

PROPOSAL
UNESCO CHAIR IN COMPARATIVE HIGHER EDUCATION POLICIES AND SYSTEMS AT THE UNIVERSITY DIEGO PORTALES, CHILE

Background

Higher education in the developing world and particularly Latin America is involved in an accelerating process of change while it faces a series of demanding challenges:¹

- a) The expansion of national systems and the demand for greater equality of access;
- b) The proliferation, differentiation, and relations between public institutions, private dependent and independent universities² and non university institutions involved in higher education services;
- c) The current debate about the organization of under and post-graduate education, (grade structure and degrees, length of courses, learning credits, skills that graduates should acquire, relevance of supply etc.);
- d) The financing of higher education institutions (cost spiral, support for students through scholarships and credits, fees and rates, modalities of financing by objectives and results, performance contracts, etc.);
- e) The establishment and functioning of quality assurance, with various procedures for evaluation and accreditation of programs, units, services and institutions;
- f) The role of universities in R&D, their relationship to the productive sector and the public and private modalities of financing these activities;
- g) University internationalization (student, faculty, and program mobility; research collaboration; networks for higher education in Ibero-America; universities in global rankings, etc.)

These changes have given rise to intense policy formulation, the production of laws and administrative norms and a continual rearrangement of the relations between governments, national systems, civil society and markets.³

The way that each national system approaches these changes and the new arrangements that follow will define the profile of higher education in developing countries for the XXI century.

¹ See Brunner (2007)

² For the institutional categories employed, see UNESCO Institute of Statistics, "Instruction Manual to Complete the Questionnaire about Educational Statistics", Montreal, October 2005

³ See IESALC (2005)

The character of the contribution that institutions and systems can make to the development of their societies are to be found in three fundamental areas:

- a) The growth and competitiveness of national economies;
- b) The integration and cohesion of societies;
- c) Strengthening and improving democratic government.

In these three areas, advanced human capital, formed by universities and other higher education institutions, play key roles. Thus human capital is,

- an essential component of growth, innovation and competitiveness among nations, especially now that countries face the need to integrate more fully into the global economy based on the intensive use of knowledge;¹
- a decisive factor which expands people's opportunities in the labor market and encourages social mobility, two key characteristics of cohesive and equitable modern societies²;
- key to the functioning of institutions which makes democratic governance and the development of countries possible.³

General Objective

The overall objective of the Chair, proposed to UNESCO, is twofold. First, to strengthen the development of capacity building for analysis, projections, policy generation and management at the institutional and systems levels in developing countries in order to face the challenges that have emerged at the beginning of the XXI century. Second, to promote greater south-south collaboration in order to develop, implement and evaluate higher education policies through the production and transfer of knowledge, the circulation of ideas and the dissemination of relevant information.

Specific Objectives

- a) Analyze the process of higher education change in developing countries, to better formulate, design, implement, manage and evaluate policies and programs that seek change, and evaluate the adaptation of systems and national institutions to the new environment;
- b) To comparatively explore changes and future scenarios in world higher education with the aim of improving knowledge and capacity for action in developing countries higher education systems and institutions;
- c) To participate actively in the development of south-south and Latin American research networks which examine higher education's policy transformations and incorporating this knowledge, particularly that produced by multinational organizations and institutions in the north into local policy and training;

¹ See World Bank (2002)

² See OECD (2001)

³ See Rodrik (2001)

d) Training and workshops, consulting and communication about policy formulation and management at the institutional and system levels with the focus on Latin America and south-south collaboration.

Specific Themes

The Chair will fulfill these objectives by working on the following issues:

- a) Analysis of higher education systems at the global level and the application of the OECD futures scenarios to the real educational tasks of Latin America and developing countries;
- b) The role of governments, institutions and markets in the co-ordination of systems and the phenomena of privatization¹ in Ibero-American and developing country higher education;
- c) Policies and financial models for higher education in Latin America and developing countries;
- d) Policies and quality assurance procedures and their evolution in developing countries;
- e) Relations between higher education and the labor market in developing countries and information and support systems for students and graduates. .

Main Activities

To achieve these objectives, the Chair is conceived as a knowledge management base on comparative policies and systems of higher education, comprising the production, transfer, teaching and dissemination of the type of knowledge from the perspectives of intra Latin American systems and south-south collaboration. The main activities will be:

Research

- a) Analysis and in house studies on one or more thematic areas noted in the previous section;
- b) Collaboration in national and multinational research projects in the proposed areas;
- c) Contract research in these areas;
- d) Transfer of knowledge relevant for the analysis, formulation, implementation and evaluation of comparative higher educational policies

¹ See Brunner and Uribe (2007)

Training and teaching

- a) Training workshops for higher education policy makers and institutional management personnel in the areas covered by the Chair;
- b) Production and adaptation of resources and materials for distance education and self managed learning.

Communications and outreach

- a) Printed publications (books and papers) and electronically published hypertexts on the Internet;
- b) Participation in conferences, academic and policy seminars and other public events in developing countries;
- c) Development and continuous updating of the Chair's web page with the following proposed sections:
 - Current activities;
 - Publications;
 - On line thematic bibliographies;
 - Links to relevant web sites and academic weblogs;
 - News and updates;
 - Continuation and updating of the Chair's Director Academic Blog;¹
 - Electronic news bulletin on current comparative trends in higher education policy and systems.

Work plan 2007 and 2008-10

Current year (2007)

This year will be one of preparation for the establishment and full operation of the Chair. The following activities are currently scheduled and/or under way:

- a) The *Universidad Diego Portales* (UDP) will submit this proposal to the Director General of UNESCO through its National Cooperation Commission located in the Chilean Ministry of Education;
- b) Setting up of an International Steering Committee (see below for more details);
- c) The Chair (in process of establishment) will develop a series of initiatives to generate support for its activities in 2008, specifically project funds

¹ Found at www.brunner.cl

d) These initiatives will be accompanied by activities to support the Chair (currently under development) including:

- Publication of the CINDA sponsored book, coordinated by J.J. Brunner, “*Higher Education in Ibero America – 2007 Report*” to be presented during the second half of 2007 in Santiago (Chile) and Barcelona (Spain)
- Publication by the UDP and presentation of University Markets; new scenarios for Higher Education, (*Mercados universitarios: Los nuevos escenarios de la educación superior*), by J.J. Brunner and D. Uribe, produced as a result of a research project funded by the Chilean National Science and Technology Fund (*Fondo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología*, FONDECYT) and which will be published in November, 2007.
- Publication of “Higher Education in Central Asia: the challenge of modernization”, by J.J. Brunner and A.D. Tillett, a review and four national case studies produced for the World Bank.

Work plan 2008-2010

Activity		Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
I. Research and Analysis				
	1. Research on trends and future scenarios applied to developing countries	Analysis of OECD world report on tertiary education	Second CINDA report on HE in Ibero_America	Future scenarios of higher education in Latin America and developing countries
	2. Evolution of financial models		In Latin American countries	In countries of the south
	3. Evolution of Quality Assurance systems in developing countries	Latin American evolution		In Ibero America
	4. Market development and privatization in HE	Update the Dynamic Reader on HE marketization ¹	Private HE in Chile & developing countries	Chile case study
	5. Higher education graduate employment & the evolution of support and information systems	Graduate Employment Observatory ²	Science and engineering graduates in Chilean labor market	National information systems on graduate employment, (Latin America)
II. Training and instruction				
	1. Workshops on policy and comparative systems (outside Chile)	Colombia	Mexico	Central America
	2. Workshops on comparative policy and systems in regions of Chile outside Santiago	Concepción	Valparaíso	Antofagasta
III. Communication and outreach				
	1. Printed publications	Books and papers	Books and papers	Books and papers
	2. Chair's Web page	Development	Updating	Updating
	3. Academic Blog (Chair's Director)	Updating	Updating	Updating
	4. Electronic news bulletin	Production & on line distribution	Production & on line distribution	Production & on line distribution
	5. Conference participation/other events.	PPT Presentations	PPT Presentations	PPT Presentations
IV. Consultancy/Advisory services				
	1. In Chile	On request	On request	On request
	2. Outside Chile	On request	On request	On request

¹ See current version at http://mt.educarchile.cl/jjbrunner/archives/2005/11/el_mercardo_avan.html

² Subject to agreement with the Chilean Ministry of Education

Output and evaluation indicators

Year One	
Product	Evaluation Indicators
Application of the OECD's Higher Education Report for developing countries	1 paper 1 hypertext on web page
Evolution of quality assurance for developing country HE	1 paper 1 hypertext on web page
Dynamic Reader on Higher Education Marketing	Revision and renewal at web page
Graduate employment in current labor market	Updated at www.futurolaboral.cl (*) Development of study on graduate engineers & scientists in Chile (*)
Training workshops on HE policy and comparisons	1 in Chile 1 outside of Chile
Chair's web site	Developed and working on line
Academic Blog (Chair's Director)	Up to 25-30 postings during the year
Electronic News Bulletin	6 editions during the year
Participation in Conferences and events	Up to 12 per year
Consultancies inside and outside Chile	Up to 3 per year with respective report
Year Two	
CINDA - HE Report 2009	Book publication
Evolution of financial models and policies in OECD countries	1 paper 1 hypertext on web page
Research on Private Sector in Latin America	1 book
Project on Graduate Employment	1 book on scientists and engineers employment (*) Updated at www.futurolaboral.cl (*)
Training workshops on HE policy and comparisons	1 in Chile 1 outside of Chile
Chair's Web Site	Continuous and up to date
Academic Blog (Chair's Director)	Up to 25-30 postings during the year
Participation in Conferences and events	Up to 12 per year
Consultancies inside and outside Chile	Up to 3 per year with respective report
Year Three	
Future HE trends in Latin America	1 book
Financial models for HE and their evolution in developing countries	1 book
Evolution of quality assurance in Ibero America	1 printed book 1 hypertext on web page
Research on markets and privatization in Chile	1 paper
Project on Graduate employment	1 hypertext at the Chair's web page on graduate information on systems in 3 Latin American countries Updated at www.futurolaboral.cl (*)
Training workshops on HE policy and comparisons	1 in Chile 1 outside of Chile
Chair's Web Site	Continuous and up to date
Academic Blog (Chair's Director)	Up to 25-30 postings during the year
Participation in Conferences and events	Up to 12 per year
Consultancies inside and outside Chile	Up to 3 per year with respective report

(*) Subject to appropriate agreements

Target beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries of the Chair's activities are, in the first place, Chile's higher education institutions and those of Latin America, their managers and faculty interested in issues of comparative higher education policies and systems; the policy makers and implementers of Higher Education policy in the Latin American region; specialist researchers in higher education studies and their networks. Secondary beneficiaries will be those developing country higher education institutions within the context of south-south cooperation and those that use HE services, together with the media, and public opinion interested in the development of higher education in the chair's host country.

The Chair's organization

The proposed Chair is organized into three components: the Chair leader, an International Steering Committee, and the academic unit attached to the Chair. They are integral to the success of this enterprise. The Chair will have its headquarters at the Universidad Diego Portales (UDP) de Chile and will be located at the Institute of Social Research (Instituto de Investigación Social).

Director

The initiative will be led by Professor José Joaquín Brunner whose curriculum vitae (CV) is attached. His contact address and details are:

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International Steering Committee

As noted above the Chair will be able to rely on an International Steering Committee with the following membership:¹

Jorge Balán, Visiting Professor, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, OISE, at the University of Toronto, Canada;

María de Ibarrola, Researcher, Departamento de Investigaciones Educativas (DIE) del Centro de Investigaciones Avanzadas, CINVESTAV, México;

Carmen García Guadilla, Researcher, Centro de Estudios del Desarrollo, CENDES, de la Universidad Central de Venezuela;

Lauritz Holm-Nielsen, Rector, Aarland University, Denmark;

Iván Lavados, Executive Director of the Centro Interuniversitario de Desarrollo, CINDA;

¹ All have now confirmed their membership

Francisco López Segrera, Academic Advisor to the Global University Network for Innovation (GUNI);

José Ginés Mora, Director, Centro de Estudios en Gestión de la Educación Superior, Universidad Politécnica de Valencia;

Jaume Pagés, CEO (Consejero-Delegado), Universia;

Margarita Peña, Director of the Instituto Colombiano para el Fomento de la Educación Superior, ICFES;

Jamil Salmi, Coordinator, World Bank's network of tertiary education professionals;

Simón Schwartzman, President, Instituto de Estudos do Trabalho e Sociedade, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Academic unit

The academic nucleus of the Chair will consist of the following faculty:¹

José Joaquín Brunner, Chair director

Maria José Ramírez, researcher, UDP

Oscar Espinoza, researcher, UDP

Felipe Salazar, research Assistant, UDP

Anthony Tillett, consultant.

Preliminary Budget

A preliminary tentative budget is set out as Appendix 3.

Institutional Associations²

The Chair will initially explore associations with two university networks; the precise terms of reference for the collaborations are being worked out:

1. **UNIVERSIA**, Network of more than 800 universities and higher education gateways from Ibero America that counts on the support of the Santander Group.

2. **Centro Inter-universitario de Desarrollo (CINDA)**, Network of Latin American and European Universities whose full members (33) and associate members (3) come from both Latin America and Europe (membership list is to be found in Appendix 4).

In addition, it will establish close collaborative links with relevant organizations in the Region, first and foremost with the Instituto de Educación Superior para América Latina y el Caribe (IESALC), and with networks such as the Red Iberoamericana para la Acreditación de la Calidad de la Educación Superior (RIACES) and the other UNESCO Chairs located in developing countries that work on similar topics as those proposed here.

¹ Respective CVs are attached

² Ongoing discussions which do not imply institutional commitments or otherwise.

References

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Brunner, J.J. (Coord.) (2007). *Educación Superior en Ibero América: Informe 2007*. (Higher Education in Ibero America: 2007 Report). Santiago de Chile: CINDA

Brunner, J.J. y Uribe, D. (2007). *Mercados universitarios: Los nuevos escenarios de la educación superior*. (University Markets: new scenarios for higher education. Santiago de Chile: UDP (at the press). Available at:
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Santiago de Chile, September 2007

Appendix: Budget (2008-2010) US \$

Activity/Product	UDP Contribution		Other Income
	Budget allocation	Services	
Year 2008	90,000	48,000	75,000
Director	48,000		
Academic Staff (part time)	24,000		
Research Assistants	18,000		9,000
Office support and communications		12,000	
Bibliographic material		2,000	2,000
Participation in foreign events		5,000	5,000
Papers (edition, impression, circulation)		3,000	
Chair's Web page (creation and updating)		17,000	
Electronic News Bulletin		2,000	2,000
Support for workshops in Chile		2,000	2,000
Project on Graduate Employment			50,000
Research costs		5,000	5,000
Year 2009	90,000	52,500	57,000
Director	48,000		
Academic Staff (part time)	24,000		
Research Assistants	18,000		9,000
Office support and communications		12,000	
Bibliographic material		2,000	2,000
Participation in foreign events		5,000	5,000
Papers (edition, impression, circulation)		1,500	
Books (2) edition, print, distribution		10,000	
Chair's Web Page (continuous updating)		12,000	
Electronic News Bulletin		2,000	2,000
Support for workshops in Chile		2,000	2,000
Project on Graduate Employment			30,000
Research costs		6,000	7,000
Year 2010	90,000	54,000	57,000
Director	48,000		
Academic Staff (part time)	24,000		
Research Assistants	18,000		9,000
Office support and communications		12,000	
Bibliographic material		2,000	2,000
Participation in foreign events		5,000	5,000
Papers (edition, impression, circulation)		3,000	
Books (2) edition, print, distribution		10,000	
Chair's Web Page (continuous updating)		12,000	
Electronic Bulletin		2,000	2,000
Support for workshops in Chile		2,000	2,000
Project on Graduate Employment			30,000
Research costs		6,000	7,000

Appendix: CINDA Members (2007)

Country	Official Name
<i>Full members</i>	33
Argentina	U. Nacional de Quilmas
Argentina	U. Nacional de Cuyo
Belgium	U. Católica de Lovaina
Brazil	U. de Sao Paulo
Chile	Pontificia U. Católica de Chile
Chile	U. de Concepción,
Chile	Pontificia U. Católica de Valparaíso
Chile	Austral de Chile
Chile	U. de Talca
Colombia	U de Los Andes
Colombia	U. del Norte
Colombia	U. Del Valle,
Colombia	Pontificia U. Javeriana
Costa Rica	U. de Costa Rica
Dominican R.	Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo
Dominican R.	Pontificia U. Católica Madre y Maestra
Ecuador	Escuela Superior Politécnica Del Litoral,
Italy	U. Degli Studi Di Genova
Mexico	U. Autónoma Metropolitana de México
Mexico	Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey
Panama	U. de Panamá
Peru	Pontificia U. Católica del Perú
Peru	U. del Pacífico
Peru	U. Peruana Cayetano Heredia
Spain	U. Politécnica de Catalunya
Spain	U. Oberta de Catalunya
Spain	U. de Las Islas Baleares
Spain	U de Santiago de Compostela
Venezuela, R.B.	U. Simón Bolívar de Venezuela
Venezuela, R.B.	U. Centroccidental “Lisandro Alvarado” de Venezuela.
<i>Associate Members</i>	3
Bolivia	U. Privada de Santa Cruz de la Sierra
Chile	U. de Tarapacá
Peru	U. de Lima