

24.1.2025

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Title

Why Socrates should be in the boardroom in research universities

Publisher

Berkeley, 2010

Collation

17 Bl.

Publication year

2010

Series

(CSHE Research and Occasional Paper Series ; 3.10)

Source/Footnote

Internet: <http://cshe.berkeley.edu/publications/docs/ROPS.Goodall.SocratesBoardroom.2.24.10.pdf>

Inventory number

44205

Keywords

Ausland : Großbritannien : einzelne Hochschulen ; Ausland : Großbritannien : Forschung,
Hochschullehrer ; Hochschule und Staat : allgemein

Abstract

There is an extensive literature on the productivity of universities. Little is known, however, about how different types of leaders affect a university's performance. To address this question, this paper blends quantitative and qualitative evidence. First, I establish that the best universities in the world are led by respected scholars. Next, by constructing a new longitudinal dataset, I show that the research quality of a university improves some years after it appoints a president (or vice chancellor) who is an accomplished researcher. To try to explain why scholar-leaders might improve the research

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performance of their institutions, I draw from interview data with twenty-six university heads in the United States and United Kingdom. These findings have policy implications for governments, universities, and a range of research and knowledge-intensive organizations. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)

Signature

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