Advance information

Evaluating Equity and Widening Participation in Higher Education
Edited by Penny Jane Burke, Annette Hayton and Jacqueline Stevenson

Endorsements:
'There has always been a risk that the much-needed evaluation of fair access and widening participation initiatives may be contaminated by existing, and unequal, hierarchies of power and therefore "value". This rich collection shows it is possible to combine rigorous evaluation with critical research and also advocacy and progressive practice.' — Peter Scott, Professor of Higher Education Studies at the UCL Institute of Education

Editor Information:
Penny Jane Burke is Global Innovation Chair of Equity, and Director of the Centre of Excellence for Equity in Higher Education, at the University of Newcastle, New South Wales.
Annette Hayton is Head of Widening Participation at the University of Bath.
Jacqueline Stevenson is Head of Research at the Sheffield Institute of Education, Sheffield Hallam University.
Description:
Evaluation is a contested field. This collection considers the relationship between evaluation and research, and the ethical and moral dilemmas raised when evaluating equity and widening participation in higher education. The growing demands for ‘evidence of impact’ frame expectations that we can justify government funding of particular university-led equity initiatives and understand ‘what works’ well enough to ensure that resources are being allocated and used appropriately.

Drawing on the international seminar series they designed and facilitated over 2014-16, the editors have created a framework of praxis around contested understandings of ‘access’, ‘equity’ and ‘widening participation’ in HE. They and their authors have produced an invaluable resource for developing equity in research, evaluation and practice in higher education.

Audience: Professional and scholarly

Table of Contents: