TRANS-ALTAI SUSTAINABILITY DIALOGUE: GENDER AND SUSTAINABILITY

GENDER EQUALITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONS

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BACKGROUND AND MOTIVATION

- One of the purposes of gender equality index for universities is to measure and evaluate gender equality situation, how organizations are doing in terms of respecting rights of people who are working and studying in universities, identifying areas of challenges.
- Another purpose is to identify what should be further improved on at the higher education policy level
- It is important to consider gender equality at universities because it's a place where youth gather together in large numbers. This is the place to obtain proper knowledge about gender equality before entering job market and society where they will spread right ideology about gender equality

What is University Gender Equality Index

The University Gender Equality Index is a tool to measure the progress of gender equality in universities around the globe.

It is composed of set of parameters in three key areas:

- Governance
- Faculty and staff
- Students

WHY INDEX

What gets measured gets done.

The University Gender Index

- First Index was developed in 2021 by one of the authors (Ankhbayar Begz)
- Four major global indices were studied: World Economic Forum Gender Gap Index, European Union Gender Parity Index, UNESCO Gender Equality Index, UNDP Gender Inequality Index but none of these indices study universities specifically
- The new Index consisted of 63 parameters
- Data to be collected and evaluated using

WEIGHTED AVERAGE METHOD

Next step is to collect sufficient data to enable optimization

First case: Mongolia

It was first applied to the Mongolian University of Science and Technology

- Governance: 0.2 out of 1
- (For Example: BOD has 15 members, all men)
- Faculty and Staff 0.5 out of 1
- Students 0.6 out of 1
- Total score 0.4

It took more than 3 months to collect all data because there is no gender segregated data.

PILOT PROJECT: 4 countries, 8 universities

At Stanford University, we expanded the scope of the index application to study 8 universities in 4 countries. Those are:

Mongolia

Mongolian University of Science and Technology

German-Mongolian Institute of Technology

<u>USA</u>

Stanford University

University of California, Berkeley

Korea

Seoul National University

Yonsei University

Japan

Osaka University

Waseda University

USA STANFORD UNIVERSITY AND UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

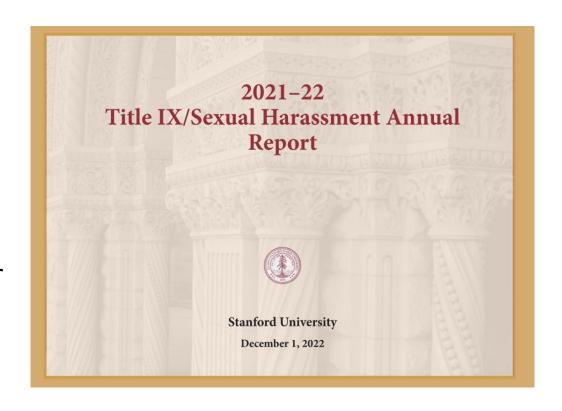
Stanford University total score: 0.86

UC Berkeley total score: 0.83

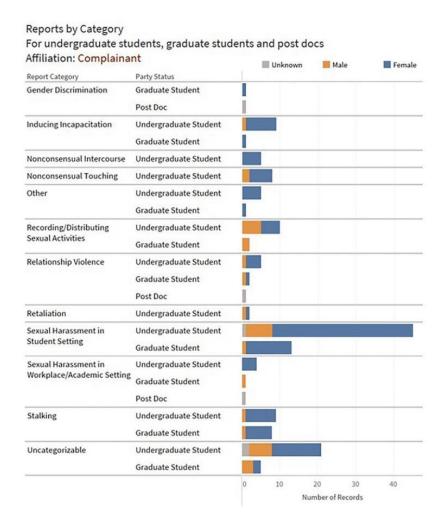
Both universities have comprehensive set of policies and tools to address gender equality issues.

Stanford publishes annual report.
This is important for raising awareness and for keeping track of progress.

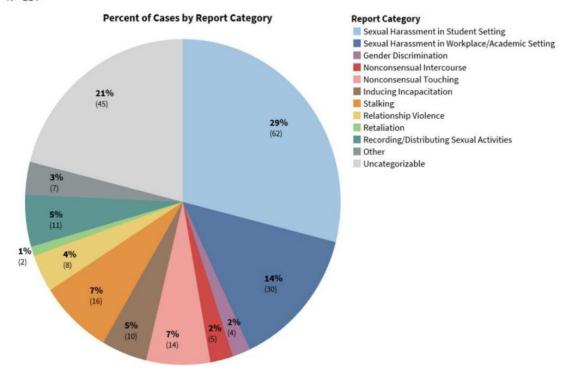
Both universities have strong presence of Ombuds office.



Report content sample







SOUTH KOREA:

Seoul National University Total score: 0.70

Yonsei University Total score: 0.68

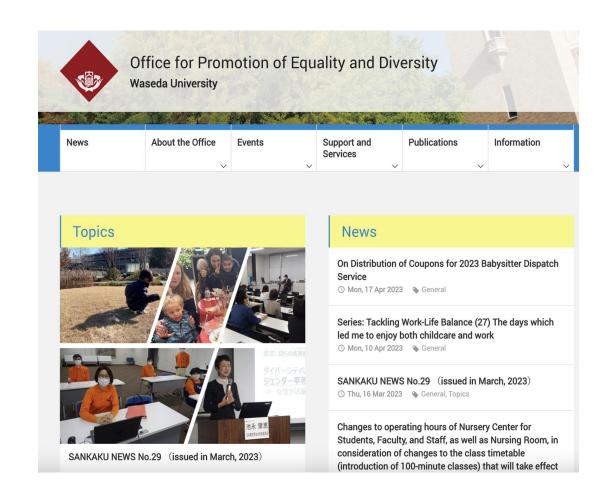
- Both SNU and Yonsei have gender supportive university structures
 - SNU: Institute for Gender Research, Human Rights Center, Diversity Council
 - Yonsei: Center for Gender Equity,
 Human Rights Center
- These offices/centers implement various activities including offering workshops, providing counseling services, and conducting gender related research.
- Both universities have women faculty member councils. There were women student councils in both universities in the past, but they no longer exist.



JAPAN:

Osaka University Total score: 0.68 Waseda University Total score: 0.6

- Both universities have "D&I Center" or "Office for Promotion of Equality and Diversity", an administrative unit for implementing measures related to diversity and inclusion.
- The unit has multiple initiatives, such as Implementing measures to support female researchers in their careers, studies, and worklife balance.
- It coordinates gender equality-related seminars, workshops, events, funding programs, and childcare services.



MONGOLIA: MONGOLIAN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND GERMAN-MONGOLIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Mongolian University of Science and Technology

Governance: 0.2 out of 1

Faculty and Staff 0.5 out of 1

Students 0.6 out of 1

Total score 0.4 out of 1

GMIT (German-Mongolian Institute of Technology)

Governance: 0.7 out of 1

Faculty and Staff 0.5 out of 1

Students 0.74

Total score 0.67 out of 1





RECOMMENDATIONS

- GDT Gender Data Transparency
- In all 4 countries there is a strong demand for Gender Data Transparency and segregation
- Most transparent data was collected from US universities
- Asian 3 countries including Korea, Japan and Mongolia were hardest to obtain gender equality data.
- There is no gender data segregation in Asia
- For STEM fields, faculty number is very strongly skewed to men
- There is only one university has female president out of 8 universities

CONCLUSION AND OUTLOOK

- Universities have moral obligation to be pioneers for gender equality in society
- In societies where one gender dominates in higher education organizations it is obvious that gender inequality persists in its own society

