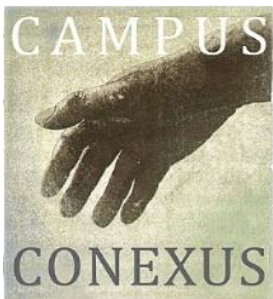




Supporting student engagement through teaching

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The Goal



The goal of the workshop is to join together and look for answers how to support the students in becoming engaged in their studies through teaching.

The National Union of University Students in Finland - SYL



- An interest organisation defending and improving the educational, financial, and social benefits and rights of the students.
- SYL has 135 000 members in 15 universities.
- One of SYL's agenda in learning and teaching:
Teaching in the higher education institutions is student-centred.

The Kyky (ability) - project



- As a part of the work on improving smooth progress of studies, SYL has coordinated the Kyky (ability) - project since 2009.
- The goal of the Kyky-project is to improve the students ability to study and the communality of university students in co-operation with universities and university student unions.
- The objectives of the project are in integration, participation and student activity.

The first year of university studies the most important one



- Two thirds of a student's learning is achieved during the first two years of study.
- A student's experiences during his or her first year also have a strong influence on his or her subsequent studying.
- We can influence the students integration into the community as well as increase their engagement in their studies by supporting a shift to a student- and competence-centred learning culture and philosophy.

Student-Centred Learning

- a mindset and a culture



- learning approach is broadly related to, and supported by, constructivism theories of learning
- innovative methods of teaching which aim to promote learning in communication with teachers and other learners
- takes students seriously as active participants in their own learning, brings the students and the staff closer to each other
- demonstrates that learning is not limited to a specific time or place
- increases the motivation and engagement of the students
- improves the learning outcomes (deeper learning)
- enhances the students' general working-life skills

Individual work



1. Reflect and select one teaching experience (as a teacher or student) **which has supported** the student engagement.

2. Select one teaching experience **which has not** supported the student engagement.

3 minutes.

Group discussion



1. Share your experiences with the group.
2. Which factors affected the fact that some experiences were good and some were bad? Discuss from the viewpoint of engagement.
3. What kind of advice or instructions would you give to the teachers about supporting student engagement through teaching?
4. Write your checklist for teachers on the paper, and choose one point to present to others.

15 minutes

How to support the student engagement through teaching?



- Plan the engagement
- Community of learning
- Responsibility of learners (support and encourage)
- Be engaged
- Think big, act small
- Tips for colleagues: It's not so hard
- Data
- What is the objective?
- Ownership of teachers

We appreciate your attention!

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