

19.3.2026

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**Title**

The US academic profession: Key policy challenges / James P. Honan & Damtew Teferra

**Publication year**

2001

**Source/Footnote**

In: Higher education. - 41 (2001), 1 - 2, S. 183 - 203

**Inventory number**

11757

**Keywords**

Ausland : USA : Forschung, Hochschullehrer ; Ausland : USA : Hochschulwesen allgemein

**Abstract**

The US academic profession is currently under considerable pressure due to a complex array of demographic, economic, social, and technological developments. The profession has recently witnessed major shifts in the areas of assessment and accountability, governance and power, faculty roles and functions, and recruitment patterns. This article examines a number of key policy dilemmas and challenges taking place in the profession owing to these developments. ( HRK / Abstract übernommen)