

Bung the gap: narrowing Global North – Global South bias in measuring academic excellence by weighting with academic capital KOME – An International Journal of Pure Communication Inquiry Volume 7 Issue 2, p. 1-16. © The Author(s) 2019 Reprints and Permission: kome@komejournal.com Published by the Hungarian Communication Studies Association DOI: 10.17646/KOME.75672.40

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**Abstract:** This paper presents an analysis of three modes of assessing academic scholars' productivity, based on their education history and their publication output. The sample consists of the career paths of 231 authors from the Global South that includes the places of their BA, MA and Ph.D. education and their production in terms of the number of their Scopus-indexed articles. The analysis found that there is no general rule determines that Global North education would result in higher productivity, and the paper will argue that favoring productive authors without Global North education would be not just ethical but also deliberately reasonable in the restricted sense of instrumental reason.

**Keywords**: Selection criteria, academic inequality, global power relations, Global South – Global North bias, productivity assessment, academic capital