

Review of: "An experience of global higher education and university autonomy in Viet Nam: A case study of Ton Duc Thang University in Ho Chi Minh City"

Chi Fai Stephen Chan¹

¹ Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

1. The paper seems to be more concerned with the efforts and impact of internationalisation, rather than university autonomy. If so, it may be better to rephrase the title. A shorter title may be more effective. For example, is the location of the university important enough to merit putting it in the title. The body of the paper says little about the location itself.
2. The paper is very descriptive. It reads more like a report, rather than a research paper. For a research paper, more should be said about the research question, the methodology and the results.
3. The paper relies a lot on long quotations containing many ideas to make its point. While the writing of the paper itself only makes very general observations. It should do the opposite. The paper should analyse the interview responses to make observations, which is then supported by short quotations.
4. For example, on the topic of cultural adjustment, many issues are mentioned. Some of which sound more like abuse of power than cultural differences. More systematic, targeted analysis can make the contribution of this paper clearer.
5. On the admission of foreign students, numbers are provided. The paper will benefit from more information on measures taken to support these students, and the effectiveness of these measures.
6. The paper seems to try to connect improvement in ranking with its efforts in internationalisation. If this is the case, it should analyse the possible correlation between the two. Better yet, demonstrate that one cause the other. That is research.
7. The challenges faced by the university seems to have a lot in common with those faced by other universities in South East Asia. It will strengthen the paper if references or comparisons can be made with studies in other universities in Vietnam, other countries in South East Asia and beyond.