

**nu2012**

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- I invite you herewith to;

**“A round the table Discussion”**

What we will focus on and discuss in

**Global Higher Education**

*(3. Den globala utbildningen)*

**The Topic for the discussions will cover various questions concerning how international students and Swedish students meet one another, mix, or not mix, in programs and courses...**

- I will open up our **round the table discussion** by a brief presentation of recent interviews I have made with some of our international students

- To my experience I have noticed rather positive effects of integrating Swedish students and international students with one another in higher education by presenting various kinds of workshops where the students have to discuss and help each other in different parts, crafts and methods...
  
- I have also noticed another positive effect, and a natural flow and an open attitude to when the general language has been English throughout lecturers, workshops and tutorials
  
- In international courses the students develop not only the course subject, but a foreign language and mix with international contemporaries
  
- This can be one of the best of times for the students to communicate, to start a dialogue with one another
  
- From the interviews made I note that it can be difficult for international students to become mates with Swedish students while studying here?

- Another problem I also noticed was that our international students often group together and can be afraid or shy to make contacts with Swedish contemporaries?

And this works vice versa...?

- From the interviews and to my experience in class I learned that our international students can be critical to us teachers and lectures that we do not help the situation enough to integrate Swedish and international students?

- From the interviews I also noticed that the students found it difficult to get close to and to Approach Swedes...

*“people shy away and do not want to talk to strangers...?”, “so we keep to ourselves and mix with other international students”, “we did not think it would be like this?”, “we would like to be able to attend courses where Swedish students go..”, “we live in certain areas where only international students live, and there is no natural meeting place so we can meet Swedes”. “People don’t talk to you on the bus or in the street”*

## To be discussed in this meeting!

I believe we ought to discuss questions of integration in a world that is focused on a **Global Higher Education** ... what can be improved easily and quickly?

- I think we must discuss **HOW WE CAN** improve and how we can help and inspire students to meet in the lecture room and during workshops, but possibly also inspire to social meetings?
- How do we invite to natural meetings and learning situations?
- Reflections from our neighbor countries on the questions are welcomed?
- What can we learn from each other and this meeting?

*I look forward to sharing my experiences with you and to discuss these matters in order to develop the interrogation between international students and Swedish students in a study situation!*

*Regards  
Anneli Martin*

