Session 4.1

A Model for Meaningful Student Engagement: Student Teaching and Learning Consultants

Kathrine S.H. Jensen, Liz Bennett and Dawn Bagnall, University of Huddersfield

Abstract

The session is based on the findings of Higher Education Academy funded project 'Students as Teaching and Learning Consultants' which builds student and staff dialogue about teaching and learning approaches, activities and experiences by adopting a partnership model and collaborative ethos where students are active participants in producing knowledge about enhancing teaching and learning. The project offers academic staff a qualified student perspective (at points of need) which differs from end of module evaluation and national student survey data. The session explores going beyond “listening to students” and instead position students as “change-agents”; equal and knowledgeable partners in structuring the teaching and learning experience.

The project is developing a model for authentic student engagement that other HEIs can implement and adapt to their priority teaching and learning areas. Engaging in the workshop activities will enable delegates to reflect on the current level of authentic student engagement in their institutions and identify ways to develop activities or models for collaborative approaches to enhancing teaching and learning. The session provides resources from the project that delegates can use including a guide to setting up a student consultant scheme and link to a blog with a sequence of posts outlining the structure and progress of the project.

The project represents an innovative approach to engaging students in a meaningful way in teaching and learning and has the potential to reframe the student-teacher relationship. The project builds on the innovative work of Dr Crawford in the 'Students Consulting on Teaching' scheme at University of Lincoln.

Project Webpage: http://www.hud.ac.uk/tali/initiatives/central_init/heastlc/

Presenter details

Kathrine S. H. Jensen
Kathrine is a research assistant at the Teaching and Learning Institute at the University of Huddersfield where she facilitates dissemination of innovative teaching and learning practices across the University. Kathrine is project manager and coordinator of the student consultants. K.jensen@hud.ac.uk

Dr Liz Bennett
Liz is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Education and Professional Development at the University of Huddersfield where she is Course Leader for the MSc Multimedia and E-learning. Liz completed her doctorate in 2012 entitled “Learning from the early adopters: Web 2.0 tools, pedagogic practices and the development of the digital practitioner”, http://eprints.hud.ac.uk/15997/ E.bennett@hud.ac.uk

Dawn Bagnall
Student Teaching and Learning Consultant, University of Huddersfield