HOW TO ACHIEVE AND SUSTAIN HIGH-QUALITY RESEARCH
LESSONS FROM IEP

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- Boom in social sciences during the 60’s.
- Universities failed to provide a space for undertaking research.
Prominent intellectuals from the University of San Marcos founded the Institute of Peruvian Studies in 1964.
A radical change in internal governance in 1985. Under a new leadership, IEP moved from centralized rule to democracy. This process was consolidated in the 1990’s.
ISSUES AND DISCIPLINES

- Rural Development
  - Changes in rural communities
  - Agrarian reform
- Changes in power relations
- History and ethno-history
ISSUES AND DISCIPLINES

- Multidisciplinary
  - Projects by area
  - Thematic projects
WHAT WORKS?

- Strong intellectual leadership
  - Intellectual leaders stimulate the formulation of new ideas
  - They do not shy away from debate since it inspires creativity
  - They gain public recognition
  - They attract new talent
WHAT WORKS?

- **Capacity building**
  - “It starts at the bottom of the pyramid”
  - Work at or with the universities in order to spot new talent.
  - Flexible organization with space for everyone.
WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES

- How can rising talent be attracted to the institute?
- How can a space for collaboration and debate be created and destructive competition avoided?
- How can consistent/sustainable financing be achieved?
Thanks!
Questions?
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