Australian Policy Responses to the Rise of Asian Higher Education

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Abstract:
The idea that Asian systems of education have witnessed rapid rise over the past two decades is no longer contested. In this seminar, I will take its indictors of success as largely uncontested, but focus instead on the ways in which this success is interpreted in the more established systems of higher education. I will consider how the spectacular rise of Asian higher education is understood in ‘western’ countries, such as the USA, UK and Australia; and reflect upon the accounts that are presented to explain this success. Then, I will turn to a range of policy initiatives that the Australian government and universities have pursued in response to the rapidly shifting geopolitical order in higher education. I view the Australian case as illustrative of a seemingly global pattern, continuous with Australia’s historical and political alignment to a broader ‘western’ imaginary of Asia.

Date: 27 March 2015 (Friday)
Time: 2:00pm-4:00pm
Venue: Room 203, Runme Shaw Building, HKU
Chair: Dr. Liz Jackson

About the speaker:
Born in India, Professor Fazal Rizvi was educated in India, Australia and the UK, and is currently a Professor in Global Studies in Education at the University of Melbourne and an Emeritus Professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in the USA. He is also a fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia and a board member of the Asia Education Foundation. He has published extensively on issues of identity and culture in transnational contexts, theories of globalization and education policy and more recently Indian higher education. His books include Globalizing Education Policy (Routledge 2010). His selected papers have recently been published under the title, Encountering Education in the Global (Routledge 2014).

~ All are welcome. ~
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