

Practice Research in a changing Society: Overcoming barriers

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In a changing Society growing awareness about lifelong learning and research has spread rapidly. This emphasis on constantly searching for new knowledge and the use of research evidence to guide the practice has been met with different ways of thinking and experimenting with new methods. One of the methods is called practice research which is the method that guided us in this project that started in spring 2015.

Our aim was to look at the learning process and how knowledge develops over time. This will be done by following a group of social workers for three years, starting from when they graduate. The participants will form several focus groups that will meet once a year for three years and discuss theories and practice from the perspective of a vignette.

In this presentation we will discuss the development of our cooperation where four of us are practitioners working in the field and two are academics from the University. During the research period we have met several opportunities and obstacles which have given us further insight into the method of practice research and underlined the importance of bridging the gap between the practice field and the academic world.

In the workshop we will focus on how to develop partnerships and create ways of working together.