

Session C2:

Undervisningsevaluering - et spørgsmål om metode

Poster 06

'Classroom walk-throughs' as a management approach

Program text

This poster examines the degree to which Danish heads of studies apply observation of classroom teaching as a strategic tool to identify and monitor didactic quality and development.

Abstract

University management today is under considerable pressure from requirements for transparency and documentation, and evidence of effects. This is what the academic literature will tell you. At the same time, the self-same academic literature will tell you that there is a strong tradition for collegial management among university managers, according to which managers are appointed from among colleagues and are expected to return to the same teaching staff after completion of their management tenure.

In the 1990s, Frase and Hatzel (2002) described management by walking about as a management approach for school leaders. School leaders have probably always walked along the corridors and talked to students and teachers, but the approach could be strengthened, for instance through 'classroom walk-throughs' (Sharp and Walter, 2012), where the school leader visits a classroom for a few minutes to sense the atmosphere and approach and then discusses the teaching with the teacher afterwards.

This poster examines the degree to which heads of studies apply observation of classroom teaching as a strategic tool to identify and monitor didactic quality and development.

The empirical data falls into three categories. Firstly, two heads of studies have been interviewed (October 2017) in depth in order to gain an understanding of existing possibilities and challenges when heads of studies observe teaching. Secondly, 600 university -teachers have been surveyed (November 2017) in order to get an insight in how teachers perceives 'classroom walk-throughs' as a managerial tool. Furthermore, there is a plan to collect case material on how 'classroom walk-throughs' can take place (spring 2018), and the paper will therefore discuss the possibilities and challenges associated with different forms of walk-throughs.

Authors

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Literature

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