Governing Universities in Post-Soviet Countries

University governance is an essential but complex phenomenon, even in countries where institutional-level governance has a long and strong tradition. After the dissolution of the USSR, each of the fifteen former Soviet countries developed their own University governance system and this groundbreaking book explores how these countries evolved from the "common start" of a unified and tightly controlled higher education system to shaping their own paths in higher education. Each chapter explores a different country, allowing University governance models to be compared and contrasted. The countries provide examples of a variety of different governance models – *state-extended*, *academic-focused*, *internal/external*, and *external civic* – and the book highlights the advantages and disadvantages of each relative to their context. It also presents innovative frameworks for understanding governance effectiveness in terms of autonomy, competition, and capacity. It is essential reading for researchers, students, and policy makers. This title is also available as open access on Cambridge Core.

Peter D. Eckel is Senior Fellow and Director of Leadership Programs at the Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania. Notable publications include *Practical Wisdom: Thinking Differently about College and University Governance* (2018). He serves as a trustee at the University of La Verne in California and coleads the Penn Project on University Governance.

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"As the Minister of Science and Higher Education, I can attest to the significance and novelty of this study that captures governance structures in all post-Soviet republics. This is complex and meaningful research that benefits greatly from consistency and its chosen comparative approach. The cases are well crafted, and analysis chapters capture conceptual insights that are often missing in governance literature. I certainly recommend this book to policymakers, researchers, university leaders, and practitioners seeking to deepen their understanding of complexities in governing today's universities."

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From a Common Start, 1991–2021

Edited by
Peter D. Eckel
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