

Entrepreneurship educators talk! How entrepreneurship educators experience the goals of entrepreneurship education?

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Abstract

During decades entrepreneurship education has been discussed and developed among educational organizations. However, teachers seem to feel confusion about entrepreneurship education and its goals. To find out what practitioners really think, a qualitative research was conducted. This research focuses on how entrepreneurship educators experience the goals of entrepreneurship education. A total of 340 answers were collected during different meetings and workshops in 2019. The data collection was implemented using post-it notes where respondents were asked to write down their own opinion: What are the goals of entrepreneurship education? Analysis of the data shows various different viewpoints of the issue. The main themes identified are related to entrepreneurship, entrepreneurial mindset and attitude, enhancing of entrepreneurial spirit and entrepreneurial thinking. In discussion and conclusion these main themes are compared with earlier research (e.g. Mwasalwiba 2010, Lackeus 2015). According to our results, the goal of developing entrepreneurial skills was more common and unlike in earlier research, the goal of developing generic skills (“being a good employee”) was mentioned. Among practitioners, the two different viewpoints of entrepreneurship education, the “narrow” and “wide” were recognized, too.

Keywords: Entrepreneurship education, entrepreneurship education goals, content analysis method