

## Workshop exploring the landscape of neurodiversity support in Danish higher education

The workshop is co-designed by the Bias Aware Teaching and Learning [BATL](#) and the Teaching and Learning in the International Classroom [TLIC](#) Special Interest Groups hosted by the Danish Network for Educational Development in Higher Education [DUN](#).



### Danish Network for Educational Development in Higher Education (DUN)

*DUN, Danish Network for Educational Development in Higher Education is a society whose purpose is to develop the quality of university education and university teaching. DUN seeks to further this through establishing networks and activities for its members. Besides, DUN organizes newsletters, study groups, events and also issues the Danish Journal of Higher Education - DUT.*

This workshop is financially supported through funding allocated by DUN for SIG events, with additional funding kindly provided by KU's [HR Development and Work Environment Unit](#).

**Date: Friday 01.03.23, 09.30-14.45**

**Location:** University of Copenhagen, South Campus, Emil Holms Kanal 2, DK-2300 Copenhagen S, room 27.0.09 (see map of the South Campus [here](#))

The workshop is complemented by this online compilation of resources: <https://shorturl.at/kwylZ>

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### Workshop Programme

**09.30** – Coffee and tea available

**09.45-10.00** – Welcome and introduction to the workshop (including the video from Mette Graversgaard, student on MSc in Molecular Biology, AU)

**10.00-10.40** – [Valeria Borsotti](#) (Department of Computer Science, KU): **Neurodiversity in Computer Science - Accessibility Breakdowns & Bottom-up Micro-Interventions. Presentation and Q&A.**

Neurodiversity is a concept created to de-stigmatize “atypical” neurobiological structures and to celebrate the human variation in how nervous systems interact with the world. The term is typically used in relation to ADHD, autism, dyslexia and dyspraxia, but also includes neurological conditions acquired as a result of trauma, injury or illness. In technology research, the intersection of neurodiversity and accessibility is still underexplored, but neurodivergent people regularly interact with systems and environments that do not take into account their needs and skills. In this talk I will share findings from my research project, discussing some of the accessibility breakdowns experienced by neurodivergent students in three Danish computer science departments. I approach neurodiversity from a socio-technical and holistic perspective, mapping out issues related to assistive technology, stigma, cognitive/physical accessibility, and intersecting dimensions (like gender, socio-economic status, etc.). I also discuss the role of neurodivergent students in pushing for change and implementing local micro-interventions. Following my presentation there will be time for a short discussion about the topic.

**10.45-11.00** – **Students sharing university experiences.**

Annika Oehlenschläger Nielsen KU: Philosophy

Isabella Viktoria Klausen KU: Law

Sakinah-Michelle Ahmed KU: Political science

**11.00-11.15** – **Discussion**

How can our universities support neurodivergent students' access to and participation in learning?

**Break 11.15-11.30** – coffee and tea, time to mingle and meet.

### 11.30-12.30 – Sharing examples of neurodiversity support for student learning

During this part of the workshop, we will hear from and interact with colleagues who provide learning support for students with neurodiversities.

1. Louise Kold-Petersen and Louise Margrethe Pedersen, Literacy counsellors, AU Student Administration and Services: **Neurodivergente studerende på AU – udfordringer i undervisningssituationer/ Neurodivergent students at AU – challenges in teaching situations** (10 min video, Danish with English subtitles)
2. Anne Dalvad Hansen, SPS-counsellor, KU University Education Services (FA): **I can only concentrate for 5 minutes. RL-challenges for neurodivergent students (15 mins)**
3. Marie Linde Husby, Authorized psychologist, Studenterrådgivningen/The Student Counselling Service: **“Essential for some” - What can teachers do? (30 mins)** How to organize teaching and how to communicate to include SPS students without stigmatizing them? Based on general challenges among SPS students and how this can affect study behavior and have psychological consequences, Marie Linde Husby will point to what this calls for when teaching. Focus will be on factors such as predictability, alignment of expectations, metacommunication, the power of normalization and more. Feedback and group work will serve as examples of how to put this to use.

### 12.30-13.00 – Vegetarian and Vegan Sandwich lunch. Time for meeting and catching up.

### 13.00-14.00 – [Varia Christie](#) Teaching & Learning, CBS and Sidsel Rasmussen, student, KU: **Teaching resources. Interactive session.**

In this interactive workshop, we shall take departure from the [Accessibility Guides](#) recently developed by CBS' Teaching & Learning Unit. Focusing on the two commonly used teaching resource formats, PowerPoint presentations and pre-recorded lecture videos, we shall first zoom in on the specific needs of neurodivergent students with respect to these formats and then zoom out to reflect on how to maximise the uptake of these recommendations among the teachers and, with that, the impact on student learning. The session combines real-life insights from a student-advocate for dyslexia with an evidence-based perspective of a learning design practitioner.

### 14.00-14.15 – [Anna Müller](#), Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences, KU.

Anna invites us to hear about her experiences and strategies as a university academic with neurodiversities.

### 14.15-14.30 – Take aways

What shall we take away from today's workshop?

How will we share our take aways with our colleagues and managers?

### 14.30-14.45 – What next?

The TLIC and BATL SIGs are collaborating on a shared focus: *'Teachers' and students' experiences of equity and inclusive education at Danish Higher Education Institutions'*

Workshop Evaluation and  
Feedback on future BATL/TLIC SIG  
workshop/webinar/event themes.



### Coming up

[DUN Conference](#) 'Higher education in a time of transition' Vingsted Conference Centre, 23-24 May, 2024

The DUNK Conference includes time for SIG meetings.