

Experience the Future of Enterprise Education: The 'Team Akademie' Model

18th-19th March 2010, 10am-4:30pm
Venue: SCEPTrE
Hosted by Surrey Team Enterprise Project
(SCEPTrE Fellowship Project)

Day 1: for Surrey students and staff

Come along to this day and you will experience the Team Akademie process in action! Facilitated by Team Akademie from the University of Applied Sciences, Jyväskylä, Finland, in collaboration with the STEP team, the workshop will give you a unique insight into this highly innovative approach. The day will be very participative, involving fun and learning, and you will have the opportunity to assist the STEP project in its aim of co-creating a version of this approach for the University of Surrey.

Day 2: for business people, UK higher education professionals, etc.

Discover the essence of the Team Akademie approach, described by Peter Senge (MIT) as 'the future of business education'. Hear first hand from Team Akademie from the University of Applied Sciences, Jyväskylä, Finland, and find out how you could get involved in introducing this exciting process into the UK. Participants will have the opportunity to assist the STEP project in its aim of co-creating a version of this approach for the University of Surrey.



Team Academy origins

The Team Academy (Finland) is an innovative and successful approach to entrepreneurial, knowledge-based business education pioneered in Jyväskylä, Finland in 1993 (Leinonen, Partanen, & Palviainen 2004). The Academy is now a largely self-funded, nationally accredited degree awarding institution within the Finnish Educational system. Over 30% of the businesses generated by the 800+ students who have graduated from it over the past 16 years are still trading profitably and some 60% of its graduates have continued to be engaged in entrepreneurial, start up businesses.

The Team Academy approach involves students in creating and running real businesses. It facilitates experiential learning by its students, through applying the ideas of Senge and others on organizational learning and on the knowledge creation theories of Ikujiro Nonaka and Hirotaka Takeuchi. It eschews a traditional, teacher-centred approach in favour of a learning partnership emphasising experiential learning supported and facilitated by coaches, with an emphasis on action, enterprise, and capability development.

Team Academy (Finland): <http://www.tiimiakatemia.net/index.php>

'Exporting' Team Academy

Our project is exploring the feasibility of adapting the approach from its Finnish educational context to the UK. It is most unlikely that the Finnish Team Academy model is directly transferable to the UK context but the challenges are all the more exciting for that.

Team Academy fits well with Surrey's learning and teaching profile, e.g.:

- Experiential and enquiry-based learning
- Professional training
- SCEPTRe (e.g. lifewide curriculum, creative academy)
- Enterprise education



Pictured are the project team, with Arie de Geus, President for the Society for Organisational Learning

Dr Paul Tosey, Senior Lecturer, School of Management, University of Surrey

Dr Graham Robinson, Visiting Research Fellow, School of Management, University of Surrey

Nigel Biggs, entrepreneur-in-Residence, University of Surrey

Dr Spinder Dhaliwal, Lecturer in Entrepreneurship, School of Management, University of Surrey



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