A NEW ROLE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION ACADEMICIANS
AND NEW CHALLENGES IN TEACHING

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ABSTRACT

This paper sets forth the basic principles for a new role in higher education teaching and teaching staff, based on the significant asymmetries between the supply and demand of knowledge and its generation and transformation. This has given rise to considerable inadequacies and imbalances in university teaching. The situation has been made worse by a conservative approach to teaching which has reduced it to a secondary role (i.e. transmitting knowledge) thereby reflecting a practice which is not suitable for higher education institutions. The result is a loss of influence, prestige and resources in these institutions, as a result of the absence of an adequate response to the problems raised by globalization, structural inequalities in knowledge, etc., all of which are issues related to teaching. The proposed changes aim to achieve efficiency and efficacy in this sphere, proposing solutions to be implemented at the level of institutions, teaching and academicians, which, if executed rigorously, would help develop a new role for teaching.