Engaging first year students: A conceptual organiser for student engagement

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Overview

- Role of student engagement in FYE
- Student engagement TLRI project
- Literature review
- Conceptual organiser
- Evaluated against data from TLRI project
- Revised conceptual organiser
- Discussion value, issues?

- Co-lead a TLRI project with 9 institutions
 - Literature review
 - Survey of students in first enrolment
 - Student interviews
 - Teacher survey

Literature review identified four strands

- Motivation and agency
- Transactional engagement
- Institutional support
- Active citizenship

Produced a conceptual organiser

- Strands
- Indicators for those strands

Evaluate the organiser against data from 72 student interviews

- All four strands present
- Some indicators strongly supported
 - Autonomy, competence (motivation & agency)
 - Transactional engagement
 - Institutional support
 - Active citizenship
- Some less apparent
 - o Relationships with others; work on own
 - Academic challenge, enriching experiences, high expectations of students, diversity valued

Two changes to the organiser

- Separated the transactional engagement strand into two
 - Teachers
 - Students
- Added a non-institutional support strand

Discussion

- Does the organiser offer a useful way of:
 - thinking about student engagement;
 - evaluating actions to engage students?
- Could individual institutions write indicators relevant to their context?
- What is missing?
- What is irrelevant?