

Values and globalisation:

The ethical regimes essential to 'the Idea of a University' in a more global era

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1. Two ethical regimes essential to the University
2. Agent of ethical governance
3. Impacts of globalisation
4. Ethical governance in the global context

Essential to research universities as knowledge-forming organizations

- The domain of communicative association
- The domain of secular intellectual practices

Domain of communicative association

- the right to speak, dialogue on the basis of honesty and mutual respect; and relations within and between universities grounded in solidarity, compassion, cosmopolitan tolerance, empathy for the other

Domain of secular intellectual practices

- freedom for and of the practices integral to productive intellectual activity, such as curiosity, inquiry, observation, reasoning, explanation, criticising and imagining; and the free and open exchange of ideas and knowledge

‘The task of the college president has changed. We were once priests. We are now warriors’

- David Ward

‘Politics is not the art of the possible.
It consists of choosing between the
disastrous and the unpalatable’

- John Kenneth Galbraith

Globalisation

‘the widening, deepening and speeding up of
world wide interconnectedness’

- David Held et al., 1999, p. 2

Globalisation brings

- A remarkable expansion of the benefits of academic association and academic creativity, on the global scale and within each nation, i.e. it enhances the role of the core ethical regimes
- Some flattening of cultural diversity in knowledge
- The partial 'disembedding' of universities from their national contexts

And so globalisation suggests

1. Measures that enhance cross-border mobility of ideas and people, and intellectual freedoms
2. The need to deliberately enhance the cultural diversity of knowledge
3. The roles of autonomous university as institution, and its executive, are growing. Enhancing 1 and 2 rests primarily on cross-border cooperation between universities themselves, as well as governments and international agencies