

Muuttuva tutkimuspolitiikka ja
yhteiskunnallinen aktivismi musiikkikasvatuksessa
Changing research policy and
societal activism in music education



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ARTSEQUAL

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The arts as public service: Strategic steps towards equality (2015-2021)

- funded by the Strategic Research Council of the Academy of Finland with 6,5 million euros
- 6 research groups; nearly 100 part-time, full-time, or affiliated researchers and practitioners (music, dance, theatre, visual arts and museums)
- over 50 interaction partners
- the goal is to initiate solutions to decrease inequality in Finnish society and provide remedies for the uneven access to the arts and arts education services

What if the arts were understood more widely as public service, with equality as the starting point?

1. What *mechanisms* in Finnish basic services in arts and arts education sustain unequal participation and, assuming equality as the starting point, how should practices in basic services in arts and arts education be changed?
2. What impacts can be found in new *participatory* practices for well-being at large?
3. How can the arts and arts education be theorized from a wider societal-significance perspective towards creating equality, and what political and policy consequences arise from such a shift of perspective?

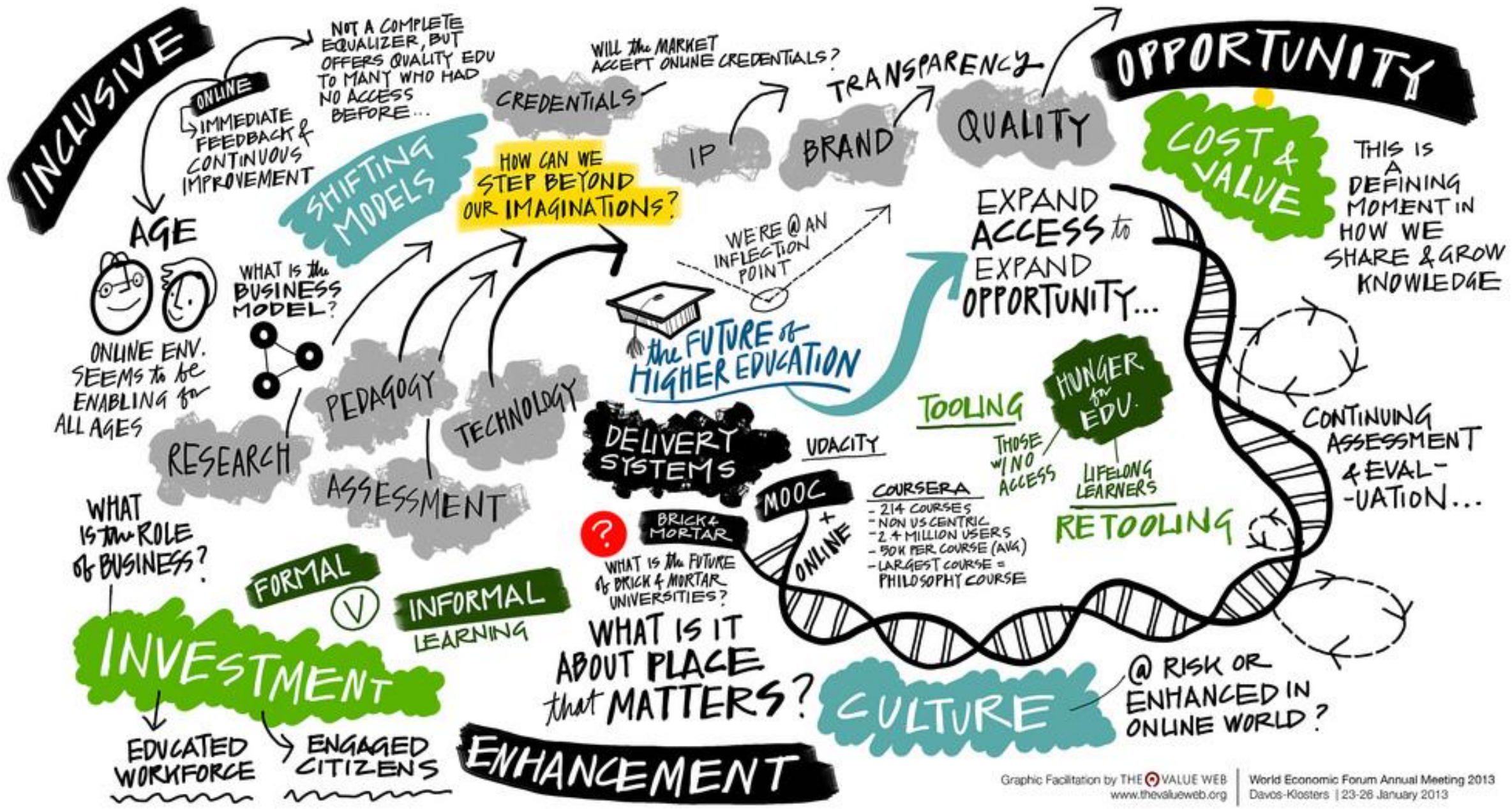
Music education research in Finland and elsewhere has typically focused on student learning and teaching practices, not on music education systems.



"Whoa guys! If you can't play it right, can you at least please play it wrong quietly."

The cultural shift from ivory tower advocacy to participatory activism







Activist professionalism in the arts (Sachs 2003)

- **Inklusiivisuus**; Inclusive
- **Kollektiivisuus ja yhteistoiminnallisuus**; Collective and collaborative
- **Kommunikoi tehokkaasti tavoitteista ja odotuksista**; Communicates effectively
- **Tunnistaa kaikkien osapuolten erityisosaamisen**; Recognizes the expertise of all parties
- **Luo luottamusta ja keskinäistä kunnioitusta**; Creates an environment of trust and mutual respect
- **Eettisyys**; Ethical practice
- **Reagoi herkästi, on vastuullista**; Responsive and responsible
- **Intohimoista**; Involves passion
- **Investoi ilon ja hauskanpidon kokemuksiin**; Invests in experiencing pleasure and having fun

Public good vs Public engagement regime

(e.g. Saltmarsh 2017)



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