

## **The production site of Linnaeus**

The university is a production site, with managers termed administrators, with workers termed professors, and with production units, of nostalgic reasons termed students. As in all production, throughput time is very important. The administrators push for faster throughput time of the products, the production units, while the workers complain about decreasing quality. After three to four years of production, the production units leave the production site.

Contrary to this conception, I am walking in my romantic landscape of a University. It is a community of students and teacher, supported by the administrative staff, aiming at producing and distributing scientific knowledge. In my University dream, students are in focus. They are part of the important life of the University. They invest three to four years of their life at the University. They gain knowledge and keep the teachers alert and help them develop their skills and knowledge.

The teachers feel gratitude to their students. When they leave the University, it is always with some regret and sorry for the teacher. But the examination day, the final day at the University is a happy day.

We celebrate the day by the students presenting their own, independent scientific work during one day. It is such a proud day for the teachers since it is the glorification of the joint effort.

For me, as responsible for the dissertation course, it goes without saying that the students should be given a lunch. All of us, teachers and students, go to the student cantina, and enjoy the lunch together. Students and teachers together, enjoying food and a relaxing hour, between the scientific presentations of research in accounting, finance and corporate governance. Great fun. And most of all, a manifestation of University!

**NO! NO! NO!** Sven-Olof Yrjö Collin is a romantic dreamer, far away from reality. The so called students are in reality not students. They are production units. And you do not feed production units. When Volvo is finished with the car, it leaves the production site without any lunch, without any celebration, without any feelings. It is just and only a production unit. One more unit that will produce revenues. Nothing more.

This is the reality of Linnaeus university of today: I asked for permission to reserve lunch for students. Just a formality for me. I have been at Lund University, Kristianstad University and Halmstad University. All of them hailed my engagement and supported it. Of course, they said when I made my formal request.

Not so at the Linnaeus production site. I was told that I cannot give them a free lunch. Not even on their examination day. No free lunch for them. That is policy, they said. Linnaeus university have a policy saying that the university do not celebrate student and teachers achievements by offering them a free lunch.

It is logical. You do not give a free lunch to a production unit. It is just and only a unit. Nothing more. A production unit which has only one purpose. To carry a revenue.

**I rebel that horrible policy!** It is not offensive. It is terrible. It shows so clearly that the administrators are far away from the idea of my University. I despise them and their power and their presence. I renounce them (an expression I learned from a movie).

I will order the lunch. Against the policy. And I declare it here, in advance. So they, if they read, can take steps to hinder my rebellious act.

My rebellious act is based on the belief that there will be humans of knowledge, i.e., students present at the presentation day. That we will manifest the essence of University that day, by being a community of students and teachers, where students present their scientific dissertations. And where we share a lunch together.

I realize that the administrators will not accept the invoice from the restaurant. They will send it to me and tell me to pay it since I acted against the rules of the university. Then I pay it. I will use my own money in order to manifest University. In order to not humiliate the idea of a University. My students will not leave my University with the feeling of being a production unit with the aim of carrying a revenue.

I live the idea that students are humans that have gained knowledge at the university, and that help the teachers to develop the scientific knowledge. My place is not a production site. My students are not production units. I am not a worker. We, together, constitute a University, where our hunger is for knowledge. But we are also humans, so we also have a hunger for food and fun.

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