

HIGHER EDUCATION'S RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Building a more sustainable
and democratic future



*Sjur Bergan, Tony Gallagher, Ira Harkavy, Ronaldo Munck
and Hilligje van't Land (eds)*

Council of Europe Higher Education Series No. 25

ISBN 978-92-871-8697-3

Council of Europe Publishing

The COVID-19 pandemic is a watershed. Higher education had to react rapidly and take challenging decisions on how to reorganise teaching and learning as well as research and other activities. Institutions needed to take account of the health and safety of students and staff as well as of the framework established by public authorities for addressing the sudden health crisis. Beyond this immediate response, higher education must play a major role in helping to shape a better, more equitable and just post-COVID world.

Higher education's response to the Covid-19 pandemic explores the various responses of higher education to the pandemic across Europe and North America, with contributions also from Africa, Asia and South America. The contributors write from the perspective of higher education leaders with institutional responsibility, as well as from that of public authorities or specialists in specific aspects of higher education policy and practice. Some contributions analyse how specific higher education institutions reacted, while others reflect on the impact of COVID-19 on key issues such as internationalisation, finance, academic freedom and institutional autonomy, inclusion and equality, and public responsibility.

The book describes the various ways in which higher education is facing the COVID-19 pandemic. It is designed to help universities, specifically their staff, students, and partners – including public authorities – contribute to a more sustainable and democratic future.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE

A WORD FROM THE EDITORS AND A CALL TO ACTION

Sjur Bergan, Tony Gallagher, Ira Harkavy, Ronaldo Munck and Hilligje van't Land

CONTEXT

Universities must help shape the post-Covid-19 world – *Ira Harkavy, Sjur Bergan, Tony Gallagher and Hilligje van't Land*

Higher education, civic engagement, Covid-19 and the “new normal” – *Ronaldo Munck*

The pre-Covid-19 world: race and inequity in higher education – *Henry Louis Taylor, Jr*

CHALLENGES AND RESPONSES

Some challenges facing higher education in Europe in view of the Covid-19 pandemic – *Ellen Hazelkorn*

Challenges to US higher education in performing local missions during and after the Covid-19 pandemic – *David Maurrasse*

Public responsibility for higher education in the time of Covid – *Sjur Bergan*

Past, present, future: re-thinking the social responsibility of US higher education in light of Covid-19 and Black Lives Matter – *Ira Harkavy and Rita A. Hodges*

Beyond a “new normal”: Covid-19, Black Lives Matter and the remaking of higher education – *Peter Englot and Nancy Cantor*

University challenge – The role of research-intensive universities in crisis management – *Åse Gornitzka and Svein Stølen*

Maireann na daoine ar scath a chéile: Dublin City University, Covid-19 and the creation of the “next normal” – *Daire Keogh*

Public work and reclaiming the democratic impulse of higher education in these pandemic times – *Paul C. Pribbenow*

Higher education should embrace this liminal moment because there will be no “new normal” – *James T. Harris and Nicholas R. Santilli*

Covid-19 and “the crises in higher education” – *Liviu Matei*

Resilience and resistance: the community college in a pandemic – *Brian Murphy*

The University of Bologna during the Covid-19 pandemic: protect, provide and innovate – Responses from a resilient community – *Elena Luppi, Elena Consolini, Alessandra Scagliarini, Mirko Degli Esposti and Francesco Ubertini*

Re-thinking African higher education in the post-Covid-19 era – *Barnabas Nawangwe*

Leveraging the Covid-19 crisis to advance global sustainable universities: re-creation of valuable higher education
Kiyoshi Yamada and Koji Nakamura

Leadership and opportunities for sustainable higher education vis-à-vis the pandemic – *Santiago Acosta*

American higher education: rescuing democracy’s purpose and policies – *Martha J. Kanter and Carol Geary Schneider*

Romanian higher education facing Covid-19: new challenges for the university–state partnership

Ligia Deca, Delia Gologan and Robert Santa

A DEMOCRATIC, SUSTAINABLE UNIVERSITY

Academic freedom and institutional autonomy: victims of the Covid-19 pandemic? – *Sjur Bergan*

The impact of Covid-19 on internationalisation and student mobility: an opportunity for innovation and inclusion?
Dorothy Kelly

Internationalisation of higher education in a post-Covid-19 world: overcoming challenges and maximising opportunities – *Hans de Wit and Giorgio Marinoni*

Recognition of foreign qualifications in the time of Covid-19 – *Stig Arne Skjerven*

From fire-fighting to re-thinking external quality assurance: European quality assurance agencies’ response to the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic – *Maria Kelo*

Sustainable financing of higher education after the pandemic – *Jamil Salmi*

The challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic for higher education legislation in Europe – *Dennis Farrington*

The challenges of the Covid-19 crisis for students – *Robert Napier*

Addressing the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic: a view from higher education staff – *Rob Copeland*

Universities as catalysts of post-Covid recovery and renewal in communities – *John Gardner*

The local university mission after Covid-19: two Irish case studies – *Tony Gallagher and Ronaldo Munck*

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES
