Didaktik-Forum 2016:
Motivating & Teaching Diverse Study Groups
Sharing Teaching Experience

Prof. Dr. Andreas Wilms
Vicepresident for Teaching and International Affairs
Welcome to Brandenburg

Prof. Dr. Andreas Wilms

Vice President for Teaching and International Affairs
Brandenburg University of Applied Sciences (THB)

• founded in 1992

• three departments
  • Economics
  • Informatics & Media
  • Engineering

• students (winter term 2015/16): 2614
• staff
  • 67 professors
  • 175 research associates & administrative staff

• study programmes
  • 11 Bachelor programmes, 9 Master programmes
  • 7 dual curriculums, 2 part-time programmes, 2 online programmes
Diversity in Teaching and Learning at THB

host and sponsor of the conference:  
Project Diversity in Teaching and Learning  
2011-2016, 2016-2020

project leader: Prof. Dr. Andreas Wilms
funded by: Federal Ministry of Education and Research  
Quality Pact for Teaching
Diversity at THB – some statistical data

- students in total: 2614
  - 32.3% women
  - 12.3% foreign students from 67 countries
  - aged from 17 – 61
  - 14% enrolled in part-time degrees (extra occupational)
  - 5.5% vocationally qualified
    (higher education entrance qualification without „Abitur“)
Why focus on motivation?

Successful graduation depends on the ability to motivate and regulate one's learning:

Dropout from Bachelor programmes main reasons

- failure in examinations/excessive demands: 30%
- lack of motivation: 30%
- study conditions: 25%
- financial need: 15%
- family/illness: 10%

from: HIS-HF 2010
Where does motivation come from?

*We know nothing about motivation.*

*All we can do is write books about it.*

Peter Drucker
Where does motivation come from?

Motivation – a few propositions:

• is determined by the extant to which students experience effectancy, autonomy and affiliation (cf. Ryan & Deci 2000)

• can be enhanced by creating a master-oriented learning environment (cf. Covington 2007 et al.)

• does not have to be an unchangeable trait of the learner, but can be influenced by the instructor (cf. Zusho 2007)
Motivating and Teaching Diverse Study Groups

Key question

Which teaching methods have proven successful to foster student commitment, motivation and course achievement?
Teaching and Motivating Diverse Study Groups – the programme

- peer-to-peer discussions amongst lectures from Aalborg, Groningen, Katowice and Brandenburg

- keynotes:
  - Bettina Dahl Søndergaard, PhD
    *The Principles and Practices of Problem Based Learning at Aalborg University*
  - Dr. Florian Zaussinger
    *A Best Practice Concept for Heterogenous Technical Student Classes*

- hands-on sessions with examples covering project-based formats, blended learning, practice-oriented settings and many more...
### Timetable for today

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When</th>
<th>What</th>
<th>Who</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13:15</td>
<td>Opening Adress</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Andreas Wilms</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:30</td>
<td>Keynote The Principles and Practices of Problem Based Learning at Aarhus University</td>
<td>Bettina Dahl Søndergaard, PhD</td>
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<td>14:30</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>Hands-on Experience I</td>
<td>Christian Tollestrup, PhD</td>
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<td>Prof. Dr. Vera Meister</td>
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<td>Prof. Dr. Martin Kraska</td>
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<tr>
<td>17:30</td>
<td>Summary of the Day and Outlook</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Andreas Wilms</td>
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<tr>
<td>18:00</td>
<td>End of First Day</td>
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## Timetable for tomorrow

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When</th>
<th>What</th>
<th>Who</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Welcome Note</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Andreas Wilms</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15</td>
<td>Keynote</td>
<td>Dr. Florian Zaussinger</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A Best Practice-Concept for Heterogeneous Technical Student Classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30</td>
<td>Hands-on Experience II</td>
<td>Tina J. Klok</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15</td>
<td>Lunch Break</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Andreas Wilms</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:30</td>
<td>Hands-on Experience II (cont'd.)</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. hab. Wojciech Dyduch</td>
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<td>Prof. Dr. Michael Syrjakow</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:15</td>
<td>Summary, Outlook and Close-up</td>
<td>Prof. Dr. Andreas Wilms</td>
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Bettina Dahl Søndergaard, PhD
Aalborg University

The Principles and Practices of Problem Based Learning at Aalborg University