The role of students in effective curriculum design

By The European Students Union

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The role of students in universities is changing and should change, students can no longer passively receive education. The future of learning is in the hands of students and this comes with a great responsibility.

Students as change agents

My main points:
- **Students involved in official representative bodies are super important and should be stimulated and facilitated very well**
- **But for effective curriculum design we have to go beyond that:**
  - **Meaningful participation**
  - **Ownership**
  - → **Interaction between teacher and student is the key to success**

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Official representation

- **Facilitate in terms of:**
  - **Time**
  - **Compensation**
  - **Information**
  - **Location**
  - **Interaction**

- **Only meaningful output if the representative bodies are seen as meaningful by the institution!**

In the learning programs

- **Curriculum design can only be effective and future proof if students are constantly involved in the discussion about their learning:**
  - **Good feedback system**
  - **Constant interaction between teacher and students about the learning and teaching**
  - **Ownership of the student over their own program**
  - **Communication between teachers, students AND the representative bodies**

- **Very important: start in the very beginning of the program, otherwise it is too late! → It is a way of learning, a way of teaching, something that should be in the culture of the university**

The responsibility of students

There is the institutional responsibility to provide for the infrastructure and enable students to be active, but students have to step up and claim their position.

Questions?

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