



# PBL Academy Newsletter – June 2016

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## Since our last newsletter

Summer is here, exams are over and hundreds of students have graduated from their educations and are now ready to make use of all their knowledge, skills and competencies. They now rely on what a problem-based education has offered over the past years. These students and what they have achieved is a welcome reminder of what our learning principles have to offer. It is also a reminder of the value of engaging and dedicated supervision and of the need to continuously questioning, discussing and developing our principles. The interest in doing exactly this is reflected in the interesting and meaningful discussions and perspectives on PBL at the PBL Academy events over the past few months. Thank you to all who have participated! We very much hope to continue debating and learning in the autumn, so keep an eye open for future events announcements in the newsletter and on the website at [pbl.aau.dk](http://pbl.aau.dk)

## Apply for funding for further development of AAU's PBL practice

The PBL Academy has received the call below from the AAU Strategic Council for Education

*It is now possible to submit an application for funding for PBL development projects and contribute to shaping AAU's future PBL practice. The application deadline is Tuesday 20 September 2016.*

Have you thought of a good idea for a PBL development project which might be relevant all across AAU? Now is the time to apply for funding for your project.

The AAU Strategy 2016-21 *Knowledge for the World* emphasises our focus on the further development of our PBL practice. During 2016 to 2019, four to eight PBL development projects must be launched, and DKK 1.6 million has been set aside for these.

With this allocated funding, AAU wishes to support PBL development projects which aim at exploring, challenging and developing our PBL practice even further. The theme framework is broad, including themes such as:

- PBL and IT
- PBL and study intensity
- PBL outside of project work

The funding is not targeted towards particular subject or research groups. Therefore, researchers from outside of official PBL circles are also encouraged to apply.



The application deadline is 20 September 2016, and the Strategic Council for Education will select the funding recipients at the end of October 2016.

More information on Call 2016 PBL development projects including the application form are available at <http://www.strategi.aau.dk/Handleplaner+Viden+for+verden/PBL/>

## Resources and events

### Intranet with PBL resources

One of the main objectives of the PBL Academy is to develop and disseminate PBL resources making them available to all AAU staff. To achieve this we have developed the PBL Academy Intranet containing a number of resources on PBL. This includes:

- Slides, videos and other materials from PBL Academy events
- PBL presentation templates available to AAU staff
- Films and information on group exams

The Intranet is accessed through the link on the PBL Academy website at [pbl.aau.dk](http://pbl.aau.dk) using AAU credentials and is available to all AAU staff.

Our intention is to continuously add to the resources. If you have any suggestions for PBL resources which you would like to share with your AAU colleagues, please contact us.

### Successful meeting in the new network on first year PBL

On 2 June 30 researchers and teachers involved in first year PBL at AAU gathered to share experiences and ideas in a new network. During the afternoon the participants discussed the current characteristics of first year PBL teaching and supervision and what knowledge, skills, and competencies/attitudes do the students need at first-year - and which are particularly difficult to them. The network will meet again in the autumn semester to address "how do students at first year learn how to learn?". If you want to make sure to be a part of the new network you should send an email to [jba@learning.aau.dk](mailto:jba@learning.aau.dk).

## The PBL Academy and the new AAU Strategy 2016-2021

It has hardly gone unnoticed that PBL plays a significant part in the new AAU Strategy [strategi.aau.dk](http://strategi.aau.dk). The PBL Academy has been invited to contribute towards the realisation of the strategy in several ways. Thus this autumn we will initiate an examination of existing PBL literature produced at AAU. We already know of many research publications however, much PBL experience and potentials for learning is also hidden in 'grey' papers i.e. unpublished materials in the form of reports, evaluations etc produced in various departments and study boards. Added to this the PBL Academy will also be involved in work on a strategy for disseminating information about PBL both internally at AAU and to external partners and potential students.



## Journal of PBL in Higher Education (JPBLHE)

### New papers in early view

Make sure to check out the latest papers from JPBLHE in the [early view section](#).

### Reviewers for the journal

The journal is gaining recognition and for this reason we are constantly looking for dedicated reviewers. Therefore, if you are doing research in PBL and would like to contribute to the consolidation of the journal please contact journal editor Thomas Ryberg, [ryberg@hum.aau.dk](mailto:ryberg@hum.aau.dk).

### Call for papers

You find the general call for papers for JPBLHE [here](#). Please circulate this call in relevant networks both internally and internationally.

## Preparing for the arrival of new students and an exciting autumn

For now it is time to settle into a slow pace and enjoy a well deserved summer break. However, most of us have probably already started thinking about the autumn. In the autumn the PBL Academy will invite to the second meeting in the newly established Network for First Year PBL. We will also push on with identifying relevant published and unpublished materials about PBL at AAU and to this end we will need help from colleagues from all departments and faculties.

We wish you all a very nice summer break and we are looking forward to seeing you all for PBL events in the autumn!

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