The theme ‘Academic life in the measured university: Pleasures, paradoxes and politics’
signals that academic work, practices and identities have been subject to measurement in
ways that invite questions about history, purpose, rewards and consequence. While the
theme points most obviously to the imposition of measures on those who labour in the
university – both staff and students – it also examines the ways the university itself (and the
academic practices it encourages) has become transformed by measurement, and whether
it is still an environment for developing engaged, disciplined, and critical citizens who take
responsibility for the world. In one sense, the measured university implies a state of caution,
a sense of too much restraint, blandness, and even automation. In another, it establishes a
new rationality, a certainty that academic life and decision-making proceeds on the basis of
evidence. The theme opens up questions about whether the university is realizing and
standing up for its distinctive potential under the pervasive conditions of measurement.
What can be done to act both with, and against, the drift, scale, and reach of the measured
university? Is it possible (or even desirable) to redirect the measured university to different
ends? If so, what might those ends be and how shall we go about it?

This special issue of HERD welcomes research articles, scholarly essays and other more
innovative kinds of academic writing that take up the idea of academic life in the measured
university in inventive ways. We welcome submissions that address the full scope of
academic settings – teaching, curriculum, research, doctoral education, service (disciplinary
and community engagement), leadership and governance – and that draw from a range of
disciplinary perspectives. We are especially keen on receiving submissions that address or
re-work the themes drawing on arguments about Indigenous knowledges, southern theory,
and its intersections with different ways of understanding, engaging with, and theorising the
university.

Submissions might address the following:
• whether measurement of academic life is the issue, or that universities are measuring
  the wrong things;
• what education, research, curriculum, service and academic life now look and feel like in
  the measured university;
• uncertainty in academic career prospects and pathways in the measured university;
• forms of intellectual and academic leadership needed to critically engage with the practices of the measured university;
• transformation of academic governance and the future role of collegiality;
• the role of evidence and data in developing academic dissent and/or compliance in the measured university;
• how practices of care, kindness, critique, and pleasure persist in the measured university.

For this Special Issue, we are seeking 500 word extended abstracts initially (excluding scholarly references). The Guest Editors will initially review each abstract and then authors will be invited to submit a full article.

**Special Issue timeline**

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<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>500 word extended abstracts due (submitted via email)</td>
<td>28 February 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Successful authors invited to submit full article for peer review following the HERD journal's usual procedure</td>
<td>31 March 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full article deadline</td>
<td>22 July 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anticipated publication date</td>
<td>Late March/early April 2017</td>
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Please send your extended abstracts as an email attachment to Dr Tai Peseta (tai.peseta@sydney.edu.au) and include in the subject line – ‘Submission to HERD Special Issue 2017 – Extended Abstract’. You will receive an acknowledgement of your submission.

The special issue also coincides with the theme of the 5th International Academic Identities Conference to be held at the University of Sydney, Australia from 29 June – 1 July 2016. Visit the conference website at: [www.itl.usyd.edu.au/getinvolved/aic2016](http://www.itl.usyd.edu.au/getinvolved/aic2016)

Submitted articles should not have been previously published nor be under consideration for publication elsewhere. A guide for authors, along with other relevant information, can be found on the journal’s homepage: [www.tandfonline.com/herd](http://www.tandfonline.com/herd)

Submissions should be made online at HERD’s ScholarOne site: [http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/herd](http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/herd)

For further information or queries regarding this Special Issue, please contact Dr Tai Peseta tai.peseta@sydney.edu.au.