



Towards a Comparative Institutionalism: Forms, Dynamics and Logics Across the Organizational Fields of Health Care and Higher Education (Research in the Sociology of Organizations)

By Rómulo Pinheiro

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The book examines ongoing dynamics within the organizational fields of health and higher education, with a focus on collective (public universities and hospitals) and individual (professionals) actors, structures, processes and institutional logics. The fact that universities and hospitals share a number of important characteristics, both being hybrid organizations, professional bureaucracies, and operating within highly institutionalised environments, they are also characterised by their distinctive features such as the importance attributed to scientific autonomy and prestige (universities) and the needs and expectations of users and funders (hospitals). The volume brings together two relatively distinct scholarly traditions within the social sciences, namely, scholars - sociologists, educationalists, economists, political scientists and public administration researchers, etc. - involved with the study of change dynamics within the fields of health care and higher education in Europe and beyond. The authors resort to a variety of theoretical and conceptual perspectives emanating from the studies of organizational fields more generally and neo-institutionalism in particular.

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- Sales Rank: #5656287 in Books
- Published on: 2016-01-06
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.10" h x 1.20" w x 6.10" l, .84 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 344 pages



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Editorial Review

Review

Editors Pinheiro, Geschwind, Ramirez, and Vrangbaek present readers with a collection of academic essays and scholarly articles comparing various forms of institutionalism, their dynamics and logics in the healthcare and higher education fields. The contributions that make up the main body of the text are organized in four parts devoted to the value of making such comparisons, field level dynamics, institutional logics in health care and higher education, and resistance and transformation. Rómulo Pinheiro is a faculty member of the University of Agder, Norway. Lars Geschwind is a faculty member of the KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Sweden. Francisco O. Ramirez is a faculty member of Stanford University, California. Karsten Vrangbaek is a faculty member of the University of Copenhagen in Denmark. --

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About the Author

FRANCISCO O. RAMIREZ is Associate Professor of Education and Sociology at Stanford University.

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