



Sharon Rider

The Philosophy and Theory of Higher Education Society (PaTHES) is a wonderful initiative. Philosophers since the time of Plato have considered the problem of knowledge to be intimately connected to education, ethics and the political, and thus something much greater than a narrow disciplinary specialization such as epistemology has become. The founding of PaTHES is an important step toward bringing philosophical thinking to bear on pressing issues in research and education policy and practice the resolution of which will

have a fundamental impact on the future of the world. Among the developments that I would like to see is an increased attention to higher education among professional philosophers. As a member at large of the board, I would encourage and try to facilitate greater engagement, not only among philosophers and other humanists, but also among philosophically-minded economists and legal scholars, as well as mathematicians and physicists. My experience of academic leadership has made it clear to me that the University as a vital social institution has to re-think its mission broadly, honestly, creatively and conscientiously if it is to play the role it should in helping to meet the challenges ahead of us. And that will require that those of us engaged in that effort come from different corners of the academy, with a variety of perspectives and concerns. My professional background puts me in a particularly favorable position to marshal troops from different fields, having been involved in teaching, research collaboration and academic leadership in the humanities, social sciences, medicine, agriculture, and engineering.

Positions Held: 2012–Present, Professor of Philosophy, Uppsala University, Sweden; 2011–2020, Vice Chair, Dept. of Philosophy, Uppsala University; 2008–2014, Vice Dean, Faculty of Arts, Uppsala University; 2015–2025, Deputy Director, the Engaging Vulnerability Program (Uppsala University, funded by the Swedish Research Council); 2017–present, founding member of steering committee for HERO (Higher Education as Research Object), Uppsala University; 2005–2013, Director of Research, Philosophy and Sociology of Science, Center for Science and Technology Studies (STS), Uppsala University; 2007–2008, Deputy Director, Forum for Advanced Studies in Arts, Languages and Theology (SALT); 1999–2004, Research Coordinator, Sweden's national ELSA Program (Ethical, Legal and Social Aspects of Genome and Gene Technology Research), Dept. of Public Health, School of Medicine, Uppsala University, funded by the Swedish Foundation for Strategic Research.

Interests and/or Activities: higher education studies, political theory, intellectual history, philosophical anthropology.

Significant Publications: Rider S., Peters M.A. et al (2020), *World Class Universities: A Contested Concept* (Singapore: Springer); Peters M.A., Rider S. et al (2018). *Post-truth, Fake News: Viral Modernity and Higher Education* (Cham: Springer); Rider S. et al (2013), *Transformations in Research, Higher Education and the Academic Market: The Breakdown of Scientific Thought* (Singapore: Springer).

Other: Member of the Scientific Advisory Board, The Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA); Member of the Royal Society of the Humanities in Uppsala