The Challenge of Establishing World-Class Universities

Jamil Salmi
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World-class banking.

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the search for excellence

my university is…

more world-class than yours
natural lab experiment:
U. of Malaya vs. NUS

• late 1950s: 2 branches of University of Malaya

• today, stark difference:
  • THES: NUS #34, UoM not in top 200
  • SJ TU: NUS 101 - 150, UoM 401- 500
  • QS biology & chemistry: NUS #28 & 15
outline of the presentation

• defining the world-class university
• the road to academic excellence
• lessons of experience
what have we learned?
how do you recognize a world-class university?

- everyone wants one
- no one knows what it is
- no one knows how to get one

Philip G. Altbach
defining the WCU

• self-declaration
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