

HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN SOCIAL INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS

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Dortmund 17/09/2024

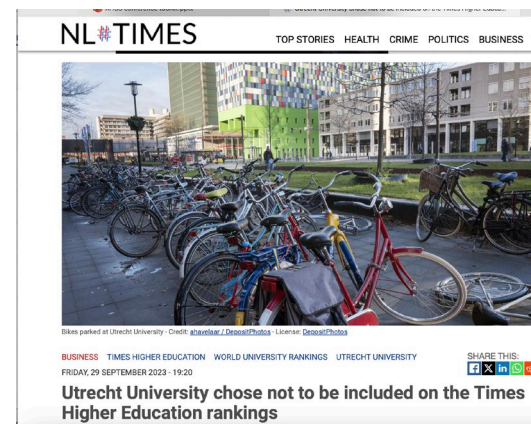
My journey



Diagnosis of the problems

- Decline in public funding combined with increase in student numbers
- The ways that funding is allocated
- Preparing students for the labour market
- Research focused on economic impact
- University spin outs
- Ranking systems and metrics
- Research Excellence Framework
- Competition between universities (attract income / league tables)

Signs of hope?



What if
universities were
to become truly
mission-driven?



Chancellor Yunus



Grameen Caledonian College of Nursing



Grameen Scotland Foundation

Tesco and Grameen Bank to provide microfinance in Scotland

Supermarket's financial services arm and Nobel-winning Bangladeshi development bank will target the most impoverished Scottish regions from 2013



Yunus Centre for Social Business and Health

Social Innovation leads to
improved public health?

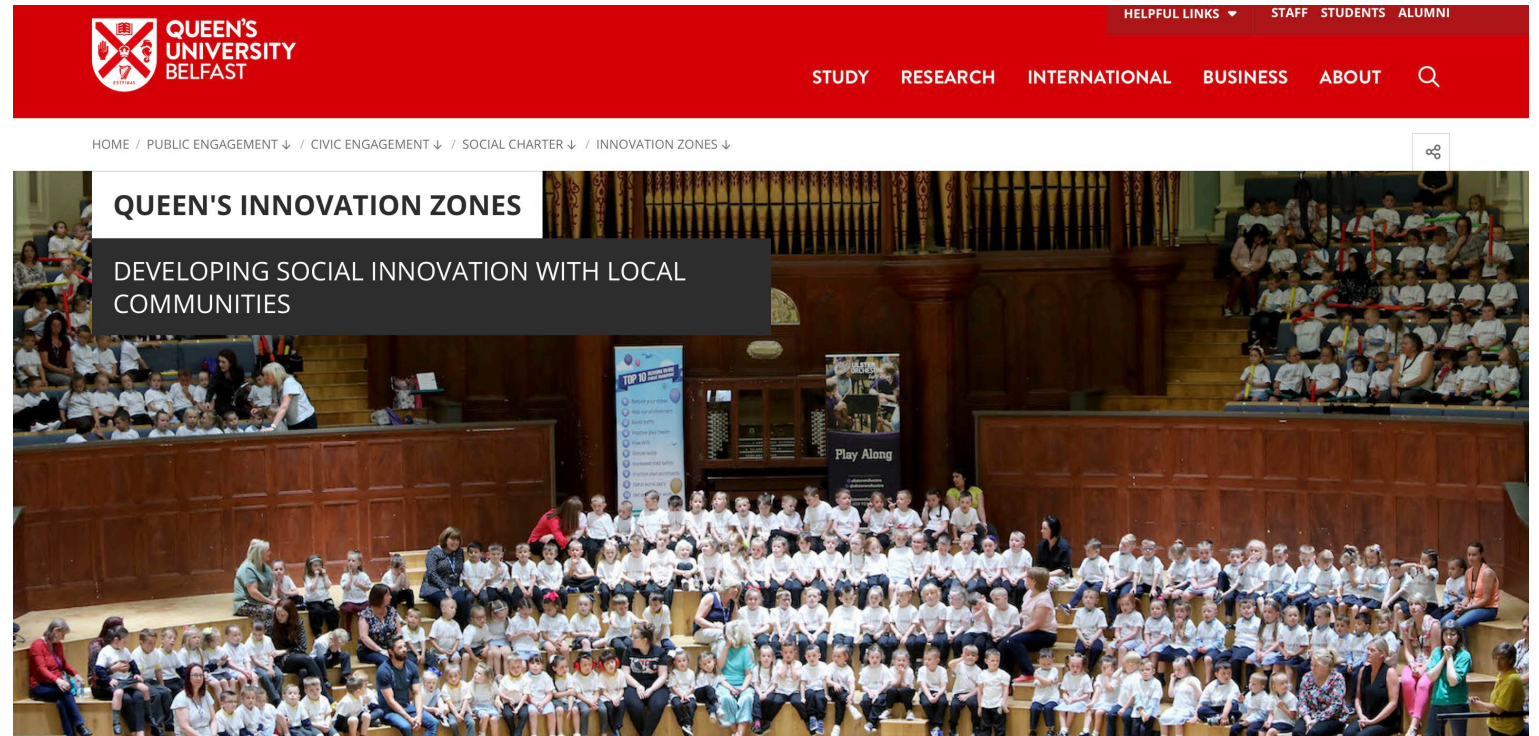


Social
innovation@GCU



Common
Good
First

Queen's Innovation Zones



The University as a social innovation hub





How can we get there?

- Building movements for change
- Pushing back
- Building from the bottom



Pushing back

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17 APR | Rhodes University reaffirms its rejection of scientifically dubious university rankings


[Rhodes](#) > [Latest News](#)

Rhodes University has come out strongly to re-affirm its decision not to participate in scientifically dubious and anti-transformation international university ranking systems.

There has been a proliferation of ranking systems in the recent past, which now also comprise a billion-dollar industry. Most of the systems vary only slightly in methodology.

Despite widespread concern about the scientifically poor and commercialised methods used by these systems, some South African universities actively participate in them and increasingly direct their employment processes and focus their activities towards positioning themselves in the rankings.

Rhodes University is the only university in South Africa to have taken a principled stand against engaging with ranking systems. Other universities, such as the Law Schools of both Yale and Harvard, have recently taken similar stances, joining Rhodes University's long-held position.



Rhodes University reaffirms its rejection of scientifically dubious university rankings.

Turning the
University
inside out (or
upside down)



Thank you!

- Universities should be hubs for social innovation. However, this requires reimagining the relationship with 'users' of research.

