

# **SERU-I Newsletter**

APRIL-MAY 2018

#### Dear SERU-I Members,

June is right around the corner, which means that we all have a chance to meet in person at the SERU Research Symposium in Minneapolis and discuss opportunities and challenges of graduate education (i.e. post-collegiate outcomes) and other SERU related issues.

I am looking forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

# Igor Chirikov

chirikov@berkeley.edu

SERU-International Managing Director

HSE University Moscow / CSHE UC Berkeley

## **SERU-I NEWS**

#### ugSERU and gradSERU Survey

The Spring SERU wave is underway. **Victoria University** and **Lund University** have both launched ugSERU survey. **Universität Bremen** is about to launch the gradSERU survey.

### **SERU Research and Data Access**

SERU data can be used for an internal purpose - institutional self-improvement as well as scholarly relevant research. The University of Minnesota takes advantage of the SERU survey in many innovative ways, actively using the survey data to make a difference in the student experience. Please read Krista Soria's interview on data usage at UMN. She has served as the University's data analyst since 2010 and is responsible for administering the SERU each spring. 'Surveys don't matter unless we do something with them,' states Krista. Her efforts led to changes in academic advising and supported a major Campus Climate study at UMN.



The University of California recently posted its 2006 and 2016 SERU Survey data for the UC system and each of the nine undergraduate campuses available publicly on its new UCUES Dashboard (at the UC the SERU Survey is called the UC Student Experience Survey or UCUES). SERU/UCUES data provides information on student behaviors such as their use of time working, studying, socializing, and participating in campus activities; their level of academic engagement such as how much course material they read, classroom participation, and collaborative learning; their self-ratings of academic and interpersonal skills; and their involvement in community service. Results are used to better understand the academic and co-curricular experiences of students, assist with program evaluations, assess financial aid packages, and understand campus climate.

If you or your colleagues have provided public reports and data sources available to your university community or have used SERU data to conduct academic and policy-relevant research on student experience please share with us.

#### INNOVATIONS AROUND THE WORLD



ChiSigmaEpsilon (XΣE) – a new initiative developed at HSE establishes an association for students who love science and who want to better understand the academic side of university life. The mission of the association is to help students develop their skills in research, teaching, and consulting, as well as supporting their participation in applied projects. To find out more information on why HSE has started this initiative and how it will be developed please visit HSE webpage.

The UC Berkeley Teaching & Research Resource Fair – Berkeley's Academic Innovation Studio recently held this expo-style event that featured a rotating series of "topic tables" and technology demonstrations staffed by resource providers from all over campus to support faculty teaching and course development. This included ways to improve faculty syllabuses and course design, to provide tools to make grading easier and much more. A complete list of topics and participating groups can be found on the AIS Resource Fair website.

Please share innovative initiatives supported at your institutions by contacting Irina Shcheglova at i.shegl@berkeley.edu.

#### **EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A reminder of two upcoming SERU events:



#### **SERU Research Symposium in Minneapolis**

will be held on 18-20 of June, 2018. This year's theme is Exploring Post-Collegiate Outcomes. The University of Minnesota, coordinator of the SERU AAU, will host the event at UMN campus. For further information, including registration, hotel information and logistics, go to the UMN Symposium website. Registration is free for SERU campuses representatives and invited guests; use the password *gophers* (the UMN mascot is the Golden Gophers). If you are planning on participating, and have not yet registered, please do so as soon as possible. Space is limited and we are close to being at capacity.



# gradSERU Research Symposium in Hannover

will be held on 4-5 of October with support from the Volkswagen Foundation. Representatives from campuses that have or plan to administer the new gradSERU Survey will be invited. We also anticipate participation by prospective SERU campuses that are interested in administering gradSERU. More information on this event will be provided shortly.

We will keep you posted on the planned programs and will send out invitations later in the Spring.

Here is more information on the ugSERU & gradSERU Survey Designs.

If you would like to nominate a campus as a potential SERU-I Member please contact *Irina Shcheglova* at <u>i.shegl@berkeley.edu</u>.

Do not forget to pass the Newsletter to your colleagues!

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771 Evans Hall #4650
Berkeley CA 94720-4650
Phone: (510) 642-7703
Fax: (510) 643-6845
E-mail: cshe@berkeley.edu