


2013 Conference

International mobility for enhanced education quality

William Brustein, The Ohio State University
Patrik Mehrens, Uppsala University
Viggo Kann, KTH Royal Institute of Technology

February 19, 2013

Re-imagining Higher Education in a Global Context


2013 Conference

STINT Excellence in Teaching

- Swedish teachers spend one semester at a foreign institution of higher education
- Teaching or co-teaching
- Mutual effects: make an impact both at home and at host institution


Re-imagining Higher Education in a Global Context


2013 Conference

International institutions

The Ohio State University
New York University
UCLA
Amherst College
Williams College
Haverford College
Davidson College
National University of Singapore
Nanyang Technological University (Singapore)
The Chinese University of Hong Kong


Re-imagining Higher Education in a Global Context


2013 Conference

Positive effects

- Inspirational
- Teachers bring home new ideas about teaching
- Distance, time for critical reflections
- Continuing exchanges

Re-imagining Higher Education in a Global Context


2013 Conference

Challenges

- Institutional support at home
- Tradition
- Teaching qualifications do not really count

Re-imagining Higher Education in a Global Context


2013 Conference

Important factors for the positive impact of exchanges

- Focus on institutions, not only individuals
- Institutional analysis
- Strategies for internationalization based on reality

Re-imagining Higher Education in a Global Context

AIEA 2013 Conference **Which were the effects back home?**



Re-imagining Higher Education in a Global Context

AIEA 2013 Conference **Six teachers from KTH**

- Viggo Kann 2006, Amherst College, MA
- Olle Bälter 2008, Williams College, MA
- Örjan Ekeberg 2009, Vassar College, NY
- Ninni Carlsund 2009, Amherst College, MA
- Mikael Goldmann 2010, Davidson College, NC
- Katarina Gustavsson 2011, NUS, Singapore

All teachers come from the School of Computer Science and Communication at KTH



Re-imagining Higher Education in a Global Context

AIEA 2013 Conference **Three main effects**

1. Influence the teacher's own practice, inspiring other teachers
2. All teachers became leaders of education
3. As leaders the teachers could spread ideas and practices even better

Re-imagining Higher Education in a Global Context

AIEA 2013 Conference **The first effect**

How quality at the visited institution can influence the visiting teacher's own practice back home, and how this may inspire colleagues

Re-imagining Higher Education in a Global Context

AIEA 2013 Conference **Examples of effect 1**

- 1-hour lectures instead of 2-hours (Viggo)
- Teachers help students choosing elective courses and subject specialization (Viggo)
- Lecturing combined with practice at computers (Katarina)
- Co-teaching (Ninni)

Re-imagining Higher Education in a Global Context

AIEA 2013 Conference **Co-teaching at KTH**



Re-imagining Higher Education in a Global Context

AIEA 2013 Conference
The second effect

All teachers became leaders of education after returning

Re-imagining Higher Education in a Global Context

AIEA 2013 Conference
Examples of effect 2

- Two were already leaders of education (Director of studies and Dean of education)
- The other 4 became Program directors
- One also became Director of studies
- One later took a break and is now working at Spotify

Re-imagining Higher Education in a Global Context

AIEA 2013 Conference
The third effect

How the teachers as leaders of education could spread the ideas and practices even better

Re-imagining Higher Education in a Global Context

AIEA 2013 Conference
Examples of effect 3

- Reliable and well-equipped lecture rooms, starting the *lecture room group* (Viggo)
- Modular scheduling (Viggo+Örjan)
- Student culture change: the default case should be that the student graduates in time (Olle+Örjan)
- Take your teacher to lunch (Olle)
- Sabbatical (Olle)

Re-imagining Higher Education in a Global Context

AIEA 2013 Conference
More examples of effect 3


- Planning of a *Liberal Technology* program with much more effectiveness than usual at KTH (Ninni)
- The main focus should be on education, introduce a pedagogical ladder of qualifications (Olle)

Re-imagining Higher Education in a Global Context

AIEA 2013 Conference
Conclusions

1. Send good teachers abroad to study the education at a good university/college
2. When they return they will have become inspired to make changes
3. And will be ready to take a position as leader of education
4. Which will make the impact of their ideas much greater

Re-imagining Higher Education in a Global Context



2013 Conference

Presentation available at:

<http://www.stint.se/aiea>

patrik.mehrens@littvet.uu.se
viggo@kth.se

Re-imagining Higher Education in a Global Context