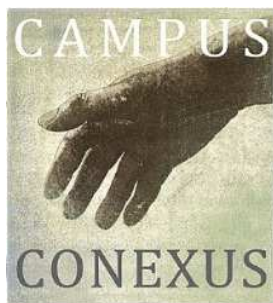




Advancing study ability and community in universities

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For reflection



What does **study ability** mean to you
(in your work, personal history etc.)?

What thoughts does the term bring to mind?

Presentation



1. The National Union of University Students in Finland (SYL)
2. Background of the Kyky project
3. The study ability
4. The Kyky (ability) project 2009-2010
5. The Kyky proejct 2011-2013
6. Project activities
7. Closure and questions

National Union of University Students in Finland



- 17 member unions in all universities of Finland
- Around 135 000 members
 - Represent 100% of university students
- Founded in 1921
- Areas of work
 - Social politics, Educational politics, International affairs, Development co-operation, Environment, Equality, Employment, Study ability...
- The highest decision-making body is the General Assembly (convenes once a year)
 - Chooses the executive board, which chooses the secretariat/officers

Background



- Structural changes within the universities
- Study time restrictions
- Challenges involving longer careers and employment

Study ability



- Personal resources
- Study skills
- Teaching
- Study environment

Study ability



- Study ability is the student's ability to work
- Study ability affects
 - How studies advance
 - Learning outcomes
 - The well-being of both the student and the student community
- A student with good study ability will develop into a healthy and accomplished employee

Study ability actors



- National decision makers and service providers (e.g. the Finnish Student Health Service, FSHS)
- Study and learning communities
- University decision makers
- Student organisations and student unions
- Students themselves

The Ability project 2009-2010



Promotion of study ability is systematic in the whole university and in all its communities

Promotion of studying skills is included in the syllabus

Studying is accessible and the diversity of students is accepted

Students are appreciated and their activity is encouraged

Support and guidance are given during the whole study path

Promotion of transferrable skills and transition to working life are included in the studies

Communality promotes the welfare of the whole community – the students' ability to study and the staff's ability to work

The Kyky project 2011-2013



- Carried out in 2011-2013
- Continues to establish practices that enhance the ability to study
- Funded by The European Social Fund

The Objectives



The project aims to

- Make the promotion of study ability part of the activities of university communities
- Advance the integration
- Advance the participation of students
- Develop the action in student organizations

The Methods



- Involving cooperative development in target groups
- Promoting and facilitating group work
- Providing platforms for cooperation
- Increasing awareness of the study ability by training and other ways
- Promoting accessibility of student organizations
- Developing the study ability on a national level
- Devising ways to welcome new students
- Promoting interaction

The Results



- More students will feel part of the university community
- More students are able to learn and study effortlessly

The Activities



- The project disseminates information regarding study ability in the participating organisations and more widely in the field of higher education
- The appreciation of learning, skills and teaching are improved
- The knowledge and skills of university actors regarding student-centered learning are increased
- Contributing to the planning of research and study ability indicators
- Supporting the joint organisational network of the student unions
- A study ability development tool
- The development of study ability in cooperating universities

Kyky-projekti

Campus Conexus II | 2011–2013

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