

Working Title

Creative Innovation for Creativity in Education: Experience from “Innovation Lab: Sustainable (Creative) Society”

Author

Dr. B. (Beata) Kviatek

Researcher / Senior Lecturer

International Business and Management

International Business School

Hanze University of Applied Sciences Groningen

Email:

b.kviatek@pl.hanze.nl

Research Purpose and Expected Contribution

This research aims to contribute to the innovation of education by evaluating one of the good practice examples – an experimental pilot “Innovation Lab: Sustainable (Creative) Society”, implemented at Hanze University of Applied Sciences Groningen from November 2016 till February 2017. It will also draft some insights about setting of innovation lab and educational innovation in general. Therefore, the research results will contribute to the broadening of practical knowledge about implementation of innovative educational forms, such as innovation work places or innovation labs, within a regular curriculum. Moreover, the results of this research not only will broaden knowledge about (creative) innovation of education, but also will contribute to broadening of our knowledge about imbedding of creativity and innovation in the regular curriculum.

Research Object

The research describes and evaluates the implementation of the experimental pilot “Innovation Lab: Sustainable (Creative) Society” within a regular curriculum of International Communication major, specifically, the 4th year Public affairs specialisation.

The experimental innovation lab aimed to embed creativity and innovation in the regular curriculum. The focus on creativity was chosen, because it is increasingly acknowledged that creativity and innovation are essential qualities of the future professional who needs to deal with complexity and uncertainty of our world and who aims to develop a sustainable society. In other words, the development of sustainable society is not possible without creativity, and thus, the future is of *Sustainable (Creative) Society*.

The creativity within the experimental pilot “Innovation Lab: Sustainable (Creative) Society” was embedded in multiple ways: through establishment of creativity supporting learning environment (creation of an innovation lab), through enhancement of creativity in the individual and group learning processes (offering creative thinking workshops and peer review sessions), through formulation of creativity supporting assignments, and through inclusion of theory lectures on philosophy of creative society. The research paper will describe and evaluate the practical implementation of these experimental solutions for embedding creativity and innovation in a regular curriculum and teaching.

Research Strategy and Method

As this research project aims to describe and to evaluate the experimental pilot “Innovation Lab: Sustainable (Creative) Society”, the main research approach to be followed is a descriptive-explorative case study of the implemented experiment and its subsequent evaluation. Therefore, this research can be classified as the one falling within the category of ‘data collection / experimentation’ of the PRO-model and can be defined as an evaluative research. The evaluative type of this research supposes the collection of empirical data, which will be gathered using qualitative methodology. The empirical data to be gathered includes a variety of documents and media related to the set up and implementation of the innovation lab; interviews carried before, during and after the implementation of the project; participants’ reflexions submitted at the end of the projects; and reconstruction of observations. The analysis of gathered participants’ data will aim to explore the experiences.

Research Output

The research project foresees several research outputs about the experimental pilot “Innovation Lab: Sustainable (Creative) Society” – the example of both – the creative innovation of education and the imbedding of creativity and innovation in the regular curriculum:

- the description of implementation of the innovation lab,
- the report about the collected data about implementation of the innovation lab,
- the analysis of the gathered data,
- the evaluation of the innovation lab: as innovation of education and with regard to embedding of creativity and innovation in the regular curriculum.

Research Results Dissemination

The research results and acquired insights will be shared with Hanze University community as well as other interested parties through publication and other forms of research dissemination. The shared research results and acquired insights will facilitate the innovation of education.