Students experience of problem-based learning at Blekinge Institute of Technology, Sweden

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BACKGROUND

Problem-based learning (PBL) was introduced at the nursing education at Blekinge Institute of Technology (BTH), Sweden, in the year 2001. As a way to develop the education a survey on PBL was distribute to all nursing education students at BTH. The aim was to examine the students view on PBL.

METHODS

A survey with 29 questions with fixed answers and 8 open ended questions was delivered to all students at the nursing education program at BTH. Of 392 students 275 answered the survey (70.2 %).

RESULTS

Out off all 47 % answered that they experienced PBL positive, 34 % were negative. On a ten point plus/minus scale students gave PBL at BTH the mean score of 4.73. The highest mean score of 5.02 was given by students in the first term, while the students in term 2-6 gave PBL the mean score of 4.65 (p=0.042).

Neither age nor previous knowledge of PBL was not of any importance in how the students experienced PBL.

DISCUSSION

Students graded PBL at BTH with the average grade of 4.7. One might say that this expresses that the students find PBL at BTH being sufficient but not great. PBL at BTH has areas that will benefit by some improvement. The survey has been the foundation of developing a policy-program in how PBL should be used at the nursing education at BTH.

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