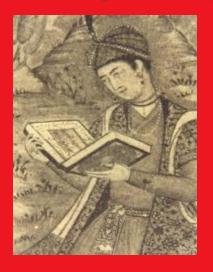
# BRICS and the Special Challenges for Undergraduate Education- INDIA Challenges of top universities in improving undergraduate education



Roopa Desai Trilokekar Thursday, May 15, 2014 SERU-International Research Conference HSE, Moscow





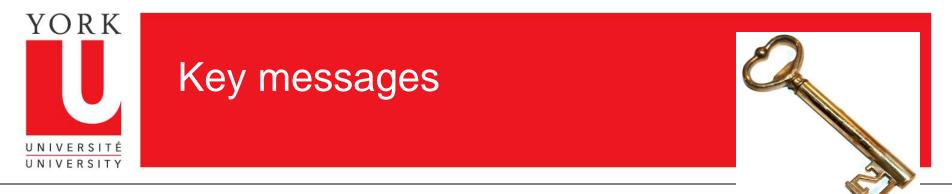


#### **OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION**





- 1. What is a "top" research university?
- 2. Context
- 3. Challenges/issues with UG education at "top" institutions?
- 4. New initiatives/programs
- 5. Conclusion: moving forward?



1. Pinnacles of excellence in a sea of mediocrity (Altbach)

Outreaching marginalized and disadvantaged populations Improving quality of higher education in general

- 2. In search of India's missing professors (P. Pushkar) Improving teaching and learning environments
- 3. Undergraduate boom, research gloom (British Council, India) Introducing and enhancing early stage research experience/ culture
- 4. The need for change

Research and data on higher education



# 1. What does a research university mean in an Indian context?



1. Undergraduate education =

public & private colleges
affiliated to universities
90% of UGs = affiliated colleges

#### 2. Research

- not within university sector
- not in colleges
- research and teaching separate



"India is the only one of the ...BRIC ...nations which does not have a university in the world top 100. Mainland China has two, both in the top 50, Russia and Brazil have one each - this should be a cause for concern for India,"

- Baty, 2013.





#### 2. Context

◀ ►



- Largest system in world in terms of number of institutions for higher education
- Second largest in terms of number of students
- Diversity/Inequality caste, class, gender, region, religion....
- Potential
  - India will become world third largest economy
  - India will outpace China and house largest tertiary education population.<sup>6</sup>



# 3. Challenges/issues with "top" UG institutions in India - ACADEMIC



- 1. Elite to outreach/equity
- 2. Improved teaching & learning; building culture of research
- 3. Moving away from skewed fields of study
- 4. Internationalization



Total development/ well rounded/character formation; if not more important than classroom experience itself...

- 1. Supportive and welcoming environment, especially for marginalized populations
- 2. Improving/Strengthening linkages with industry/research organizations/employers
- 3. Furthering social responsibility and commitment for social justice



http://indiatoday.intoday.in/video/lady-sri-ram-college-principal/1/141561.html



#### 4. New initiatives

### 1.MITACS Globalink Program

Research internships https://www.mitacs.ca/globalink.

## 2. OMG Program

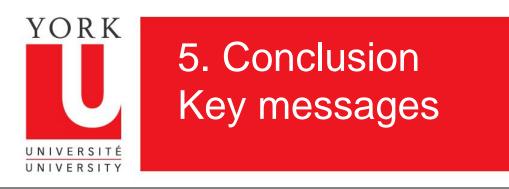
Student Exchanges http://omg.ouinternational.ca

## 3. Nalanda University

Reviving an 800 year old tradition http://www.nalandauniv.edu.in



ats too can benefit from such an all-roun





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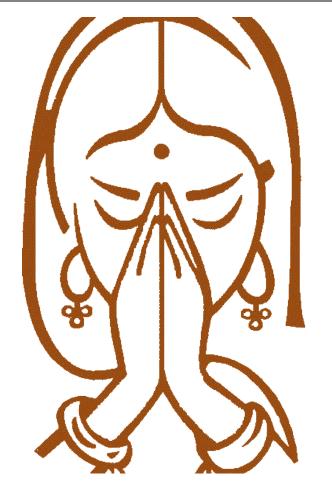
#### 4. The need for change

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#### Thank you!





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