Practice II positions

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Practice II positions:
A closer collaboration between USN and teacher education schools

• Through many years, USN has collaborated successfully with practice teachers
• Our students report high quality learning from their practice periods at teacher education schools

• What about bringing these highly qualified school teachers into our own teacher education program?
Boundary crossing for coherence: Bridging dichotomies in Teacher Education

Boundary crossing - Boundary objects (Akkerman & Bakker 2011)

Boundary crossing (ibid.) usually refers to a person's transitions and interactions across different sites. Boundary objects refer to artifacts doing the crossing by fulfilling a bridging function.
Practice II positions at USN: Co-teaching and boundary crossing to improve student learning and relevance

• Education where teacher educators from both university and practice schools plan, teach and evaluate as a joint process to improve the quality of teaching and of student learning
• Co-responsibility, co-operation, co-evaluation
• «In order to recognize a profession program as relevant then the curriculum must be closely tied to the practical performance of the profession» (Ekspertgruppa om lærerrollen 2015:137)
Framework and funding

- The Practice II position is inspired by the Professor II position
  - A secondary, part-time position (20% or less)
  - Role- and responsibility framework available
- Agreements between local school authorities/school head
- The practice II teacher is appointed by USN (not the usual employment process)
  - 3 models for appointments
  - Access to all USN systems
- Funding by institution, externally, or in combination

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Anne Fængsrud
Results

• Practice II positions were implemented in 2018
• From 2018-2019 we had 22 practice II positions at USN
• From 2019-2020, there will be 28
• Expanding

«I really appreciate the way in which theory and practice have been linked together through this project»

«Being able to ask the practice II teacher questions has made the theory easier to understand»