

student engagement in higher education

Student Engagement in Higher Education: Fostering Meaningful Learning Experiences

student engagement in higher education is a topic that has gained considerable attention among educators, administrators, and researchers alike. As universities and colleges evolve to meet the changing needs of students, understanding how to effectively engage learners has become central to enhancing academic success and personal development. But what exactly does student engagement entail, and why is it so crucial in higher education settings? Let's explore the various dimensions of student engagement, its impact on learning outcomes, and practical strategies to cultivate an environment where students thrive.

Understanding Student Engagement in Higher Education

At its core, student engagement refers to the degree of attention, curiosity, interest, optimism, and passion that students exhibit when they are learning or being taught. In higher education, this engagement goes beyond mere attendance or participation; it involves active involvement with course material, collaboration with peers and instructors, and a genuine commitment to academic and personal growth.

Dimensions of Student Engagement

Student engagement can be broadly categorized into three interconnected dimensions:

- **Behavioral Engagement:** This includes students' participation in class discussions, attendance, completion of assignments, and involvement in campus activities.
- **Emotional Engagement:** Refers to students' feelings about learning, such as interest, boredom, happiness, or anxiety related to their academic experiences.
- **Cognitive Engagement:** Involves investment in learning, willingness to exert effort in understanding complex ideas, and employing deep learning strategies rather than superficial memorization.

Recognizing these dimensions helps educators design learning experiences that address the whole student, not just academic performance.

Why Student Engagement Matters in Higher

Education

The benefits of fostering strong student engagement in universities and colleges extend far beyond improved grades. When students are meaningfully engaged:

- They are more likely to retain information and develop critical thinking skills.
- Their motivation to persist through challenges and complete their degrees increases.
- They tend to experience higher satisfaction with their educational journey.
- They develop essential life skills such as collaboration, communication, and self-regulation.

Research consistently links student engagement with lower dropout rates and better overall well-being, highlighting its role as a cornerstone for successful higher education experiences.

The Connection Between Engagement and Academic Success

Engaged students approach their studies with enthusiasm and resilience. Rather than passively absorbing information, they actively question, analyze, and apply knowledge. This active learning mindset encourages deeper understanding and long-term retention. Moreover, engagement enhances metacognitive skills, enabling students to monitor and adjust their learning strategies, which is crucial for managing the demands of higher education.

Factors Influencing Student Engagement in Higher Education

Several elements within the academic environment can either promote or hinder student engagement. Understanding these factors helps institutions tailor their approaches to meet diverse student needs.

Role of Teaching Practices

Effective teaching methods play a pivotal role in capturing and maintaining student interest. Active learning techniques—such as group projects, problem-based learning, and interactive discussions—invite students to participate rather than passively listen. Instructors who provide timely feedback, foster an inclusive classroom atmosphere, and demonstrate enthusiasm for the subject matter tend to boost engagement levels significantly.

Campus Environment and Resources

A supportive campus culture encourages students to connect with peers, faculty, and extracurricular opportunities. Access to academic advising,

tutoring centers, mental health services, and social clubs enriches the student experience and promotes a sense of belonging. When students feel integrated into the campus community, they are more motivated to engage academically.

Technology and Digital Engagement

With the rise of online learning and digital classrooms, technology has become a double-edged sword in student engagement. On one hand, innovative tools like learning management systems, educational apps, and virtual collaboration platforms offer new ways to interact with content and peers. On the other hand, distractions and digital fatigue can impede focus. Balancing technology use to enhance rather than detract from learning is an ongoing challenge for educators.

Strategies to Enhance Student Engagement in Higher Education

Implementing targeted strategies can significantly improve how students interact with their education, leading to better outcomes and more fulfilling experiences.

Creating Interactive Learning Environments

Incorporating active learning strategies encourages students to become co-creators of knowledge. Some practical approaches include:

- Using case studies and real-world scenarios to apply theoretical concepts
- Facilitating peer teaching and collaborative assignments
- Integrating multimedia resources to cater to different learning styles
- Encouraging reflective writing and self-assessment exercises

These methods help maintain interest and deepen understanding by connecting classroom content to students' lives and future careers.

Building Strong Student-Faculty Relationships

Personal connections between students and instructors can dramatically increase engagement. Professors who take time to know their students, offer mentorship, and are approachable outside of class foster trust and motivation. Office hours, informal gatherings, and personalized feedback are valuable tools to build these relationships.

Supporting Student Autonomy and Voice

Allowing students to have a say in their learning process empowers them to take ownership. This can be achieved by:

- Offering choices in assignments or project topics
- Creating opportunities for student-led discussions or presentations
- Soliciting regular feedback on course design and teaching methods

When students feel their opinions matter, they engage more deeply and develop critical self-advocacy skills.

Measuring and Assessing Student Engagement

To improve engagement effectively, institutions need reliable ways to measure it. Various tools and indicators can provide valuable insights.

Surveys and Questionnaires

Instruments like the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) capture data on student behaviors, attitudes, and perceptions. These surveys help identify strengths and areas for improvement at institutional and program levels.

Learning Analytics

With the integration of technology, analyzing data from learning management systems offers real-time feedback on student participation, assignment submission patterns, and forum activity. This information enables educators to intervene early when disengagement signs appear.

Qualitative Feedback

Focus groups, interviews, and open-ended course evaluations provide nuanced understanding of student experiences. Listening to student voices uncovers barriers to engagement that quantitative methods might miss.

The Future of Student Engagement in Higher Education

As higher education continues to adapt to societal shifts and technological advancements, student engagement will remain a dynamic and essential focus.

Emerging trends such as personalized learning pathways, virtual reality simulations, and increased emphasis on mental health support promise to reshape how students connect with their education.

At the same time, challenges such as balancing screen time, addressing diverse learner needs, and fostering inclusivity require ongoing attention. Institutions that prioritize meaningful engagement as a core value will be better equipped to prepare students not just academically, but as thoughtful, resilient contributors to the world.

Ultimately, student engagement in higher education is about creating learning experiences that inspire curiosity, nurture growth, and empower individuals to reach their fullest potential. When students are truly engaged, education becomes a transformative journey rather than just a means to an end.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is student engagement in higher education?

Student engagement in higher education refers to the level of interest, motivation, and active participation students exhibit toward their learning and campus activities.

Why is student engagement important in higher education?

Student engagement is important because it enhances learning outcomes, improves retention rates, fosters critical thinking, and contributes to overall student satisfaction and success.

What are common strategies to increase student engagement in higher education?

Common strategies include active learning techniques, collaborative projects, use of technology and multimedia, providing timely feedback, and creating inclusive classroom environments.

How does technology impact student engagement in higher education?

Technology can enhance student engagement by enabling interactive learning, providing access to diverse resources, facilitating communication, and supporting personalized learning experiences.

What role do faculty play in promoting student engagement?

Faculty play a crucial role by designing engaging curriculum, fostering a supportive classroom environment, encouraging participation, and building meaningful relationships with students.

How can institutions measure student engagement effectively?

Institutions can measure engagement through surveys like the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE), analyzing participation data, academic performance, and feedback from students and faculty.

What challenges affect student engagement in higher education?

Challenges include large class sizes, lack of motivation, limited interaction with faculty, distractions from technology, and insufficient support services.

How does student engagement influence academic performance?

Higher student engagement typically leads to better academic performance as engaged students are more motivated, spend more time on tasks, and actively participate in learning activities.

What are emerging trends in enhancing student engagement in higher education?

Emerging trends include gamification, virtual and augmented reality, adaptive learning platforms, peer mentoring programs, and increased focus on mental health and well-being initiatives.

Additional Resources

Student Engagement in Higher Education: A Critical Review of Trends and Strategies

student engagement in higher education has emerged as a pivotal focus for institutions aiming to improve learning outcomes, retention rates, and overall academic success. As universities and colleges contend with diverse student populations and evolving pedagogical demands, understanding and fostering meaningful engagement becomes essential. This article delves into the multifaceted dimensions of student engagement, examining its significance, measurement, and the strategies that institutions employ to cultivate active participation within academic environments.

The Significance of Student Engagement in Higher Education

Student engagement is broadly defined as the degree of attention, curiosity, interest, optimism, and passion that students demonstrate when learning or being taught. It extends beyond mere attendance to encompass emotional and cognitive investment in educational activities. In higher education, this concept is crucial because engaged students tend to achieve better academic performance, exhibit higher retention rates, and develop skills that

transcend the classroom.

Research consistently links student engagement with improved learning outcomes. For instance, the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) regularly reports that students who participate actively in educational experiences—such as collaborative projects, discussions, and internships—show higher levels of critical thinking and problem-solving abilities. Moreover, engagement correlates with satisfaction, which influences persistence and degree completion.

Dimensions of Engagement

Understanding student engagement requires recognizing its multiple dimensions:

- **Behavioral Engagement:** Participation in academic and extracurricular activities, attendance, and adherence to institutional norms.
- **Emotional Engagement:** Affective reactions such as interest, boredom, happiness, or anxiety that influence motivation and involvement.
- **Cognitive Engagement:** Investment in learning, willingness to exert effort, and the use of deep learning strategies.
- **Social Engagement:** Interaction with peers, faculty, and the broader academic community.

Each dimension plays a distinct role, and effective strategies often address multiple facets simultaneously.

Measuring Student Engagement: Challenges and Approaches

Quantifying student engagement in higher education remains a complex task. Traditional metrics like attendance or GPA offer limited insight into the depth of engagement. Consequently, many institutions rely on comprehensive instruments such as the NSSE, which surveys students about their participation in educational practices linked to learning and development.

However, self-reported data can introduce bias, and engagement can fluctuate over time and context. Some universities supplement surveys with learning analytics—tracking digital footprints like learning management system (LMS) activity, discussion forum participation, and assignment submission patterns. While such data offer real-time insights, ethical considerations around privacy and data interpretation persist.

Comparative Perspectives

Comparisons between campuses reveal that student engagement varies widely

based on factors including institutional type, class size, and available resources. Research shows that smaller institutions often facilitate closer interactions between students and faculty, fostering stronger engagement. Conversely, large universities may struggle with impersonal environments but compensate through diverse extracurricular offerings and technology-enhanced learning.

Internationally, cultural differences also impact engagement. For example, collectivist societies may emphasize group work and community participation, while individualistic cultures might prioritize independent study. Recognizing these nuances is vital for designing inclusive engagement strategies.

Strategies to Enhance Student Engagement in Higher Education

Given its importance, universities have implemented numerous approaches to boost engagement. These strategies often integrate pedagogical innovation, technological tools, and student support services.

Active Learning and Collaborative Pedagogies

Traditional lecture-based teaching often leads to passive consumption of information, which can undermine engagement. Active learning techniques, such as problem-based learning, case studies, and peer instruction, encourage students to participate actively. Collaborative projects foster social engagement by promoting teamwork and communication skills.

Technology-Enabled Engagement

Digital platforms have transformed how students interact with course material and peers. Tools like discussion boards, interactive quizzes, and virtual simulations offer opportunities for engagement outside the classroom. Mobile apps and social media can also facilitate informal learning communities.

However, reliance on technology may create disparities among students with limited access or digital literacy challenges, necessitating inclusive design and support.

Support Services and Community Building

Engagement extends beyond academics. Institutions that provide robust advising, mentoring, and counseling services tend to see higher levels of student involvement. Creating welcoming campus environments through clubs, organizations, and events enhances emotional and social engagement.

Personalized Learning and Flexibility

Recognizing diverse student needs, many institutions adopt personalized learning pathways and flexible scheduling. Adaptive learning technologies tailor content to individual progress, while hybrid and online course options accommodate varying lifestyles.

While these approaches increase accessibility, they require careful planning to maintain meaningful interaction and avoid student isolation.

Challenges and Considerations

Despite best efforts, fostering sustained student engagement faces ongoing challenges. Increasing class sizes, budget constraints, and the shift toward remote learning during global events like the COVID-19 pandemic complicate engagement efforts. Additionally, measuring the impact of engagement initiatives remains difficult due to the multifaceted nature of the concept.

Faculty workload and training also influence engagement outcomes. Educators must balance content delivery with facilitation of interactive learning, requiring professional development and institutional support.

Moreover, the diversity of student populations—including first-generation students, international learners, and those balancing employment—necessitates adaptable strategies that address varying barriers to engagement.

Pros and Cons of Engagement-Focused Interventions

- **Pros:** Improved academic outcomes, higher retention, enhanced student satisfaction, development of transferable skills.
- **Cons:** Resource-intensive implementation, potential for student fatigue if overburdened, inequities due to differential access to technology or support.

Balancing these factors is essential for sustainable engagement enhancement.

Emerging Trends and Future Directions

Looking ahead, the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) and learning analytics promises more personalized and adaptive engagement strategies. Predictive models can identify at-risk students early, enabling targeted interventions.

Moreover, the rise of experiential learning—such as internships, service learning, and global exchanges—offers authentic contexts for engagement beyond traditional classrooms. Institutions increasingly emphasize holistic development, recognizing that engagement encompasses academic, social, and emotional domains.

Sustainability and mental health have also become integral to engagement discussions, as students navigate complex societal and personal challenges.

Student engagement in higher education remains a dynamic, evolving field. As institutions continue to innovate and adapt, the core objective persists: to create environments where students actively invest in their learning journeys, fostering knowledge, skills, and well-being that extend far beyond graduation.

Student Engagement In Higher Education

student engagement in higher education: Research Handbook on Student Engagement in Higher Education Cathy Stone, Sarah O'Shea, 2024-09-06 This cutting-edge Research Handbook presents a comprehensive overview of key developments in the field of student engagement, with particular reference to equity and diversity issues. Promoting a more holistic and inclusive understanding of engagement, it highlights key empirical findings alongside practical case studies, presenting valuable recommendations for the field. This title contains one or more Open Access chapters.

student engagement in higher education: A Handbook for Student Engagement in Higher Education Tom Lowe, Yassein El Hakim, 2020-03-23 Drawing on scholarship as well as established practice, A Handbook for Student Engagement in Higher Education is a sector-leading volume that unpacks the concept of student engagement. It provides ideas and examples alongside compelling theory- and research-based evidence to offer a thorough and innovative exploration of how students and staff can work together to genuinely transform the higher education learning experience. Providing readers with evidence from successfully embedded schemes, the book uses case studies and practical, workable examples from a variety of international institutions. With the insight of world-leading contributors, it showcases what good practice looks like in higher education institutions across the globe. Simultaneously collating a wealth of contemporary research, this book creates vivid connections between theories and student engagement in higher education, with chapter topics including: Creating relationships between students, staff and universities Offering non-traditional students extracurricular opportunities Taking a students-as-partners approach Critically reflecting on identities, particularities and relationships The future of student engagement. In a fast-developing and significantly shifting area, this book is essential reading for higher education managers and those working directly in the field of student engagement.

student engagement in higher education: Student Engagement and Quality Assurance in Higher Education Masahiro Tanaka, 2019-01-10 Using a range of international examples to compare the reality, purpose and effect of student engagement in universities across the globe, Student Engagement and Quality Assurance in Higher Education argues that teachers and students need to collaborate to improve the quality of university education and student learning. The growing trend of assessing and assuring quality in higher education is incredibly complex, as there are so many variables affecting both experiences and measures. With case studies from ten countries, covering a variety of cultural and environmental settings, this book focusses on ways of working with students to produce applicable, implementable strategies for universities the world over. Internationally applicable, this book presents ideas from a range of cultures, which can be adapted to be implemented in a variety of cultures. The reader is provided with a range of approaches where both the advantages and disadvantages are clearly presented. The ten case studies consider the macro, meso and micro levels of each approach, allowing for an exploration of the growing area of research and practice that is student-staff partnerships, showcasing ways of working with students to enhance engagement and quality, which are vital for a long-term approach. Focussing on one of

the main reform topics for universities, Student Engagement and Quality Assurance in Higher Education is essential reading for educational researchers, institutional leaders and all concerned with the implementation and progression of student engagement and quality assurance in higher education.

student engagement in higher education: Student engagement in Europe: society, higher education and student governance (Council of Europe Higher Education Series No. 20) Manja Klemenčič, Sjur Bergan, Rok Primožič, Council of Europe, 2015-06-01 Democratic institutions and laws are essential, but they cannot bring about democracy on their own. They will only function if they build on a culture of democracy, and our societies will not be able to develop and sustain such a culture unless education plays an essential role. Student engagement is crucial: democracy cannot be taught unless it is practised within institutions, among students and in relations between higher education and society in general. This 20th volume of the Council of Europe Higher Education Series demonstrates the importance of student engagement for the development and maintenance of the democratic culture that enables democratic institutions and laws to function in practice. This volume covers three aspects of student engagement that are seldom explored: its role in society through political participation and civic involvement; its place in higher education policy processes and policy-making structures; and how student unions represent the most institutionalised form of student engagement. The authors are accomplished scholars, policy makers, students and student leaders.

student engagement in higher education: Student Engagement Handbook Elisabeth Dunne, Derfel Owen, 2013-11-05 This book highlights some of the national and global agendas and issues, from emerging sectors, to the meaning of student engagement for different stakeholders. It provides a backdrop to themes of student engagement as well as examples of innovative and inspiring means of engaging with students in practice, empowering them to take responsibility wi

student engagement in higher education: Student Engagement in Higher Education Stephen John Quaye, Shaun R. Harper, Sumun L. Pendakur, 2019-11-27 In the updated edition of this important volume, the editors and chapter contributors explore how diverse populations of students experience college differently and encounter group-specific barriers to success. Informed by relevant theories, each chapter focuses on engaging a different student population, including low-income students, Students of Color, international students, students with disabilities, religious minority students, student-athletes, part-time students, adult learners, military-connected students, graduate students, and others. New in this third edition is the inclusion of chapters on Indigenous students, student activists, transracial Asian American adoptee students, justice-involved students, student-parents, first-generation students, and undocumented students. The forward-thinking, practical, anti-deficit-oriented strategies offered throughout the book are based on research and the collected professional wisdom of experienced educators and scholars at a range of postsecondary institutions. Current and future faculty members, higher education administrators, and student affairs educators will undoubtedly find this book complete with fresh ideas to reverse troubling engagement trends among various college student populations.

student engagement in higher education: Global Student Engagement Hamish Coates, Xi Gao, Fei Guo, Jinghuan Shi, 2022-05-05 Drawing together major global studies from leading researchers, this book presents novel results, ideas, and developments from the world's largest collaborative study of student engagement in higher education. It builds insight into contemporary higher education practice, policy, and research. The chapters are written by experts who lead student engagement research in nine diverse countries in Asia Pacific, North and South America, Europe and Africa. The book presents analysis, results, benchmark data, and case studies. It deep-dives into research programs, analytical capabilities, empirical situations, and development trajectories. The book updates earlier publications and charts emerging perspectives and development opportunities. The research contributions are for students of higher education, as well as for policymakers, advisors, and university administrators. Higher education practitioners and leaders around the world will enjoy this book.

student engagement in higher education: *International Student Engagement in Higher Education* Margaret Kettle, 2017-06-15 Hand-in-hand with the continuing drive to recruit international students to Western universities goes an interest in student engagement. However, it is often unclear exactly what is meant by engagement. This book goes beyond the policy rhetoric to provide a practice-based explication of international student engagement and its enabling institutional conditions. By utilising a social practice conceptual model, the book explains the multiple dimensions of engagement that are often conflated in policy: the antecedents to engagement, the actions of engaging, and the achievements and outcomes of engagement. As a result, the book is able to address issues such as how English comes to matter in international student academic practice; the teaching and assessment approaches that promote international student engagement; and the metacognitive, cognitive and affective strategies that international students use to achieve academic and personal transformation.

student engagement in higher education: Handbook of Research on Active Learning and Student Engagement in Higher Education Keengwe, Jared, 2022-06-10 Active learning occurs when a learning task can be related in a non-arbitrary manner to what the learner already knows and when there is a personal recognition of the links between concepts. The most important element of active learning is not so much in how information is presented, but how new information is integrated into an existing knowledge base. In order to successfully implement active learning into higher education, its effect on student engagement must be studied and considered. The Handbook of Research on Active Learning and Student Engagement in Higher Education focuses on assessing the effectiveness of active learning and constructivist teaching to promote student engagement and provides a wide range of strategies and frameworks to help educators and other practitioners examine the benefits, challenges, and opportunities for using active learning approaches to maximize student learning. Covering topics such as online learning environments and engagement approaches, this major reference work is ideal for academicians, practitioners, researchers, librarians, industry professionals, educators, and students.

student engagement in higher education: Student Engagement Online: What Works and Why Katrina A. Meyer, 2014-12-04 What makes online learning engaging to students? Engagement depends upon designing learning that is active and collaborative, authentic and experiential, constructive and transformative. While students and instructors can inadvertently act in several ways to decrease student engagement in online coursework, research indicates a range of options that have been proven to engage students in their online courses. This report explores the learning theories, pedagogies, and active learning options that encourage student engagement, push them to think more deeply, and teach them how to learn. It guides instructors on how to evaluate the effectiveness of technological and software tools, and to evaluate and assess the activities, learning, and retention occurring in their online classes. Finally, it will help instructors find inspiration for engagement from the face-to-face settings that can be translated into the online environment. This is the 6th issue of the 40th volume of the Jossey-Bass series ASHE Higher Education Report. Each monograph is the definitive analysis of a tough higher education issue, based on thorough research of pertinent literature and institutional experiences. Topics are identified by a national survey. Noted practitioners and scholars are then commissioned to write the reports, with experts providing critical reviews of each manuscript before publication.

student engagement in higher education: Handbook of Research on Student Engagement Sandra L. Christenson, Amy L. Reschly, CATHY WYLIE, 2012-02-23 For more than two decades, the concept of student engagement has grown from simple attention in class to a construct comprised of cognitive, emotional, and behavioral components that embody and further develop motivation for learning. Similarly, the goals of student engagement have evolved from dropout prevention to improved outcomes for lifelong learning. This robust expansion has led to numerous lines of research across disciplines and are brought together clearly and comprehensively in the Handbook of Research on Student Engagement. The Handbook guides readers through the field's rich history, sorts out its component constructs, and identifies knowledge gaps to be filled by future research.

Grounding data in real-world learning situations, contributors analyze indicators and facilitators of student engagement, link engagement to motivation, and gauge the impact of family, peers, and teachers on engagement in elementary and secondary grades. Findings on the effectiveness of classroom interventions are discussed in detail. And because assessing engagement is still a relatively new endeavor, chapters on measurement methods and issues round out this important resource. Topical areas addressed in the Handbook include: Engagement across developmental stages. Self-efficacy in the engaged learner. Parental and social influences on engagement and achievement motivation. The engaging nature of teaching for competency development. The relationship between engagement and high-risk behavior in adolescents. Comparing methods for measuring student engagement. An essential guide to the expanding knowledge base, the Handbook of Research on Student Engagement serves as a valuable resource for researchers, scientist-practitioners, and graduate students in such varied fields as clinical child and school psychology, educational psychology, public health, teaching and teacher education, social work, and educational policy.

student engagement in higher education: Understanding and Developing Student Engagement Colin Bryson, 2014-03-05 Enhancing the student experience, and in particular student engagement, has become a primary focus of Higher Education. It is in particularly sharp focus as Higher Education moves forward into the uncertain world of high student fees and a developed Higher Education market. Student engagement is a hot topic, in considering how to offer 'value' and a better student experience. Moreover it is receiving much attention all over the world and underpins so many other priorities such as retention, widening participation and improving student learning generally. Understanding and Developing Student Engagement draws from a range of contributors in a wide variety of roles in Higher Education and all contributors are actively involved in the Researching, Advancing and Inspiring Student Engagement (RAISE) Network. While utilising detailed case examples from UK universities, the authors also provide a critical review and distillation of the differing paradigms of Student Engagement in America, Australasia, South Africa and Europe, drawing upon key research studies and concepts from a variety of contexts. This book uncovers the multi-dimensional nature of student engagement, utilising case examples from both student and staff perspectives, and provides conceptual clarity and strong evidence about this rather elusive notion. It provides a firm foundation from which to discuss practices and policies that might best serve to foster engagement.

student engagement in higher education: Student engagement in Europe: society, higher education and student governance Manja Klemenčič, Sjur Bergan, Rok Primožič, 2015-05-27 Democratic institutions and laws are essential, but they cannot bring about democracy on their own. They will only function if they build on a culture of democracy, and our societies will not be able to develop and sustain such a culture unless education plays an essential role. Student engagement is crucial: democracy cannot be taught unless it is practised within institutions, among students and in relations between higher education and society in general. This 20th volume of the Council of Europe Higher Education Series demonstrates the importance of student engagement for the development and maintenance of the democratic culture that enables democratic institutions and laws to function in practice. This volume covers three aspects of student engagement that are seldom explored: its role in society through political participation and civic involvement; its place in higher education policy processes and policy-making structures; and how student unions represent the most institutionalised form of student engagement. The authors are accomplished scholars, policy makers, students and student leaders.

student engagement in higher education: Advancing Student Engagement in Higher Education Tom Lowe, 2023-05-12 Providing a selection of critical pieces on the key challenges and debates in student engagement in higher education, this edited collection of sector-leading, scholarly-informed critical reflections is designed to consider and build upon what can be done to advance student engagement. By problematising student engagement practice, this book explores how to strengthen policies, recognise the issues and create solutions to overcome barriers and

tensions. It considers topics such as diversity, accessibility, representativeness, evidencing impact, data analytics, the campus estate and the impact of COVID-19. The contributors provide lessons learned and knowledge from the field to make practice with students more considered and robust for the challenges ahead in the post-pandemic university. Moving beyond endorsing student engagement and offering best practice to critically reflect on and challenge our engagements with students in contemporary higher education, this book is ideal reading for all those developing education, course leaders and heads of academic departments, as well as anyone interested in advancing student engagement in their higher education setting.

student engagement in higher education: Student Engagement, Higher Education, and Social Justice Corinna Bramley, Keith Morrison, 2022-12-30 Student engagement is a catch-all term, irresistible to educators and policy makers, and serving many agendas and purposes. This ground-breaking book provides a powerful theory of student engagement, rooted in critical theory and social justice. It sets out a compelling argument for student engagement to promote social justice and to repel neoliberalism in, and through, higher education, addressing three key questions: Student engagement in what? Student engagement for what? Student engagement for whom? The answers draw on Habermas, Honneth, Gramsci, Foucault, and Giroux in examining ideology, power, recognition, resistance, and student engagement, with examples drawn from across the world. It sets out key features, limitations, and failures of neoliberalism in higher education, and indicates how student engagement can resist it. Student engagement calls for higher education institutions to be sites for challenge, debate on values and power, action for social justice, and for students to engage in the struggle to resist neoliberalism, taking action to promote social justice, democracy, and the public good. This book is essential reading for educators, researchers, managers and students in higher education, social scientists, and social theorists. It is a call to reawaken higher education for social justice, human rights, democracy, and freedoms.

student engagement in higher education: Engaging University Students Hamish Coates, Alexander C. McCormick, 2014-04-18 This book provides university teachers, leaders and policymakers with evidence on how researchers in several countries are monitoring and improving student engagement—the extent to which students are exposed to and participate in effective educational practices. It captures insights from international implementations of the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE), developed in the United States. In the last half decade NSSE has been adapted and used in several other countries, producing the largest international collaboration yet involving educationally relevant data on students' engagement in higher education. Leaders of established national collaborations draw on their experiences with hundreds of institutions to contribute their insights. Framed by their cultural and educational contexts, they discuss issues concerning first-year learners, international students, part-time and distance learners, as well as teaching and leadership in support of student learning. Each chapter outlines strategies based on national case studies and presents perspectives supported by concrete examples of how these have played out in diverse settings. The book suggests mechanisms that can be used by institutions, ministries and quality agencies around the world.

student engagement in higher education: Student Engagement and Educational Rapport in Higher Education Leonie Rowan, Peter Grootenboer, 2016-11-08 This book outlines a range of innovative methods to gather student feedback, and explores the complex relation between student engagement, student satisfaction, and student success. Drawing on results from a set of numerous case-studies carried out at a school of education, the book reports on a range of theoretically-informed teaching innovations, including focus groups, learning analytics data, collegial conversations and insights from student researchers, that have been designed to create respectful, student-centred, and engaging learning environments. In the current climate of ever-increasing pressure on delivering high student satisfaction rates, these results are invaluable for university students and teachers across the globe. With its unique thematic focus on educational rapport and relationship-centred education, the book is an excellent reference point for staff with a commitment to the scholarship of learning and teaching. It will be of great interest to students,

practitioners, teachers and policy makers in higher education.

student engagement in higher education: Student Empowerment in Higher Education. Reflecting on Teaching Practice and Learner Engagement Anjoom A. Mukadam , 2020-05-04 Student Empowerment in Higher Education brings together the accumulated knowledge and experience of many accomplished teachers and students from higher education institutions around the world, and has much to offer those who are engaged in higher education, as students, teachers or support staff. The authors offer personal reflections in teaching, learning, mentoring, assessment, hands-on activities, course design and student identities in higher education across the globe, supported by academic research and scholarship. Readers are provided with a window into tried and tested empowering practices in varying contexts, enabling them to see what works and what does not, alongside the challenges and possibilities. A distinctive feature of this book, and its paramount strength, is that it explores best practices in student empowerment, whilst reflecting on matters of teaching and learning that are familiar to students and teachers alike, and also explores practices in a variety of disciplines. The intention of these volumes, therefore, is not only to inform readers about the diverse learning and teaching approaches of the authors, but, most importantly, to facilitate processes of student empowerment and promote reflection on teaching and learning practices. In recent decades, higher education policy discourse has persistently implied that a university education is 'delivered' to students under the impersonal banner of 'the student experience'. Not only does this commodify the diverse, individual experiences of students into one marketable product, it also creates false barriers and power dynamics between students and their teachers. In Student Empowerment in Higher Education, the students and lecturers who collaborated to write this important volume have literally blown such misleading notions out of the window! I highly recommend each varied and autonomous chapter to learn what really inspires confidence and success in university students. Professor Sarah Hayes, Professor of Higher Education Policy, University of Wolverhampton The two volumes of Student Empowerment in Higher Education offer the reader rich and varied examples and understandings of student empowerment from around the world. The authors provide reflective accounts of learning and teaching from diverse perspectives and disciplines, which focus on many different areas of practice in higher education. It is this variety that will appeal to many readers, as the source of ideas and inspiration for numerous possible routes to empowerment. With many chapters co-authored by students and staff, the book models the collective responsibility students and staff have for enhancing student empowerment. Dr. Catherine Bovill, Senior Lecturer in Student Engagement, University of Edinburgh; Fulbright Scholar, Elon University, North Carolina, USA; Visiting Fellow (Knowledge Exchange), University of Winchester

student engagement in higher education: Student Engagement Techniques Elizabeth F. Barkley, 2009-11-02 Keeping students involved, motivated, and actively learning is challenging educators across the country, yet good advice on how to accomplish this has not been readily available. Student Engagement Techniques is a comprehensive resource that offers college teachers a dynamic model for engaging students and includes over one hundred tips, strategies, and techniques that have been proven to help teachers from a wide variety of disciplines and institutions motivate and connect with their students. The ready-to-use format shows how to apply each of the book's techniques in the classroom and includes purpose, preparation, procedures, examples, online implementation, variations and extensions, observations and advice, and key resources. Given the current and welcome surge of interest in improving student learning and success, this guide is a timely and important tool, sharply focused on practical strategies that can really matter. ?Kay McClenney, director, Center for Community College Student Engagement, Community College Leadership Program, the University of Texas at Austin This book is a 'must' for every new faculty orientation program; it not only emphasizes the importance of concentrating on what students learn but provides clear steps to prepare and execute an engagement technique. Faculty looking for ideas to heighten student engagement in their courses will find useful techniques that can be adopted, adapted, extended, or modified. ?Bob Smallwood, cocreator of CLASSE (Classroom Survey of Student Engagement) and assistant to the provost for assessment, Office of Institutional

Effectiveness, University of Alabama Elizabeth Barkley's encyclopedia of active learning techniques (here called SETs) combines both a solid discussion of the research on learning that supports the concept of engagement and real-life examples of these approaches to teaching in action. ?James Rhem, executive editor, The National Teaching & Learning Forum

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