HRK Hochschulrektorenkonferenz

Die Stimme der Hochschulen

29.10.2025

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Title

Student and tutor perceptions on attributes of effective problems in problem-based learning / Nachamma Sockalingam; Jerome Rotgans; Henk G. Schmidt

Publication year

2011

Source/Footnote

In: Higher education. - 61 (2011) 7, S. 1 - 16

Inventory number

30446

Keywords

Studentenschaft: Studienverhalten; Tutoren: allgemein; Hochschullehrer: allgemein

Abstract

This study aimed to identify the attributes that students and tutors associated with effective PBL problems, and assess the extent to which these attributes related to the actual effectiveness of problems. To this end, students and tutors in focus groups were asked to discuss about possible attributes of effective problems. The same participants were then asked to individually and independently judge eight sample problems they had worked with. Text analysis of the focus group discussion transcripts identified eleven problem attributes. Participants? judgments of the sample problems were then frequency-scored on the eleven problem attributes. Relating the participants? judgments with the entire student cohort?s grades yielded high and significant correlations, suggesting that the eleven problem attributes reflect aspects of problem effectiveness. (HRK / Abstract übernommen) Sockalingam, Nachamma, E-Mail: nachamma_s@rp.sg