



Global Mega-Science Universities, Research Collaborations, and Knowledge Production

DAVID P. BAKER AND JUSTIN J.W. POWELL

"It's hard to think of a more prescient moment to interrogate the role of science, knowledge, and higher education globally. In the face of rising anti-science conspiracy theories, Baker and Powell remind us that scientific knowledge is exponentially expanding and that universities remain an indispensable force. A timely and essential read."

—Cynthia Miller-Idriss, American University

Never has the world been as rich in scientific knowledge as it is today. But what are its main sources? In accessible and engaging fashion, *Global Mega-Science* examines the origins of unprecedented growth of knowledge production over the past hundred and twenty years. David P. Baker and Justin J.W. Powell integrate sociological and historical approaches with unique scientometric data to argue that at the heart of this phenomenon is the unparalleled cultural success of universities and their connection to science: the university-science model. Considering why science is so deeply linked to (higher) educational development, the authors analyze the accumulation of capacity to produce research—and demonstrate how the university facilitates the emerging knowledge society.

The age of global mega-science was built on the symbiotic relationship between

higher education and science, especially the worldwide research collaborations among networked university-based scientists. These relationships are key for scholars and citizens to understand the past, future, and sustainability of science.

APRIL 2024

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