

and others. This book is comprehensive in that it deals with socio-political and economic issues as well as how these influence policy and curriculum implementation. There is something for everyone who takes a critical perspective on globalization here. Yet, in spite of the realistic recognition of the forces at play, there is nevertheless a guarded optimism evident in the book. Once again, I recommend it highly.



Wasser, H. (1999). *Diversification in Higher Education*. Kassel: Wissenschaftliches Zentrum für Berufs und Hochschulforschung der Gesamthochschule Kassel. Pages: 96.

Reviewed By Yvonne Brown, The University of British Columbia.

This book of nine essays by Henry Wasser is timely. Its publication at century's end is a summary reminder of the philosophical debates about the nature and purpose of universities in Western civilization. The major theme that is developed throughout is that higher education includes more and diversified post secondary institutions than the traditional research university. The variations may be classified into the research university, the comprehensive diversified university and vocational colleges. Professor Wasser's long association with universities in Europe and the United States, in both professorial and administrative posts, provides a comprehensive comparative perspective from which to draw for each essay. A strong sense of history is infused throughout. The first essay entitled "Teaching and Research: Tension and Balance" dissects the symbiotic relationship between teaching and research to reveal the tensions and imbalances which professors have to work through in order to support the research value of universities. Scholarship involves content, structure and process knowledge where research leads to discovery of new knowledge, practices involve the application of new knowledge and teaching the transmission of new knowledge. New knowledge has to be integrated into further inquiry.

At a time when corporate interests and neo-liberal state policies contest the autonomy of universities, chapter three "Redefining the Autonomy of Universities" gives a historical context by comparing various models of State University funding relationships. Chapter four outlines complications and conflicts caused by industry's demand on the research capacity of universities. The chapter is aptly entitled: "Changes in the European University: From Traditional to Entrepreneurial." The discussion in this chapter shows Professor Wasser's vast experience. This is an excellent synopsis of the imperatives and the conflicts inherent in the traditional/entrepreneurial divide. This chapter is a fine comparison with the trends in American higher education, which he covers in chapter six. Much of what Professor Wasser writes about "Recent Trends in American Higher Education" in this chapter is not only true of the literature but of the public discourses in the popular media. He discusses the threats to such social justice programs in the American system such as access to disadvantaged groups, and the push towards careerism.

There is only one glaring weakness. The quality of the writing and the editing is uneven. Chapter six is in my opinion the best-written essay. In saying this I do not wish to take away from the instructive value that each essay contributes to the book as a whole.

The final essay entitled: "The University: Does it Have a Future?" is an attempt to come to terms with the economic and social challenges to the freedom and autonomy which universities could take for granted in its unfettered pursuit of truth. I sense a lament for the passing of a seven hundred-year tradition and an exhortation to preserve the essence of the traditions, norms and values that have made the idea of the western university special.

I recommend this book for university personnel who would like to have an overview of the changes taking place in Europe and the United States. The book is also valuable as an introductory text for students new to the study of higher education. One has to look elsewhere for comparison of university trends in other parts of the world.

