

Students as partners – obstacles, possibilities and solutions in Norwegian Earth science education

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The first Centre for Excellence in Education (SFU) was started in 2011 with the goal of stimulating innovation and excellence in higher education in Norway. It has been followed by another 5 generations of centers. Each center is funded by the Norwegian Directorate for Higher Education and Skills for 5 to 10 years. The Centre for integrated Earth science education, iEarth, is a national consortium consisting of four universities in Norway and achieved SFU status in 2020 with the goal of transforming Earth science education. Including students as partners in their education is an integral part of the iEarth mission. So how do students at the iEarth institutions view their role in their own education?

We report from a workshop gathering 30 students from four Norwegian geoscience departments exploring the need for, and road towards student involvement. The workshop is arranged by students for students and focus on students as partners in their education. The students explore questions such as: What are the benefits of student involvement in higher education? What teaching methods are most effective from the students' perspective? What are challenges, possibilities and solutions for today's Earth science education and in what direction should the education evolve? We will present the workshop, the discussions and the student perspective on these questions.