Information Literacy in Teacher Education

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Watch out for Mr. Khan!

"That is true. But most of all we have to be prepared for our new students. The four students from NG’s Upper secondary school impressed us by their excellent presentations with extremely relevant content. They gave us an overview of how digital learning activities can motivate students and create a good learning environment. Students with these competences are a "tremendous resource" to the College and have to be received as such."

Ole-Gunnar Søgnen, principal of Bergen University College after the first conference of education, at BUC, 5th of April 2001

(http://blogg.bt.no/preik/2013/04/02/se-opp-for-mr-khan)
How did these students become a resource for their community of learning?

- A new modern school offers new possibilities
- Gives motivation for learning
- Offers good learning environment
- High level of digital literacy among staffmembers, teachers and administration
- Good and competent students
- Supportive and well educated parents
Nordahl Grieg videregående skole

- http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=d0Djl4u8OEk
Questions after the film

• What will happen when all staff members have their digital literacies in order?
• Some answers:
• More constructive cooperation
• Evaluation will be done in a totally different way
• Students will be involved in making their own subjects, they will become the producers of their own subjects
• Key words: cooperation and creativity
How to achieve a good level of digital literacy? - and MIL

- Cooperation is the key word
- How can we work together in effective ways?
- Librarians and teachers on all levels have to cooperate in order to increase the level of digital/MIL as a life-long learning process
The Khan Academy

Salam Khan, an immigrant from Bengal to the US founded the Khan Academy
Goal: To afford education for free on a high level to anyone, anywhere
Activities: 4000 Khan videos in 24 languages are shown every day to millions of people all over the world
Emphasis on differentiated learning, the learner’s individual needs are met
A new teacher role has to be developed from an instructor and transmittor of knowledge to a mentor or facilitator of learning
Open to everyone

• The Khan model is «a beginning of a revolution» Bill Gates
• The Children’s International school in Fredrikstad, Norway
• www.cisfredrikstad.no
• Has the revolution Bill Gates is talking about already started in Norway?
• Will we see more of private schools in the years to come? (only 2,5% today)
Hordaland

Objective:

everyone should have access to good library services

- 33 municipalities
- Training
- Projects
- School libraries
Educational challenges and possibilities

• Teachers and school librarians are challenged to work together to find better ways of teaching students to learn to learn as a lifelong process.

• The development of e-Learning and Distance Education technologies and teaching/learning modalities, thus permitting both youths and working adults to learn in the home and in the office, and on their own time, often integrated with the overlapping/multi-tasking with their personal, family and job responsibilities.

UNESCO
What can we do in teacher education?
The information literate teacher -
Based on cooperation and creativity

1. Teacher education
   - teacher educators and librarians
   - students

2. Schools
   - principals
   - teachers (mentors) and librarians

3. County library
Main goal

- Educate information literate teachers who through their teacher training process have achieved a good level of (M)IL
- These teachers are active users of libraries, in the College and in their practice schools
- These teachers are able to apply their (M)IL competences in their interactions with pupils and support their learning
- Improve library competences and services on all levels, in TE and schools and libraries
Pestalozzi programme:
Quote of the month, october 2010

• “There is a need of cooperation between schools and communities so that students, from their early age, can adjust to the idea that gathering information is something that will accompany them throughout their adult lives and getting the correct and valid information is something that has to become part of their critical thinking. Becoming information literate is something that takes a lot of serious work from all parties involved and needs to be taken seriously by everyone”.

Mr Athos Kyriakou (CYPRUS)
Teacher education for change
Some core questions

• What is the main role of teachers today?
• How can teachers be educated to fulfill this role?
• What knowledge and skills are important to acquire?
• What values are to be transmitted?
• How can teacher education support an education for a democratic, sustainable society?

(Teacher education for change. The theory behind the Council of Europe Pestalozzi Programme. Council of Europe Publishing, 2011)
What can teacher education do?

- Creation of transversal knowledge (MIL)
- Cooperation between librarians and teacher educators in all subjects
- Discuss and agree upon curriculas
- Agree upon specific assignments to enhance MIL
- Share responsibilities for assessments
- Create and develop effective tools for the promotion of MIL
- Search and Write (involving students in the assessment)
- Motivate students to form writing groups and use the programme of Search and Write actively
- Develop good on-line assessments and guidance
- Cooperate with practice schools and libraries
- Cooperate with the Norwegian School Library Programme
Steps to be taken

• Improve the Search and Write programme (in Norwegian and English)
• Create a programme for (M)IL as a transversal knowledge for all
• Inform student teachers about how to work in order to prepare the bachelor dissertation in their 3rd year (GLU 1-7 and GLU 5-10)
• Develop good assignments in all subjects
• Improve (M)IL competences among teacher educators
Teacher Competences

- Recognise their information needs
- Locate and evaluate the quality of information
- Store and retrieve information
- Make effective and ethical use of information
- Apply information to create and communicate knowledge
How these competences are demonstrated

1. Professional attitude
2. Practical skills
3. Knowledge of MIL
4. Application of MIL in the classroom
   4.1 Demonstration of MIL in presentations
   4.2 Cooperation and communication
   4.3 Efficient use of MIL in interactions with students/pupils
   4. 4 Sufficient MIL competences for mentoring and guidance
5. Testing/assessment (digital tests)
6. Design and development of learning activities based on MIL
COOPERATION

• Create a commun focus, task and activities
• Librarians and teacher educators work together:
  - In teacher education modules, on bachelor and master levels
  - conferences
  - training units
• Inform students and teachers about possibilities to develop their competences. The Agder project
International inspiration and cooperation

- The Council of Europe
- UNESCO
- Conferences national and international
How to reach the Google-generation in the school library?

• Strategies
• Staff
• Training
• Priority
• Novice teachers with

IFLA/UNESCO School Library Manifesto: “The school library is essential to every long-term strategy for literacy, education, information provision and economic, social and cultural development”.

Høgskolen i Bergen
BERGEN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
Information is the new currency of democracy

develop and sustain in children the habit and enjoyment of reading and learning, and the use of libraries throughout their lives.
References

• *Teacher education for change*. (2012) Council of Europe publishing
• Pestalozzi series. Council of Europe
• How all teachers can support citizenship and human rights education: a framework for the development of competences (2009) (Council of Europe)