



VERKKOVIRTA

Työn oppinnollistamista verkostoyhteistyönä

New forms of validating learning at work in collaboration between higher education and work



An ongoing (2015-2017) network project of 18 Universities of Applied Sciences and their partner organisations in Finland

Funded by EU

Coordinated by Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences, School of Vocational education

The project team

Pirjo Aura, coordinator; Hannu Kotila, project manager; Anu Moisio, expert; Kimmo Mäki, expert; Alisa Pettersson, expert; Liisa Vanhanen-Nuutinen, expert, contact person, liisa.vanhanen-nuutinen@haaga-helia.fi

Kestävä kasvua ja työtä -ohjelma

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The starting point

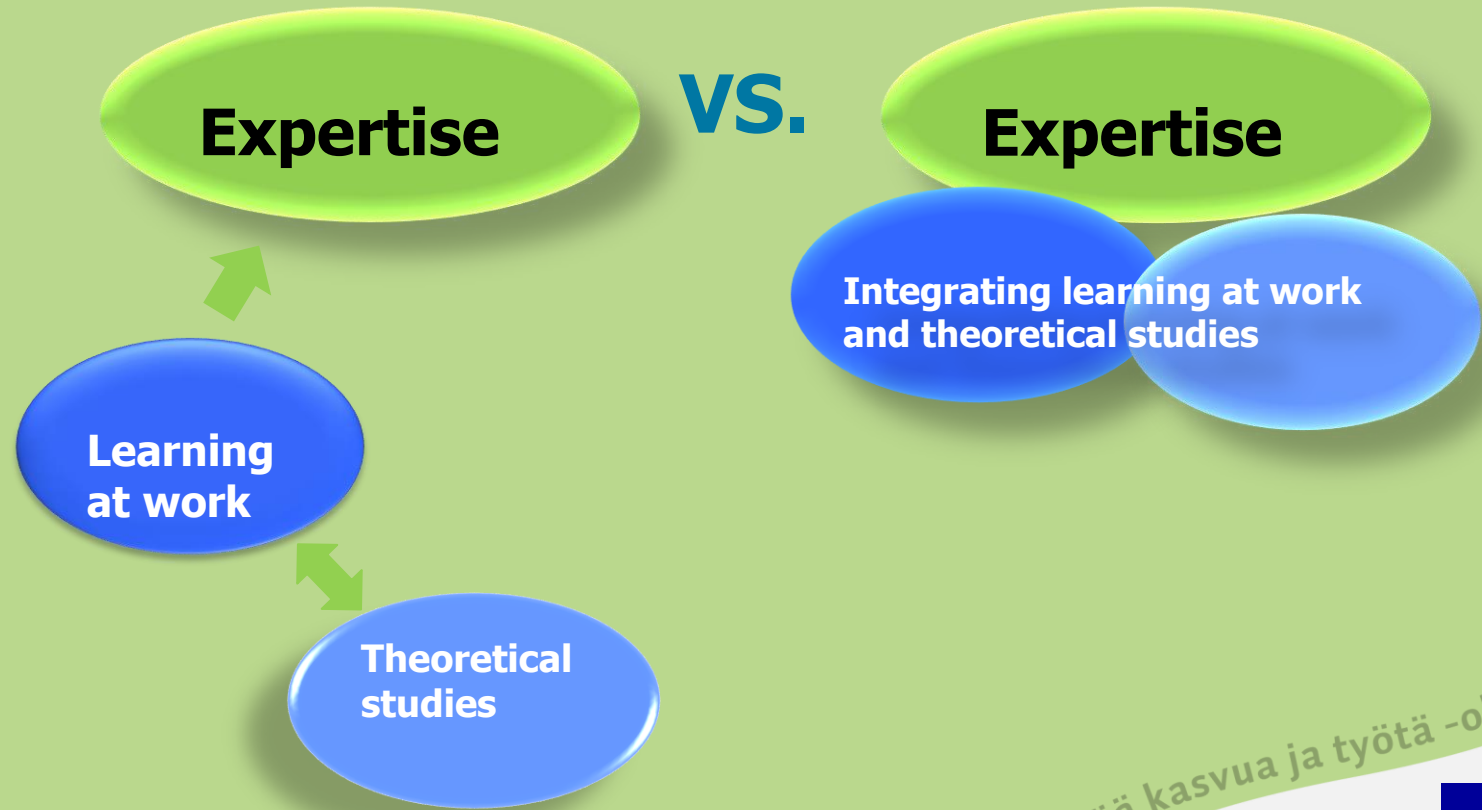
Higher education practices do not serve students with different backgrounds, needs and activities, e.g. employment

Studytimes in higher education are too long, and e.g. therefore working careers are too short

There is a need to develop flexible study paths in higher education, including learning at work

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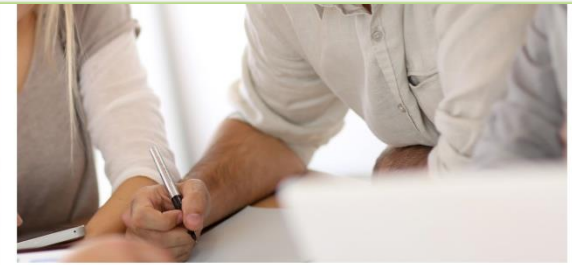
The question is?



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The aims of the project

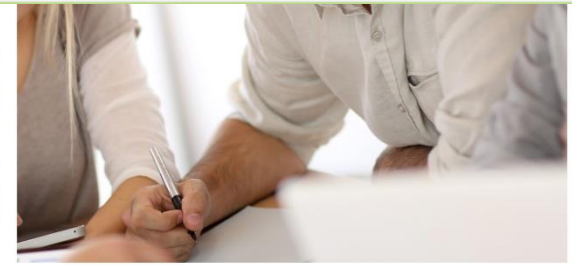


To describe students' employment in higher education and the impact learning at work has on competence development.

To develop and disseminate the model for recognizing and validating learning at work, excluding work placement.

To develop a model of UAS – work partnership to combine workplace learning with studying, thus resulting in accelerated graduation, better employability and expert level employment.

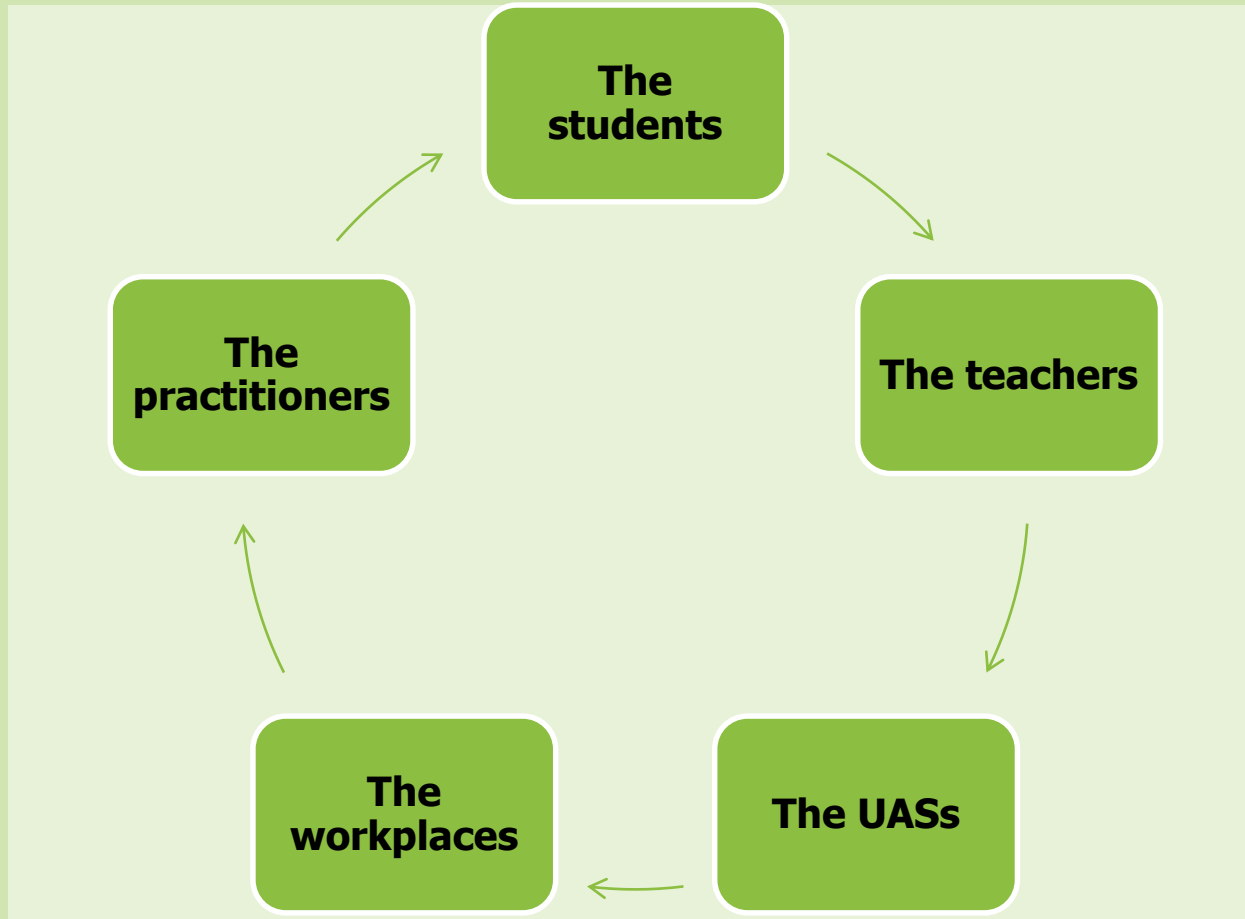
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Collective development is based on practice-based, participatory and continuous development work, which involves researchers, teacher educators, teachers, students and practitioners

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The networks: 18 UASs, five trade-specific networks, five schools of vocational teacher education



The activities of the developmental work

Pilots

More than 20 pilot studies

Workshops and seminars

The target of the project is to reach 1000 out of 5500 Finnish UAS teachers by the end of 2017.

Presentations

Abstracts and presentations held in conferences and seminars

Website

<http://www.amkverkkovirta.fi>

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Products, tools, examples

Process model for '*diary thesis work*' (Bachelor and Master level studies).

Demonstration day toolkit

Process model for individual validation

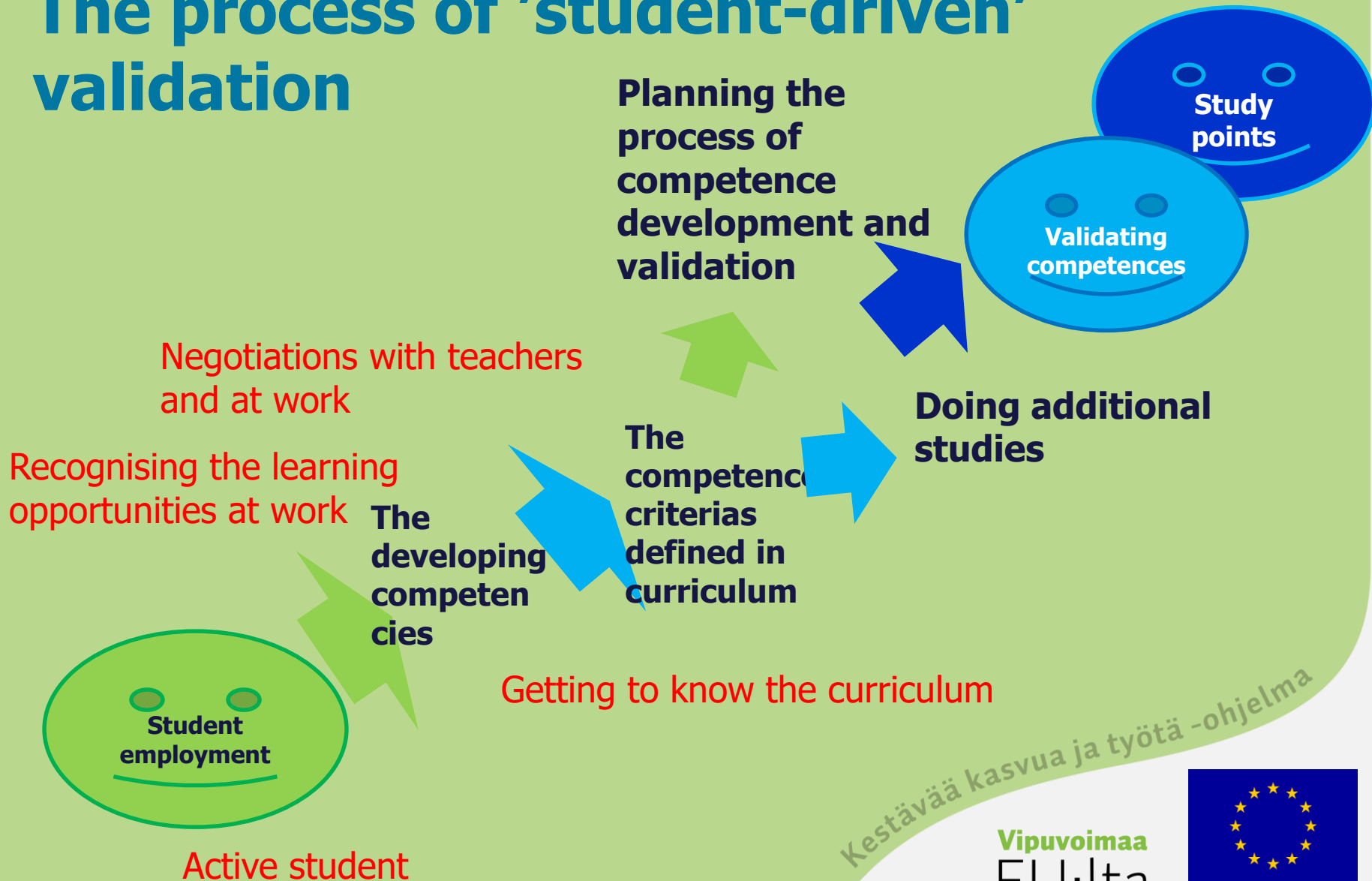
Guidelines for validation of voluntary activities

<http://amkverkkovirta.fi/tools-english>

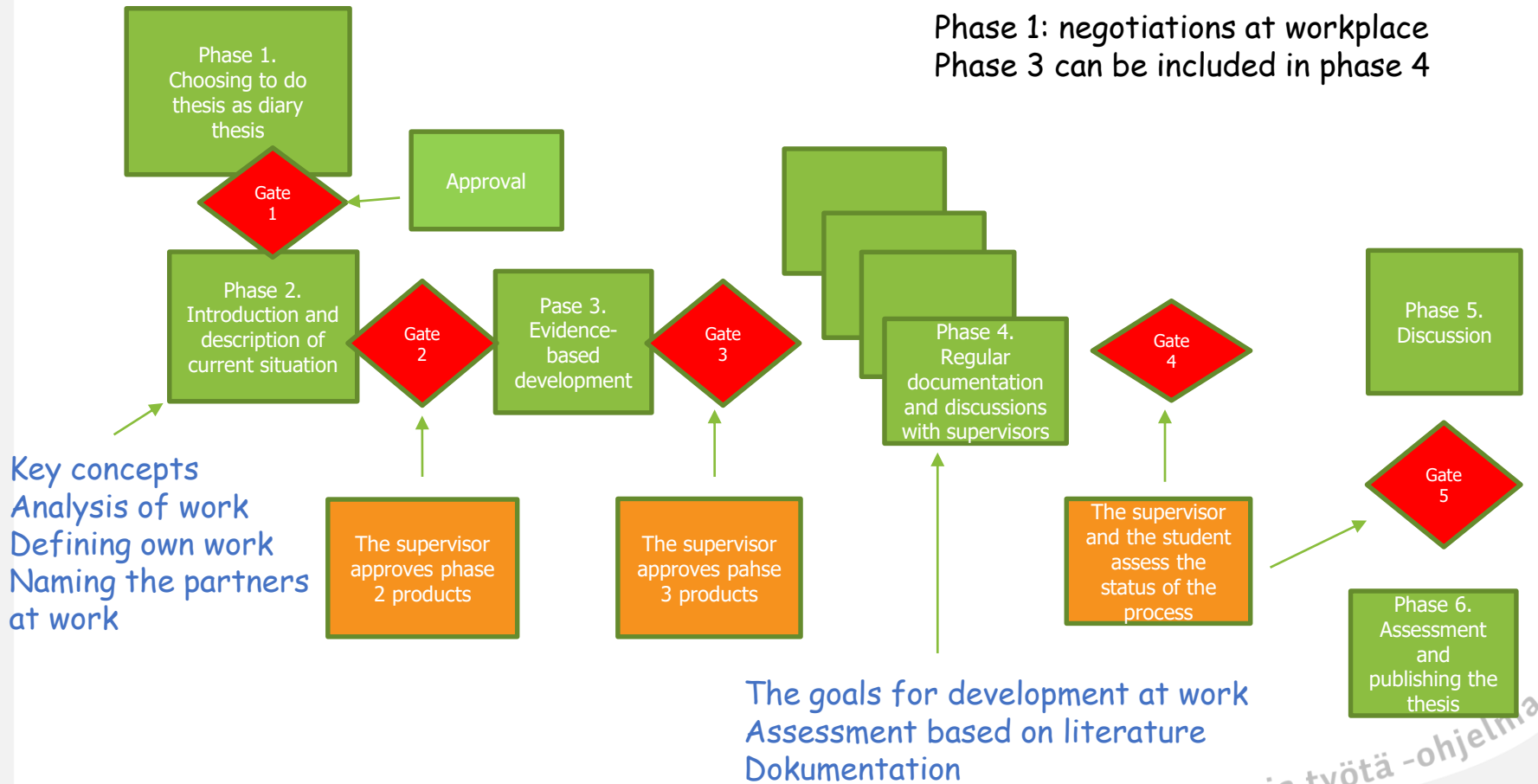
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The process of 'student-driven' validation

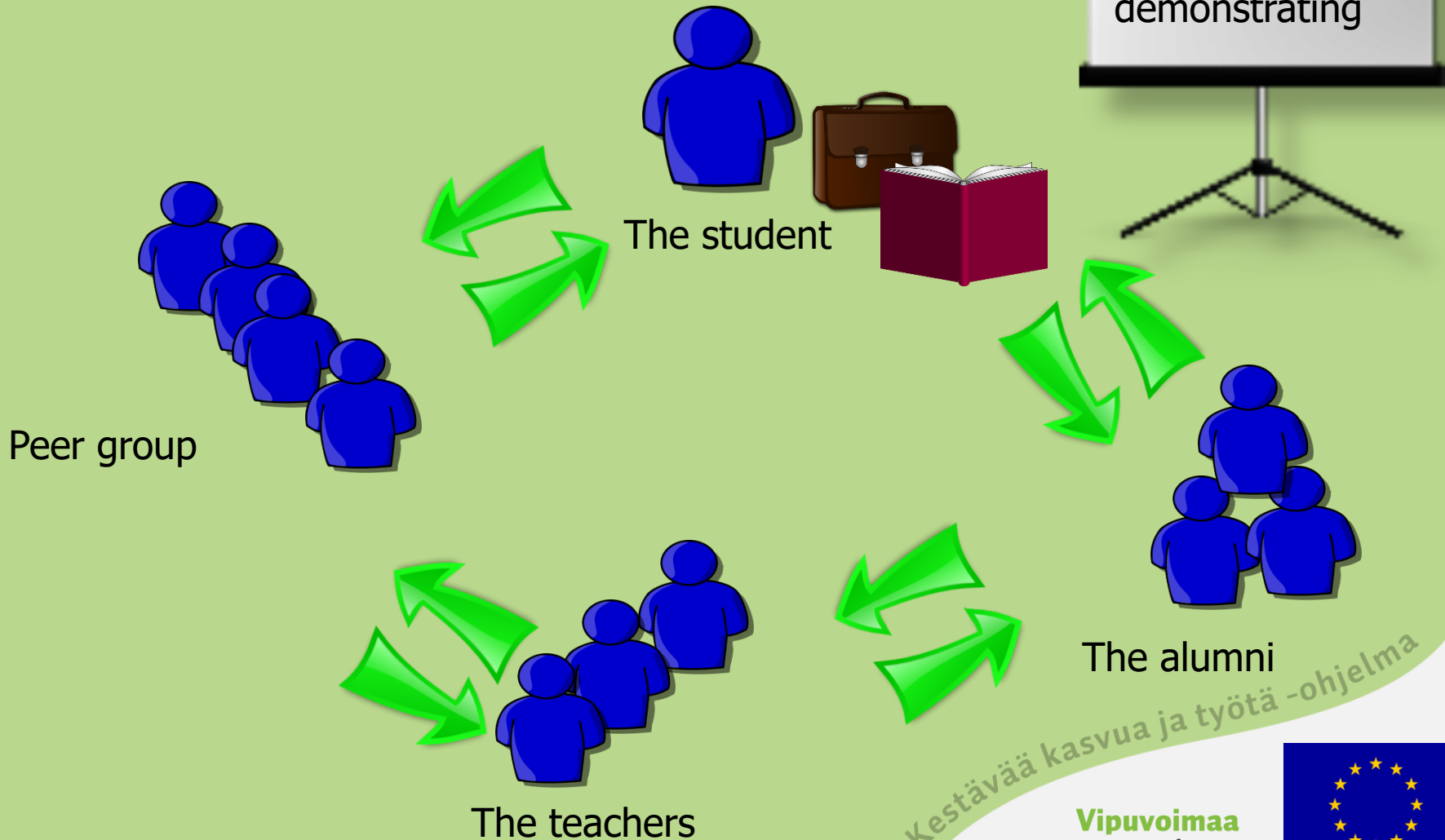


The process of diary thesis work; nursing studies (by Tuula-Maria Rintala 2016)



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The demonstration day, business studies



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The research



How do the students manage to integrate employment and studies?
How does the quality of employment change during first, second and third year of studies?
What kind of model explains employment intergrated learning in higher education?

Vanhanen-Nuutinen, L., Kotila, H., Mäki, K. & Saari, J. 2016. Developing and testing a model of integrating employment and studies in higher education. Presentation in Eapril conference 2016. See the programme. Proceedings article is also coming!

Validation improves capabilities of the four parties involved – win-win-win-win

Students are able to proceed in their studies flexibly through individual learning paths. Their knowledge of the substance has an excellent fit with workplace competence requirements when studying in an authentic work environment.

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Teachers gained new contemporary knowledge of work today through students' experience. By taking part in validation processes, teachers can easily update their competence on current trends at workplaces. New knowledge also have a halo effect on the content of traditional teaching as teachers are able to bring in new insights from the field.

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Workplaces can use students' academic competence in their development work. Students can provide additional knowledge and resources to benefit workplace development, often neglected in everyday practices.

UASs benefit from the project by improving credit point accumulation, the number of early graduates and improving the fit between education and work.

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Publications

A validation guide book for
UAS teachers

Review articles (coming)

Newsletters

See:

www.amkverkkovirta.fi

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Thank you!

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