HRK Hochschulrektorenkonferenz

Die Stimme der Hochschulen

10.8.2024

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Title

Student socialization in interdisciplinary doctoral education / Daniel Boden ; Maura Borrego ; Lynita K. Newswander

Publication year

2011

Source/Footnote

In: Higher education. - 62 (2011) 6, S. 741 - 755

Inventory number

31167

Keywords

Ausland : USA : Studenten, Studium, Lehre ; Wissenschaft : Interdisziplinarität ; Promotion : allgemein

Abstract

Interdisciplinary approaches are often seen as necessary for attacking the most critical challenges facing the world today, and doctoral students and their training programs are recognized as central to increasing interdisciplinary research capacity. However, the traditional culture and organization of higher education are ill-equipped to facilitate interdisciplinary work. This study employs a lens of socialization to study the process through which students learn the norms, values, and culture of both traditional disciplines and integrated knowledge production. It concludes that many of the processes of socialization are similar, but that special attention should be paid to overcoming organizational barriers to interdisciplinarity related to policies, space, engagement with future employers, and open discussion of the politics of interdisciplinarity. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)