Academic inbreeding and publication activities of Russian faculty

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(Chair: Dr Hugo Horta)

Abstract:
The literature on the consequences of academic inbreeding shows ambiguous results: some papers show that inbreeding positively influences research productivity, measured by the quantity and quality of publications, while others show the opposite effect. There are contradictory results both in studies of different countries and within countries. Such a variety of results makes it impossible to transfer the findings from one academic system to another, and in Russia this problem has been under-explored. This paper focuses on the relationship between inbreeding and publication activity among Russian faculty. We use Russian data from the Changing Academic Profession survey to show that there is no significant effect of academic inbreeding on research productivity. Inbred and non-inbred faculty do not differ significantly in terms of the probability of having publications, or how many. These results are robust for different disciplinary fields and types of publication. However, the absence of significant differences in the number of publications may not mean the absence of a difference in their quality.

About the speaker:
Andrey Lovakov is a researcher in Center for Institutional Studies, National Research University Higher School of Economics (Moscow). He has master degree in industrial and organizational psychology and is finishing his PhD thesis. He is interested in academic profession research, especially in such themes as academic inbreeding, organizational and professional commitment of faculty, academic elite. During his visit (November 21-28) he would be happy to meet with colleagues from HKU who are interested in academic profession research and discuss current and future projects.

All are welcome!
For enquiries, please contact the Office of Research at 2857 8254.