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Creating value with and for students and companies in course collaborations

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Abstract

Background and explanation

The value of case-based learning in engineering education is widely recognized and an important learning element in many courses. In this workshop, we focus on the part of case-based learning involving live cases in the courses. This can for example be courses where students actively engage with a partner organization, or work on a real-life case/project provided by a company or an organization. We want to shed light on value creation taking place for particularly the partners engaging in course experiences like this.

Live-cases with direct involvement is often resource consuming for the partners, but we assume that live-case cooperation also creates significant value for the partners, however this kind of value is not given, is difficult to predict and, in many cases it can also be difficult to evaluate and quantify.

The purpose of this workshop is to explore the value created in collaboration between students and external partners and to provide arguments for why partners should engage in student cooperation. Therefore, we invite participants to share their own experiences and knowledge on creating value in this type of setting. It can either be actual examples from your own teaching or frame works for understanding the value created in these collaborations (or both).

To take a deeper dive in to this topic, the authors are working on a pilot study aiming to conceptualize and validate an operational model for the evaluation of value creation inspired from the theoretical based frameworks on value creation presented by Elke den Ouden (2012) and Martin Lackéus (2018). This pilot study will pave the way for further research, where live case cooperation in different sectors is evaluated and compared.

Set-up

As introduction to the workshop, the authors will present their framework and empirical work so far. The workshop participants will be divided into groups and each group will have time to discuss their framing of value creation based on their empirical experiences. Each group will present their discussion in plenum. At the end of the session the authors will sum up on the results from the workshop. There will be time to discuss how to proceed if there is an interest in further collaboration.

Expected results

The expected outcome from the workshop is empirical examples on course collaborations between students and companies and more knowledge on how to frame the value creation of these collaborations.

We expect to use the obtained knowledge together with our own empirical data and combine them into either a journal article to be shared with participants, or to formulate a research project for interested parties within the education community.

References

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