<i>Foreword</i>	xvii
YINGYI MA	
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xix
<i>Editors</i>	xxi
<b>1 COVID-19 and Higher Education: Challenges and Successes during the Global Pandemic</b>	<b>1</b>
JOSHUA S. McKEOWN, KRISHNA BISTA, AND ROY Y. CHAN	
<b>PART I</b>	
<b>Roles of Higher Education Institutions in Societies</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>2 Taiwan’s COVID-19 Success: A Lifeline for its Higher Education Sector</b>	<b>11</b>
ERIC W. LAYMAN AND LEV NACHMAN	
<b>3 Public Higher Education Response to COVID-19: The Case of Federal Institutions in Southern Brazil</b>	<b>25</b>
KELBER TOZINI, CLAUDIA SCHIEDECK SOARES DE SOUZA, FERNANDA LEAL, AND BERNARDO SFREDO MIORANDO	
<b>4 Belonging, Being, and Becoming: Tertiary Students in China in the Battle Against COVID-19 Pandemic</b>	<b>39</b>
LI WANG	
<b>5 Coming in From the Cold: US-China Academic Relations After COVID-19</b>	<b>57</b>
JOSHUA S. McKEOWN	

**PART II**

**Looking into Existential Threats to Higher Education** 71

**6 COVID-19 Crisis and the Future of Higher Education: Perspectives from Kenya** 73

CAROLINE S. WEKULLO, JOHN O. SHIUNDU, JAMES B. OUDA,  
AND ANTHONY MUTEVANE

**7 Coronavirus Disruptions to the Private Higher Education Sector in Malaysia** 92

BENNY LIM

**8 Innovating in the Face of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Case Studies from Nigerian Universities** 104

SAMUEL ADEYANJU, OLUWATOYIN AJILORE, OLUWAFEMI  
OGUNLALU, ALEX ONATUNJI, AND EMMANUEL MOGAJI

**PART III**

**Understanding Institutional Policies, Resources, and Technology Priorities** 121

**9 Student Attitudes and Experiences with COVID-19: A Case of One Research University in California** 123

DAVID EDENS AND EMILY KIRESICH

**10 Chinese College Students' Experiences of Using the Learning Management System and Their Sense of Online Classroom Community during the COVID-19 Pandemic** 139

XI LIN, MINGYU HUANG, AND QINGCHUAN ZHANG

**11 Pedagogical Implications of COVID-19: A Case Study of What Faculty Learned about Teaching Well by Teaching Remotely during the Covid-19 Pandemic** 154

KIM MANTURUK AND GREY REAVIS

**12 International Students in Times of Corona in the United States: A Duoethnography of Foreignness** 167

WU XIE AND MUSBAH SHAHEEN

*Index* 185

# Figures

8.1	Map of global school closures during the Covid-19 pandemic	106
8.2	The lists of innovation products being carried out by the universities according to the survey respondents ( $N = 105$ )	112
8.3	The respondents' level of awareness of the innovative efforts (vaccine development or any other material/equipment) of their universities in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. ( $N = 105$ )	113
9.1	Comfort in taking on the challenge of transition to virtual instruction	127
9.2	Personal impact of Covid-19 changes	128
9.3	Respondent impression of the transition within department-specific courses	129
9.4	Student concerns moving through and beyond the Spring semester of instruction	130
9.5	Student perceived impact of virtual instruction on future	130
9.6	Classroom response and environment after virtual pivot	131
10.1	Descriptive analysis of experiences of using an LMS	145
11.1	Model of the innovation-decision process	156





# Tables

3.1	Federal institutions' overview and data collected to be continued	30
8.1	An overview of items produced by Nigerian universities in response to the Covid-19 pandemic	111
10.1	Multiple regression results ( $N = 187$ )	146



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“Global Higher Education during COVID-19: Policy, Society, and Technology is a timely edited collection that begins to unpack the multifaceted impact the pandemic has had on higher education worldwide. It adds to the growing conversation on reimagining higher education.”

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