



## SERU-I Newsletter

FEBRUARY-MARCH 2018

**Dear SERU-I Members,**

*In this February-March SERU-I newsletter we give an update on undergraduate and graduate survey administration process, feature SERU-based research papers, and announce upcoming SERU events (mark your calendars!). Also, we would like to introduce a new section of the newsletter "SERU campus innovations" where we plan to share best practices in teaching and learning at SERU universities and beyond. Feel free to share such innovations at your campus!*

Sincerely,

**Igor Chirikov**

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SERU-International Managing Director

HSE University Moscow / CSHE UC Berkeley

### SERU-I NEWS

#### ugSERU Survey

**Osaka University** puts considerable efforts in increasing response rate. They are half-way through the winter wave. The current response rate is **17%**.

#### gradSERU Survey

In Spring four universities are launching the gradSERU survey: two German universities - **Universität Bremen** and **Georg-August-Universität Göttingen**, one Swedish – **Lund University**.

#### SERU Research

SERU data can be used for an internal purpose - institutional self-improvement as well as scholarly relevant research. In 2017 two papers which raise crucial topics related to students' learning outcomes and quality of students' surveys were published.

In their study, [Victoria Porterfield](#), [Marc D. Weiner](#), [Paul C. Siracusa](#) evaluate sensitive item nonresponse bias in student surveys. In their paper, [Irina Shcheglova](#), [Gregg Thomson](#), and [Martha C. Merrill](#) argue that internationalization of higher education is not about quantity of international students coming to host university or going abroad, it is about quality of learning experience and skills students can develop during their studies, one of them is global competence.

- [A Diagnostic Mechanism for Assessing Respondent Burden: Sensitive Item Nonresponse Bias in Student Surveys](#) By [Victoria Porterfield](#), [Marc D. Weiner](#), and [Paul C. Siracusa](#). *Journal of Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness*. 2017. 6(2). p. 165-190.
- [Fostering Global Competence through Internationalization at American Research Universities](#) By [Irina Shcheglova](#), [Gregg Thomson](#), and [Martha C. Merrill](#). *Research and Occasional Papers (ROPS)*. Center for Studies in Higher Education. CSHE 10.17. October 2017.

All SERU related publications can be accessed here on the [SERU Research webpage](#). If you or your colleagues have used SERU data to conduct academic and policy relevant research on student experience please share with us by contacting Irina Shcheglova at [i.shegl@berkeley.edu](mailto:i.shegl@berkeley.edu).

#### New SERU Promotional Materials

Here is the [link](#) to access our new SERU-I booklet that briefly describes the SERU Consortium and our member institutions - all top tier research universities. Please forward to any prospective campuses.

## SERU CAMPUS INNOVATIONS



### The UC Berkeley Collegium

SERU campuses have developed many innovative initiatives to support undergraduate and graduate education. We plan to feature one or more in future Newsletters.

In 2012, UC Berkeley launched the **Berkeley's Collegium Program** with the objective of helping foster the link between teaching and research on its campus. The Collegium's long-term aim is to engender and sustain a cultural shift on campus, whereby faculty and students alike come to view undergraduate engagement in research as a fundamental, desirable, and assumed element of a Berkeley education. Each spring the Collegium invites proposals from faculty for new or existing projects that further the goal of narrowing the gap between teaching and research at Berkeley. For an existing project, grant funds should not be viewed as replacement funding, but rather should be targeted for expanding or improving (e.g., adding a new component) the project. The focus is on undergraduates, but proposals may incorporate graduate and postdoctoral students if relevant. Each academic year, the Berkeley campus fund up to 5 projects of up to \$20,000 each over a one- to two-year grant period (depending on the nature of the project).

Please share innovative initiatives supported at your institutions by contacting Irina Shcheglova at [i.shegl@berkeley.edu](mailto:i.shegl@berkeley.edu).

## EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please mark your calendars and start planning your trips for two SERU-related events if you have not done it yet:



### SERU Research Symposium in Minneapolis

The University of Minnesota, coordinator of [the SERU AAU](#), will host the event on **June 18-20, 2018** at **UMN campus**. This year's symposium is organized around the theme of transitions. Consortium transitions as we explore opportunities to expand our membership base. Research transitions as we expand our survey instruments to examine the graduate and professional student experiences. Student transitions as we explore how SERU can help inform our understandings of the post-collegiate outcomes of both undergraduate and graduate students. We invite you and colleagues from your SERU campus, or from prospective member campuses, to join us. For further information, including logistics and registration, go to the [UMN Symposium website](#). Registration is free for SERU campuses representatives and the password is *gophers* (the UMN mascot is the Golden Gophers). Space is limited, so please register as soon as possible.



#### **gradSERU Research Symposium in Hannover**

With funding support from the Volkswagen Foundation, we are in the initial stages of planning a **gradSERU Symposium on October 4-5, 2018 in Hannover, Germany**. 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.



#### **Annual International Conference by the Consortium of Higher Education Researchers**

**HSE University**, a SERU-I member since 2015, is hosting an international conference on ['Differentiation and Integration in Higher Education: Patterns and Dynamics'](#) on **August 30 - September 1, 2018**. The Conference will provide a unique venue for researchers in various disciplines and with diverse scholarly perspectives to network and debate about university systems, HEI management, and the changing landscape of higher education worldwide.

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 [i.shgj@berkeley.edu](mailto:i.shgj@berkeley.edu).

**Do not forget to pass the Newsletter to your colleagues!**

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