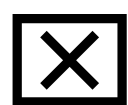




Shirley Douglas
 'I never think
 about my part in
 the system'

The University of Janus?



the CITIZEN ARTIST NEWS

Special Edition: commemorating the University's transformation into a Border Regime: 2012-13

citizenartist.org.uk

Studying, working and teaching in a University Border Regime?

A University is assumed to be a place of equality and mobility. However, inside the system, identities vary and barriers and boundaries exist. In this academic year especially, foreign students are heavily monitored by the University on behalf of the Home Office, the costs of fees point up the differences in students' economic status and the spaces and places of an institution are discrete and securitised. The year also marks the final phase of the slow and steady economic decoupling of the University from the State and in its wake, the role and purpose of the University has shifted from its Enlightenment objectives (the formation of critical citizens) to a complex commercial enterprise

producing 'knowledge capital', the full consequences of which are too immediate to gauge. More seemingly prosaic changes to the University are the use of its managerial systems as an arm of the Immigration Services. As a border regime, the University on the one hand operates as a 'method' where its members (students, staff, administrators etc.) are agents in the production of divisions in status that enact the policing policies of the State and on the other hand, members are subject to the border regime's security rationale and procedures. All of these conditions impact on a member's sense of identity, mobility and belonging.

The concern of this special edition newspaper is to make visible

not only how members of the University reproduce the directives of the State's immigration policies, but to indicate how these behaviours supervene on prejudicial and state-bounded conceptions of membership (citizenship) beyond the boundaries of the institution. What is at issue here is revealing the logics, habits and behaviours that are taking shape in the University and to see in this a wider problem: how does the University construct differences and exclusions and how do these discriminations contribute to the repurposing of the citizen-student as servicing the demands of global capital flows? Capital flows that do not in turn contribute to the communities whose energies and

intelligences combine to create its product. The objective of the newspaper therefore is to first draw out the janus-faced character of the University as, on the one hand, valorizing the utopic vision of education as democratic, aspirational and liberatory and on the other, as a space that reiterates discrimination. It is also the aim of this project to problematise the conditions of the University: to make visible the experience of its silent workings as an apparatus of the State, as a space in which political subjectivities are formed and its use of the logic and language of corporate capitalism.

Daphne Plessner, affiliated with Goldsmiths College and University of the Arts London



A porter surveils students passing through barriers at one of the main entrances of a university in central London.

Acknowledgements:

A special thanks to our contributors. Without their participation, this publication would not have been possible. A very special thanks too to Ilia Rogatchevski and Dovile Alseikaite for giving their time so generously to this project. The views expressed in these pages are those of the individual writers and artists.

Daphne Plessner: editor
 Ilia Rogatchevski: co-editor
 Dovile Alseikaite: co-editor

The malignant teaching factory

In a period of little over thirty years, higher education has ventured quite some distance from the old collegiate hierarchical system of privilege, scholarship and esoteric research. It has transformed, by way of Government policy, market demand, commercial opportunity and participant compliance into something quite unrecognizable: a global education industry, intertwined with business and investment, productivity targets, enterprise and creative accounting,

Transactional rather than vocational, career rather than idea, commission rather than mission, we have seen the exchange of the old gown for the negotiated compact and a bottom-dollar traffic in interested investigation (e.g., product trials). Speculative education has replaced the old and frankly moribund idea of speculation as such.

There is nothing redemptive in harking back to the old ways. But it is unseemly that the privatized educational system of today has turned teachers

into vendors, students into shoppers, researchers into hired mercenaries and senior colleagues into grotesque parodies of corporate greed. Too often otherwise admirable scholars become shiny-suited administrators, hawking student numbers and research contracts around as if they were baubles of divine election and not merely the last dusty job-lots of a faded glory now peddled out at cut price – everything must go! – discount rates for a shop-soiled emporium of decay. >> p. 8

news briefing

Prof. Engin Isin

"The struggle for critical openness continues so does the vigilance that it requires."

p.6 ANALYSIS



Dr. Nicholas De Genova

"The Border crossed us"

p.7 ANALYSIS



Working in Immigration

CA News talks to our man inside the Home Office

p.9 INTERVIEW



National Student Survey

Choosing who belongs...and who doesn't

p.5 SURVEY



My future City

Luther Blissett on the implications of security barriers and guards.

p.7 ANALYSIS