

11.1.2025

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Title

Rhizomatic knowledge in the process of international academic mobility / Ana Luisa Munoz-Garcia

Publication year

2018

Source/Footnote

In: The Future Agenda for Internationalization in Higher Education : next Generation Insights into Research, Policy, and Practice / ed. by Douglas Proctor and Laura E. Rumbley. - London [u.a.] : Routledge, 2018. - S. 133 - 143

Inventory number

47344

Keywords

Internationalität ; Auslandsbeziehungen ; Ausland : Chile : Hochschulwesen allgemein ; Ausland : Chile : Auslandsbeziehungen

Abstract

This chapter analyzes the impact of academic mobility on the construction of knowledge for Chilean scholars who have studied abroad. This analysis is based on 41 semi-structured interviews conducted with Chilean-born scholars in the social sciences and humanities, who accepted jobs at national research universities in Chile after receiving their doctorates abroad. The findings show that knowledge construction within Chilean national research universities is neither linear nor unidimensional. Instead, it occurs as a rhizomatic process in a multidimensional space. The results of this study invite reflection about the impact of academic mobility on the construction of knowledge in academia, by recognizing that while traveling makes scholars think ‘otherwise,’ there is also a process of negotiation that shapes what ‘thinking otherwise’ means after they return to their home country.

(HRK / Abstract übernommen)

11.1.2025

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