



Talk: From policy to practice: How do educators deal with competences?

Speaker:

Dr. Søren Ehlers, National Centre for Competence Development, Aarhus University

Date / Time:

February 17, 2012 - 3:30pm

Venue:

Room 307, Third Floor, Pixel B, APU

Abstract:

The OECD developed in 1996 a transnational policy concept called *lifelong learning for all* (LLL) and national states and education providers all over the world are trying to conceptualize and implement LLL.

It is a major challenge for professionals because the transnational concept is based on competences – not curricula. The approach implies learning – not education. The value of fixed curricula is diminishing and a practice based on negotiations with learners is expanding.

Educators in Europe used to focus on the move from theory to practice. However, the implementation of LLL is based on the move from policy to practice. The EU recommended in 2008 that all education and training activities include *key competences*:

- 1) *Communication in the mother tongue*
- 2) *Communication in the foreign languages*
- 3) *Mathematical competence and basic competence in science and technology*
- 4) *Digital competence*
- 5) *Learning to learn*
- 6) *Social competence and citizenship*
- 7) *Innovation and entrepreneurship*
- 8) *Cultural awareness and expression.*

The presentation by Dr. Ehlers will discuss the pedagogical problems related to the implementation of key competences.

A Note on the Speaker:

Dr. Søren Ehlers is currently a fellow at the *National Centre for Competence Development* situated at Aarhus University. He is past president for the Danish Society for the History of Education and one of the founders of a university consortium (Department of Education at Aarhus University, Institute of Education at University of London, and Faculty of Philosophy and Education Sciences at Deusto University, Bilbao) who manages the joint programme *European Masters in Lifelong Learning* having the Erasmus Mundus label. Please visit www.lifelonglearningmasters.org

Lifelong learning (LLL) is a transnational policy concept developed by the OECD. Within the last decade has Dr. Ehlers studied the implementation of LLL and delivered presentations in China, Europe, India and Latin America. He was recently a member of a team of researchers appointed by Nordic Council of Ministers who compared the *implementation environments* for LLL in Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.