
Abstract:
This article presents the major theoretical frameworks regarding governmental policy-making in the field of higher education. It first discusses two basic and general “policy models”, after which these models are specified for the policy context of higher education. In addition, an overview is presented of the various policy instruments that can be used by governments with respect to public sector regulation. In the second part of this article the policy models and policy instruments are evaluated from the perspective of their capacity to stimulate innovations in the field of higher education.

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Century: Global Challenge and National Response, 1999. (Published in cooperation with the Institute of International Education, New York. This book addresses these and other central themes in higher education policy and practice in a comparative perspective. Some of the articles focus on specific countries—such as India, Mexico, and Argentina—to illustrate more general themes. Academic institutions and systems have faced pressures of increasing numbers of students and demographic changes, demands for accountability, reconsideration of the social and economic role of higher education, implications of the end of the Cold War, and the impact of new technologies, among others.)