

Conference call – first announcement

How are you? Insta-happy or truly happy?

Student well-being in the Nordic countries

Save-the-dates: 2 and 3 December 2020

Lunch to lunch in Copenhagen

The Nordic model for higher education seems perfect: Studying is free of charge. All students receive public financial support. Equality and respect between students, teachers and management is the ruling culture. But is everything really just wonderful? Have we created the ideal system for higher education that helps students find out who they are and what they want to do – or does the system unintentionally push students to work too hard to become a “perfect” version of themselves?

That is the question! Some students know who they are and work to achieve their goals. However, other students struggle to find purpose and determination and walk in a direction, which is not their own. At best this simply results in wasted efforts, at worst it causes stress, depression and the feeling of failure.

It is time to ask the students: How are you?

Traditionally, we talk about higher education in terms of parameters such as admission, retention rates, academic achievement, time to graduation and transfer to the job market.

However, behind this there are factors much more personal and relevant to the work and lives of students: E.g. sense of belonging, curiosity, courage, motivation, personal purpose and self-efficacy. These factors are of the greatest importance to learning and higher education, but are rarely addressed directly in study programmes.

That is why the focus of this conference is student well-being, its symbiotic relationship with learning, and how the defining cultures for young adults in today’s world set limits for what students can achieve during higher education.

More information will follow.

Organized by the Danish Ministry of Higher Education and Science,
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