Inspiration day – Thursday 14 September 2017

Objectives

The objectives of the inspiration day are

- To provide a forum for debate on current challenges and opportunities facing teaching staff and degree programme heads
- To share experiences from some of the projects which have been allocated strategic funds

The programme in brief

10:00-11:45	Using data to improve quality in degree programmes and teaching
11:45-12:15	Lunch
12:15-14:00	Focus on dropout and retention
14:00-14:30	Coffee break
14:30-16:00	Time for both progress towards degree and in-depth study

You can sign up for one, two or all three sessions.

The first session will take place in English, while session 2 and 3 will take place in Danish.

Using data to improve quality in degree programmes and teaching

The moderator of this session is Jacob Fuglsang, education editor the newspaper Politiken

10.00	***Welcome by Pro-rector Berit Eika***
10:05-10:30	***HowULearn - a quality tool for promoting teaching and learning at the university*** For a long time universities have struggled with inefficient quality tools with no effect on the actual quality of teaching and learning. For example, different kinds of student feedback questionnaires have been used but the teachers have not been able to use the information to develop their teaching. HowULearn is an example of a new, fresh way of dealing with the quality issues at the university. The main focus is in student learning and its relation to the academic quality. The system supports student learning, teachers' teaching and the university administration by providing learning analytics. Its strength is that it is research based, and therefore, can be critically evaluated and developed further. Moreover, it enables the research on teaching and learning. *Anna Parpala, senior project manager for the Finnish quality assurance system*
10:30-10:45	***UddannelsesZOOM (Degree programme zoom)*** Background, objectives, applications and future *Interview with Jens Storm, head of department, Danish Ministry of Higher Education and Science*
10:45-11:00	***The possibilities offered by BlackBoard*** Universities collect and generate large volumes of data about their students. This applies not only to data in studies administration systems, but increasingly also to data from the systems used in connection with teaching. 'Learning analytics' is the use of all these data sources to track students with a view to supporting learning and reduce drop-out rates. At the session Richard Burrows, an analytics specialist from Blackboard International, will present the company's IT solution for displaying data about the students, which predicts the results and risk factors associated with the individual student on the background of statistical analysis. *Richard Burrows, Analytics Specialist, Blackboard International*
11:15-11:45	Panel debate with Anna Parpala, Jens Storm and Richard Burrows

This session will take place in English.

AARHUS UNIVERSITET

Focus on dropout and retention

12:15-12:45	***Dropout on the basis of the study 'Studiestartens betydning for frafald på de videregående uddannelser' (The influence of commencement of studies on dropout rates on advanced degree programmes)*** EVA (The Danish Evaluation Institute) is following a cohort of students who commenced their degree programmes in 2016 in order to identify the conditions which support or hinder a successful transition to life as a university student. Results and perspectives from the study will be presented at the inspiration day. *Presentation by Bjarke Hartkopf, special consultant, EVA*
12:45-13:15	<u>Seven-minute presentations:</u> ***Combating dropouts on business Bachelor's degree programmes*** In recent years, the business administration board of studies has trialled a number of strategies for reducing dropout rates on the economics and business administration Bachelor's degree programmes in Aarhus and Herning (HA and BscB). The administrators responsible for the degree programme will speak about their attempts to crack the code, among other approaches through an increased focus on cohesion in the degree programmes and reducing fail rates. *Speakers: Inger Mørch Hauge, programme coordinator at the Department of Business Development and Technology and Lars Esbjerg, director of studies, Department of Management* ***Flexible, student-centred teaching using Educational IT*** This presentation will provide a specific example of how Educational IT can be used by teaching staff to aid in the transition to blended and online learning. The transition follows the STREAM model, which builds on the principles of active learning, including just-in-time teaching (JiTT), peer instruction, feedback and flipped classroom. The intention of the model is to make it manageable and effective to transition to the new approach, and it must also be possible to start by developing some aspects of one's teaching practice and then continuing to build on this later. *Speaker: Centre Director Jens Bennedsen, STLL (Science and Technology Learning Lab)* ***Priority, average mark, academic level or unfulfilled expectations……. What causes students to drop out of degree programmes at Arts?*** In autumn 2015, Arts carried out a study of the reasons which motivate students to drop out of their Bachelor's degree programmes. The speakers will present the results of the two follow-up analyses and reports. An interpretation of the significance of various background factors will be presented, along with the students' responses to open questions *Speaker: Emil Smith, Danish School of Education and Jesper Sølund, Arts Studies Administration* ***Demography and dropout studies*** A presentation of the working hyptotheses, study design and data for the student group from the Master's degree programmes in health sciences. *Speaker: Associate Professor Dorte Rytter, Department of Public Health*
13:15-14:00	**Discussion of retention and dropout** Initially, the word is given to the Student Council, reflecting the presented initiatives from a student perspective. Then there are questions, reflection and comments.

This session will take place in Danish.

Time for both progress towards degree and in-depth study

14:30-15:00	Seven-minute presentations: ***Collective Academic Supervision*** The most recent study environment surveys have revealed that students feel stressed out and lonely. Collective Academic Supervision provides a framework in which collaboration across the students' different theoretical and methodological approaches is a cornerstone in the development of academic expertise and a sense of community. This presentation highlights three central insights gained from three development projects carried out at DPU in 2011 and 2016. *Helle Merete Nordentoft, associate professor at the Research Unit for Student Guidance, DPU* ***Reducing of completion time through regular assessment*** New legislation from June 2016 allows students' activities during a course to be included in their mark. This ongoing assessment has the potential to increase the students' continued workload and motivation, as well as strengthening the use of timely and frequent feedback. In this way continuous assessment opens up the possibility of increased learning and thereby better pass rates. *Speaker: Annika Büchert Lindberg, special consultant, STLL* ***Take Away Teaching - a new form of instruction at Arts*** Would you like inspiration on how to integrate general study strategies in your teaching? Take Away Teaching is a new form of instruction which allows you to facilitate study strategy activities, for example, reading strategies, literature searches and group processes using BlackBoard. The students can engage in these activities either in the classroom or as structured activities before or after class. *Assistant Professor Hanne Balsby Thingholm Centre for Teaching Development and Digital Media* ***On-time Master's theses*** With the decision that students must complete Master's degree programmes in 22 months, the thesis period for political science students was reduced from 6 to 4½ months. In response, the department launched a number of initiatives in autumn 2016, including, an overnight camping trip with the theme 'come as you are -> go home with a thesis topic'. The objective of these initiatives was to prepare the students for the thesis period, academically, administratively and socially – and ensure on-time submission. *Speaker: Anne Skorkjær Binderkrantz, director of studies, Department of Political Science*
15:00-15:30	**Discussion of progress towards degree and in-depth study** Initially, the word is given to the Student Council, reflecting the presented initiatives from a student perspective. Then there are questions, reflection and comments.
15:30-16:00	Briefing by Kirsten Brusgård about the status of study promotion and potential fines and analysis of the effects on Progress Reform II

This session will take place in Danish.