Job Satisfaction around the Academic World
The Changing Academy – The Changing Academic Profession
in International Comparative Perspective 7

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Scope of the series
As the landscape of higher education has in recent years undergone significant changes, so correspondingly have the backgrounds, specializations, expectations and work roles of academic staff. The Academy is expected to be more professional in teaching, more productive in research and more entrepreneurial in everything. Some of the changes involved have raised questions about the attractiveness of an academic career for today’s graduates. At the same time, knowledge has come to be identified as the most vital resource of contemporary societies.

The Changing Academy series examines the nature and extent of the changes experienced by the academic profession in recent years. It explores both the reasons for and the consequences of these changes. It considers the implications of the changes for the attractiveness of the academic profession as a career and for the ability of the academic community to contribute to the further development of knowledge societies and the attainment of national goals. It makes comparisons on these matters between different national higher education systems, institutional types, disciplines and generations of academics, drawing initially on available data-sets and qualitative research studies with special emphasis on the recent twenty nation survey of the Changing Academic Profession. Among the themes featured will be:

1. Relevance of the Academy’s Work
2. Internationalization of the Academy
3. Current Governance and Management, particularly as perceived by the Academy
4. Commitment of the Academy

The audience includes researchers in higher education, sociology of education and political science studies; university managers and administrators; national and institutional policymakers; officials and staff at governments and organizations, e.g. the World Bank.

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Job Satisfaction around the Academic World
Contents

1 Introduction: Satisfaction Around the World? .......................... 1
   Peter James Bentley, Hamish Coates, Ian R. Dobson,
   Leo Goedegebuure, and V. Lynn Meek

2 Academic Work at the Periphery: Why Argentine Scholars
   Are Satisfied, Despite All........................................... 13
   Mónica Marquina and Gabriel Rebello

3 Factors Associated with Job Satisfaction Amongst Australian
   University Academics and Future Workforce Implications.......... 29
   Peter James Bentley, Hamish Coates, Ian R. Dobson,
   Leo Goedegebuure, and V. Lynn Meek

4 Job Satisfaction in a Diverse Institutional Environment:
   The Brazilian Experience............................................. 55
   Elizabeth Balbachevsky and Simon Schwartzman

5 Canadian University Academics’ Perceptions of Job
   Satisfaction: “... The Future Is Not What It Used to Be”............ 83
   Julian Weinrib, Glen A. Jones, Amy Scott Metcalfe,
   Donald Fisher, Yves Gingras, Kjell Rubenson, and Iain Snee

6 Finland: Satisfaction Guaranteed! A Tale of Two Systems........... 103
   Timo Aarrevaara and Ian R. Dobson

7 Determinants of Academic Job Satisfaction in Germany............. 125
   Ester A. Höhle and Ulrich Teichler

8 Factors Determining Academics’ Job Satisfaction in Japan
   from the Perspective of Role Diversification........................ 145
   Akira Arimoto and Tsukasa Daizen

9 An Academic Life in Malaysia: A Wonderful Life
   or Satisfaction Not Guaranteed?...................................... 167
   Norzaini Azman, Morshidi Bin Sirat, and Mohd Ali Samsudin
10 Portugal: Dimensions of Academic Job Satisfaction ........................... 187
   Diana Dias, Maria de Lourdes Machado-Taylor, Rui Santiago,
   Teresa Carvalho, and Sofia Sousa

11 The South African Academic Profession:
   Job Satisfaction for a Besieged Profession?................................. 209
   Charl C. Wolhuter

12 Satisfaction in Stages: The Academic Profession
   in the United Kingdom and the British Commonwealth................... 223
   William Locke and Alice Bennion

13 Academic Job Satisfaction from an International
   Comparative Perspective: Factors Associated
   with Satisfaction Across 12 Countries .................................... 239
   Peter James Bentley, Hamish Coates, Ian R. Dobson,
   Leo Goedegebuure, and V. Lynn Meek

Index................................................................................................................. 263
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