

Abstracts

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Ignorieren – Anpassen – Widersetzen: Wie Wissenschaftler_innen auf die Anrufungen der neuen Governance antworten

It is an uncontroversial fact that the New Governance of Science led to increased pressure on scientists to adapt to new imperatives. But how scientists actually respond to these new invocations and how the gender category becomes relevant in this context (or not) is not yet studied sufficiently. In this article, we introduce three patterns of responsiveness in, ignorance, adaptation and ambivalence, which illustrate the manifold options of dealing with the institutional change. The patterns do not correspond to a binary gender logic, rather the empirical material shows a salient tendency of ignorance and neutralization of the category of gender so that differences within biographies and careers are individualized and thereby also immunized against feminist critique.

Keywords: New Governance of Science, Subjectivization, Professional Identity, Gender

Lina Vollmer

Using Gender Knowledge More Effectively – Gender Equality Actors in the Professionalization Process

Due to changing governance and an increased demand for quality in gender politics, gender equality work in higher education experienced professionalization processes. This paper argues that the use of scientific gender knowledge plays a crucial role in further professionalization of gender equality practices. Two surveys

presented in this paper – one of them quantitative and the other qualitative – point out that scientific gender knowledge is evaluated very differently by the questioned actors. As some of them are skeptical towards gender issues, these results may indicate the need for a defined minimum standard for the use of gender knowledge in gender equality work.

Keywords: gender equality, university, professionalization, gender studies, gender competence

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Is feminist gender equality work possible in entrepreneurial universities?

This study investigates the possibilities for feminist gender equality work in entrepreneurial universities. Based on a discussion of contradictions inherent to organizational gender equality work, we apply the concepts of feminist institutionalism to analyze the feminist character of gender equality interventions in the course of the implementation of a new career model in four Austrian universities. We find that feminist gender equality work is facilitated by standardization and transparency of organizational decision-making, and that the most important conditions are the mobilization of feminist knowledge and strong networks of gender equality advocates.

Keywords: university reform, Austria, feminism, gender equality work
(DE) Keywords: Hochschulreform, Österreich, Feminismus, Gleichstellungsarbeit

Rosalind Gill

Breaking the silence: The hidden injuries of neo-liberal academia

This paper refers to the context of British universities and tackles the relation between macro-organisation, the institutional practices undergoing major changes and the affective embodied experiences of academics today. Based on various fragments from daily academic life collected over a period of one year, the analysis emphasizes the new forms of precariousness, the intensification and the extensification of academic work. The

author reveals how the new academic labour processes imply various forms of emotions ranging from exhaustion, stress, insomnia, anxieties to toxic shame which remain largely secret and silenced in the public discourse of the academy. By focusing on experience and pointing to some of the »hidden injuries« of academic life, the author recalls us that after making them visible the next challenge is how we might begin to resist.

Keywords: silence, secrecy, British universities, toxic individualism