

Introducing SWITEX

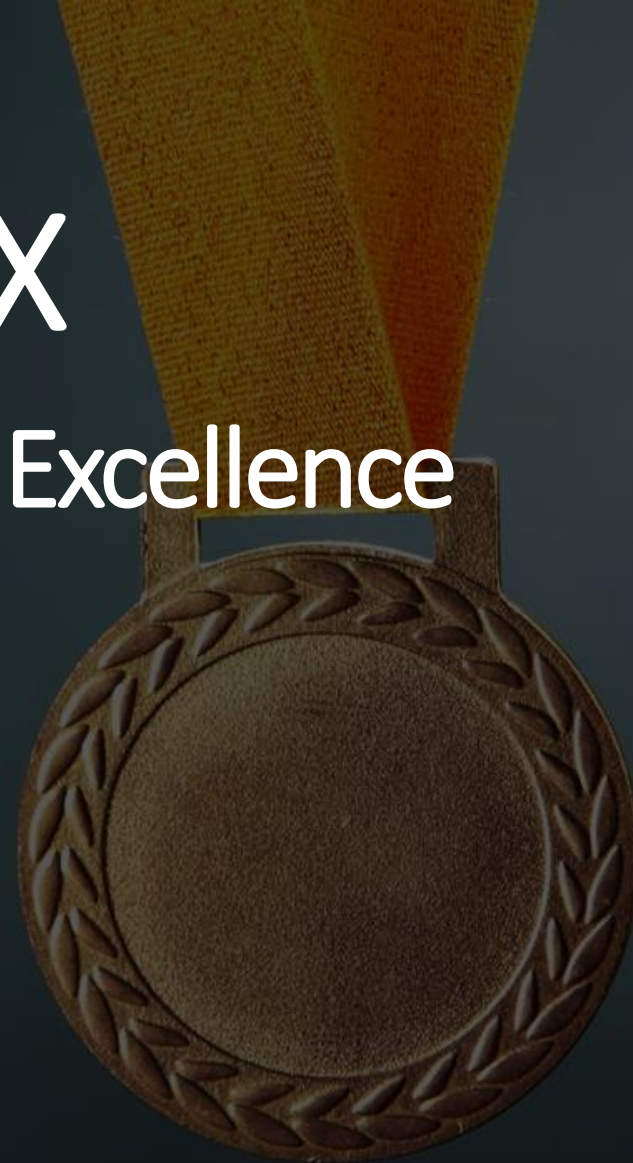
The Swiss Index for Teaching Excellence

An Interactive Workshop

Bucharest, June 11, 2024

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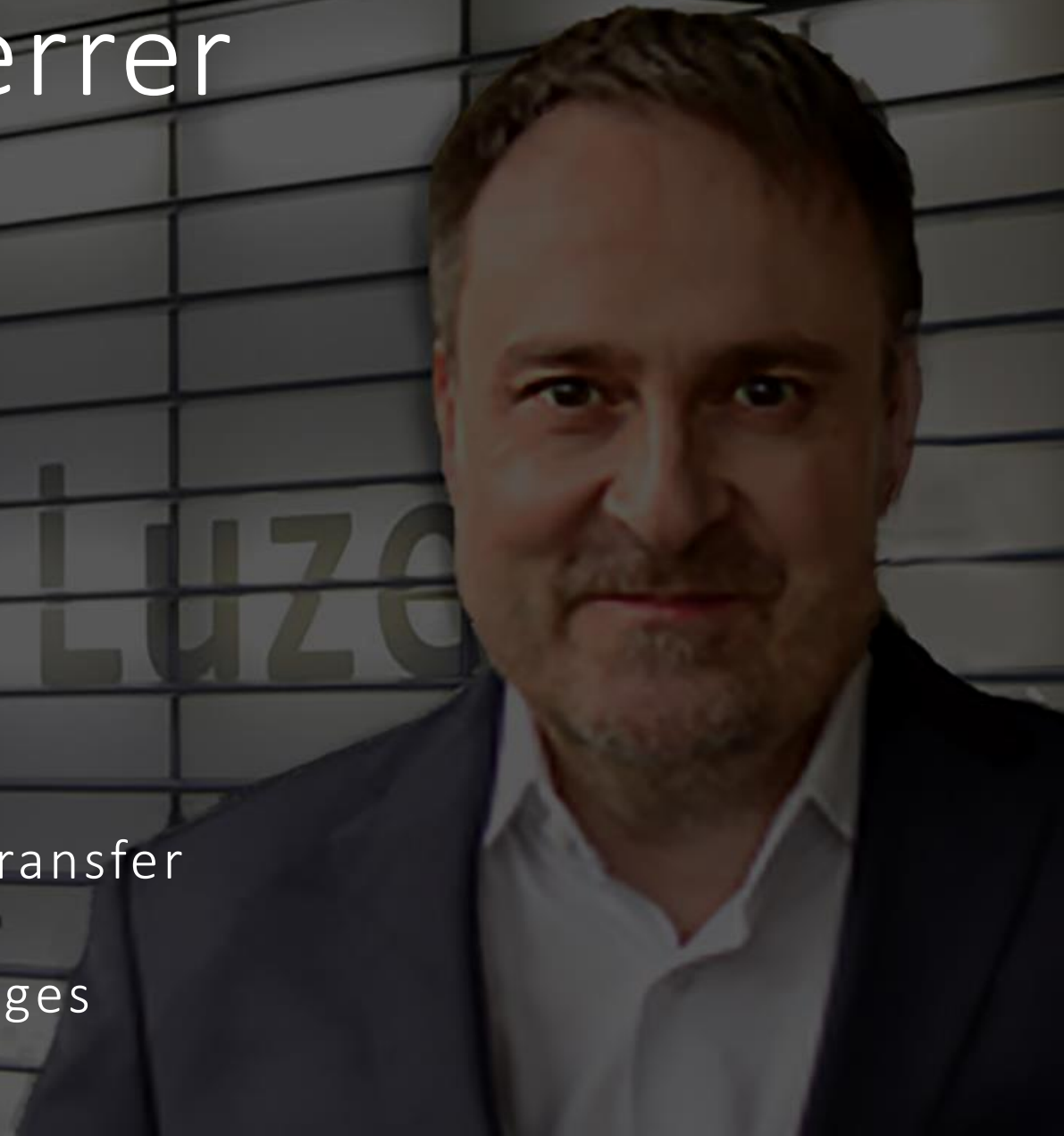
Economic Sociologist

Heterodox Economist

Didactics specialist

International consultant for knowhow transfer

Judicial translator for 12 foreign languages



Prof. Dr. Michael Derrer

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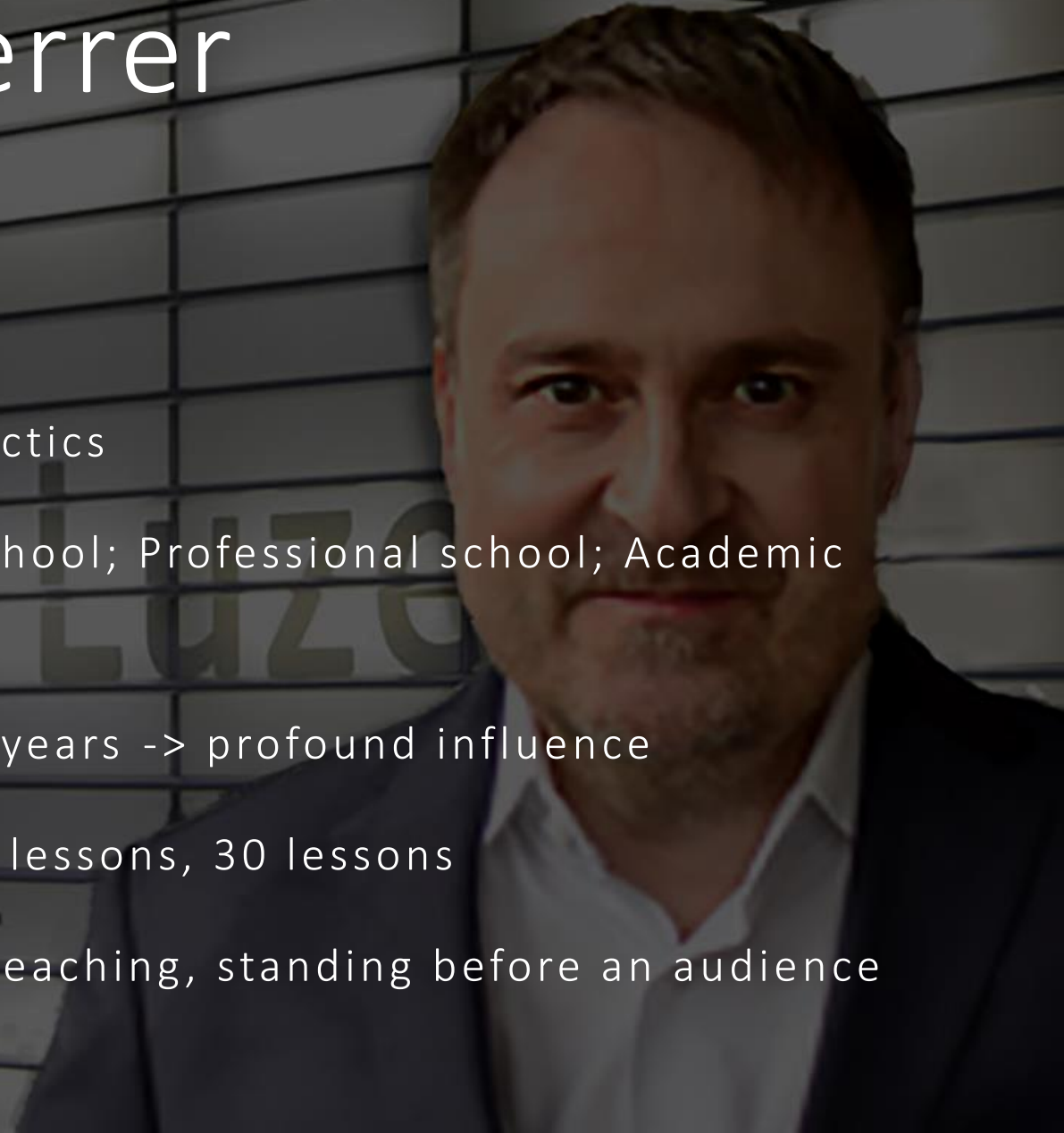
From a content-orientation to a focus on didactics

Teaching experience bottom-up: Secondary school; Professional school; Academic high school; University for Applied Sciences

Swiss mandatory teacher training: 60 ECTS, 2 years -> profound influence

Best part: 5 experienced teachers sat into my lessons, 30 lessons

From fear, feeling of destruction -> to joy of teaching, standing before an audience



Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts

Hochschule Luzern – HSLU

Swiss public university

> 8,100 BA & MA students

> 12,000 continuing education and executive programs

> 2,000 staff



Our participants

Shortly present yourself

Which surprising didactic moment did you experience?

Which bold didactic move did you make?

A stack of several books is visible on the right side of the slide, partially obscured by the text. The books have various colored covers, including red, blue, and green. The pages are white and appear slightly aged.

Your own school and university education:

What would you have wished for?

Discuss it with your neighbour.

Traditional Education

School

- Authoritative classroom setup with (more or less successful) discipline
- Focus on memorization
- Conformity is the norm

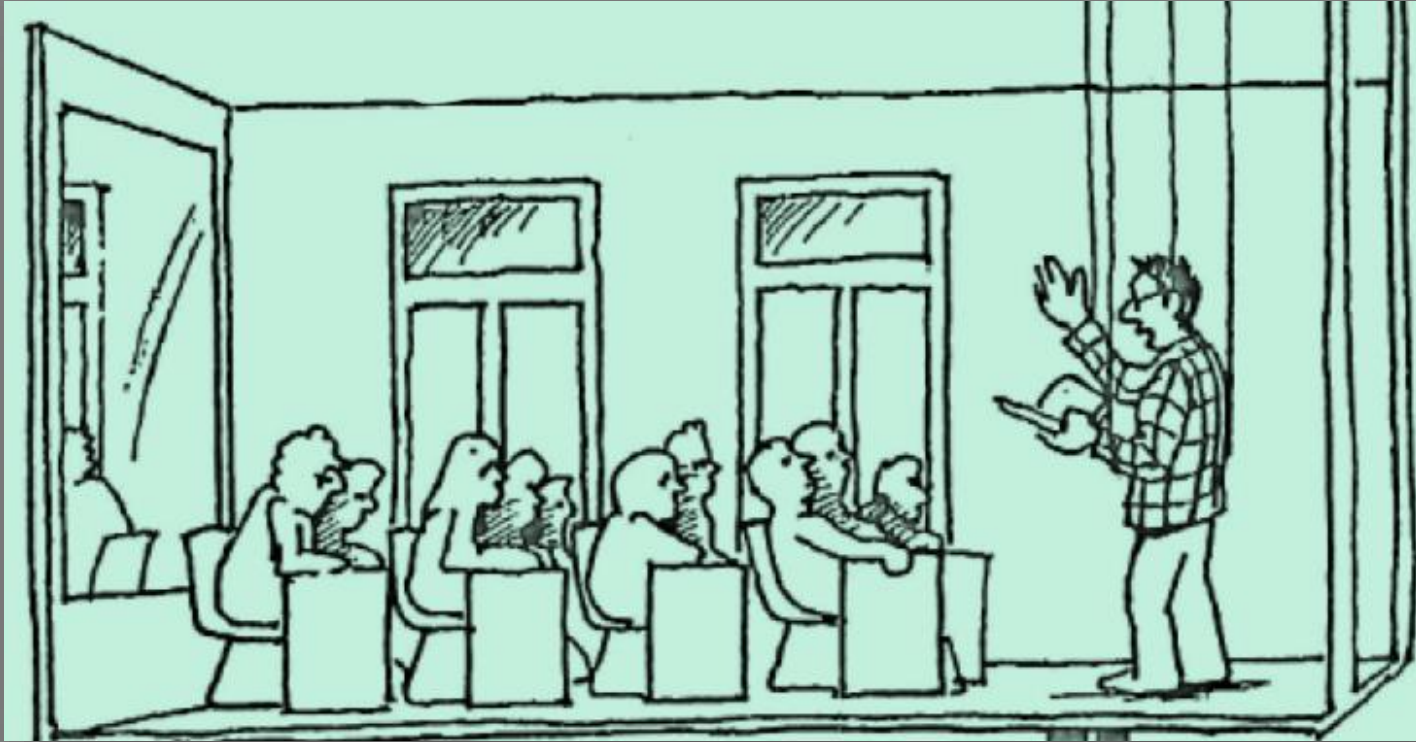
University

- Large lecture halls
- Students expected to diligently take notes
- Professor explains theory
- One-way communication
- Crowded slides, long monologues
- Success measured by the ability to recall and repeat information
- Professors held as ultimate authorities based on content

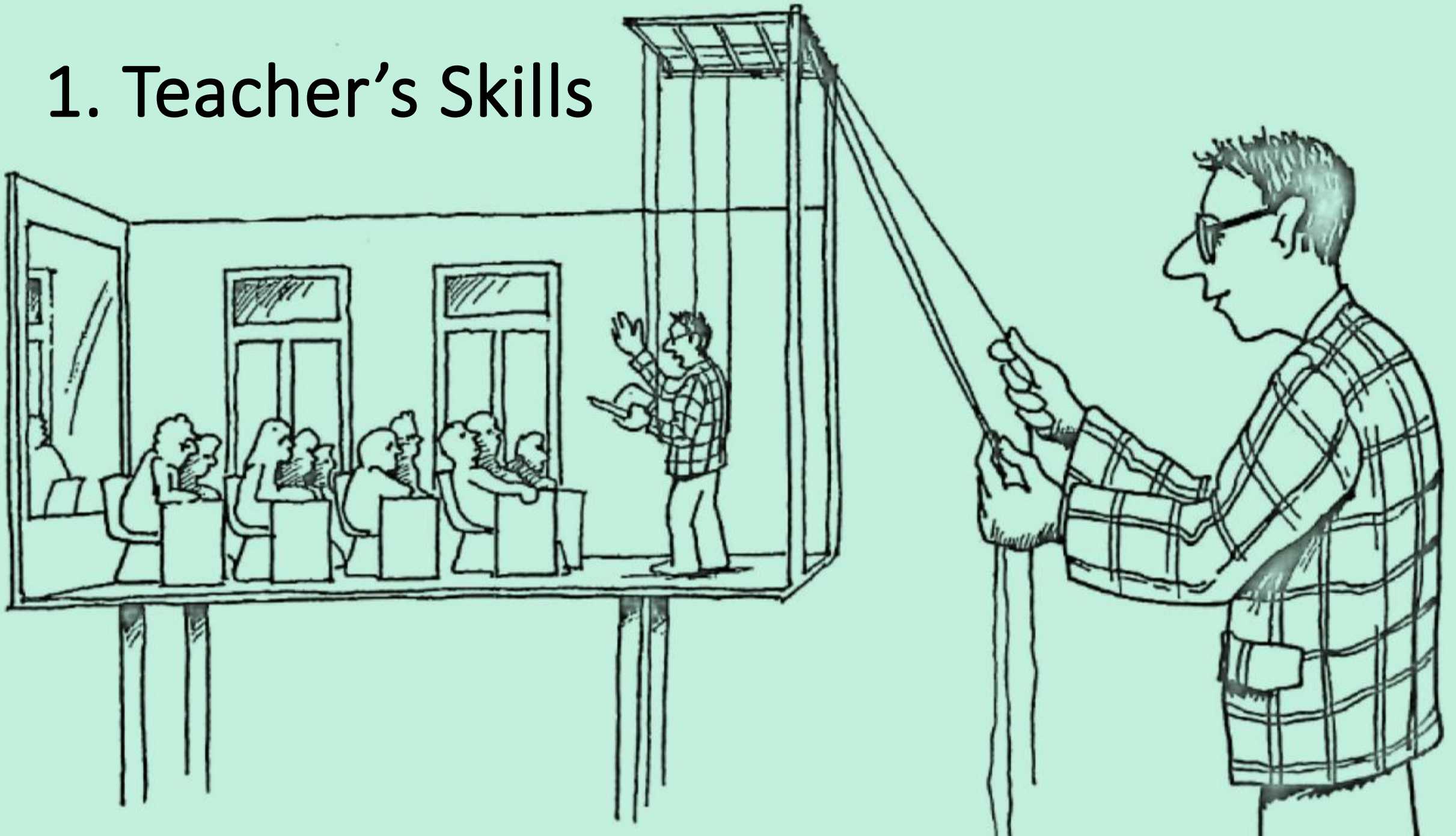
SWITEX Goals

1. Diagnosis of teacher's skills
2. Highlighting teacher's potential for development
3. Dissemination of modern humanistic principles

1. Teacher's Skills



1. Teacher's Skills



2. Highlighting teacher's potential for development

A high SWITEX score indicates that a teacher...

... carefully plans

... invites to critical thinking, and creativity

... favors intrinsic motivation

... holds convincing lectures

... sensibly structures learning units

... is ready for self-criticism

... sets challenging learning objectives

... develops students' problem-solving skills

... varies activating methods

... makes lessons interactive

... clearly manages the classroom

... aimed at continuous self-improvement

3. Dissemination of modern humanistic principles

Democracy

Tolerance

Neutrality

Scientificity

Innovation

Responsibility

Independence

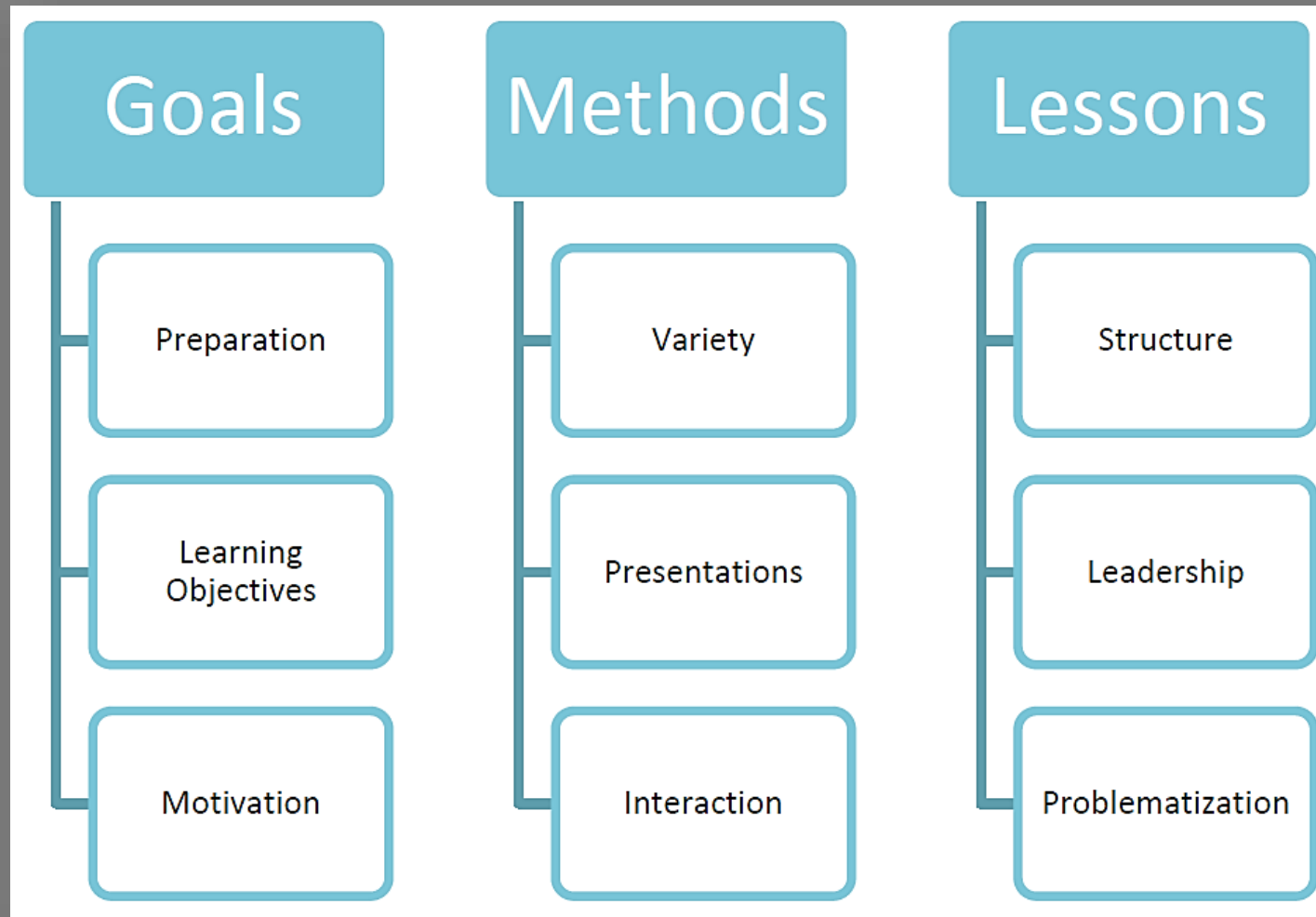
Collaboration

Equal opportunities

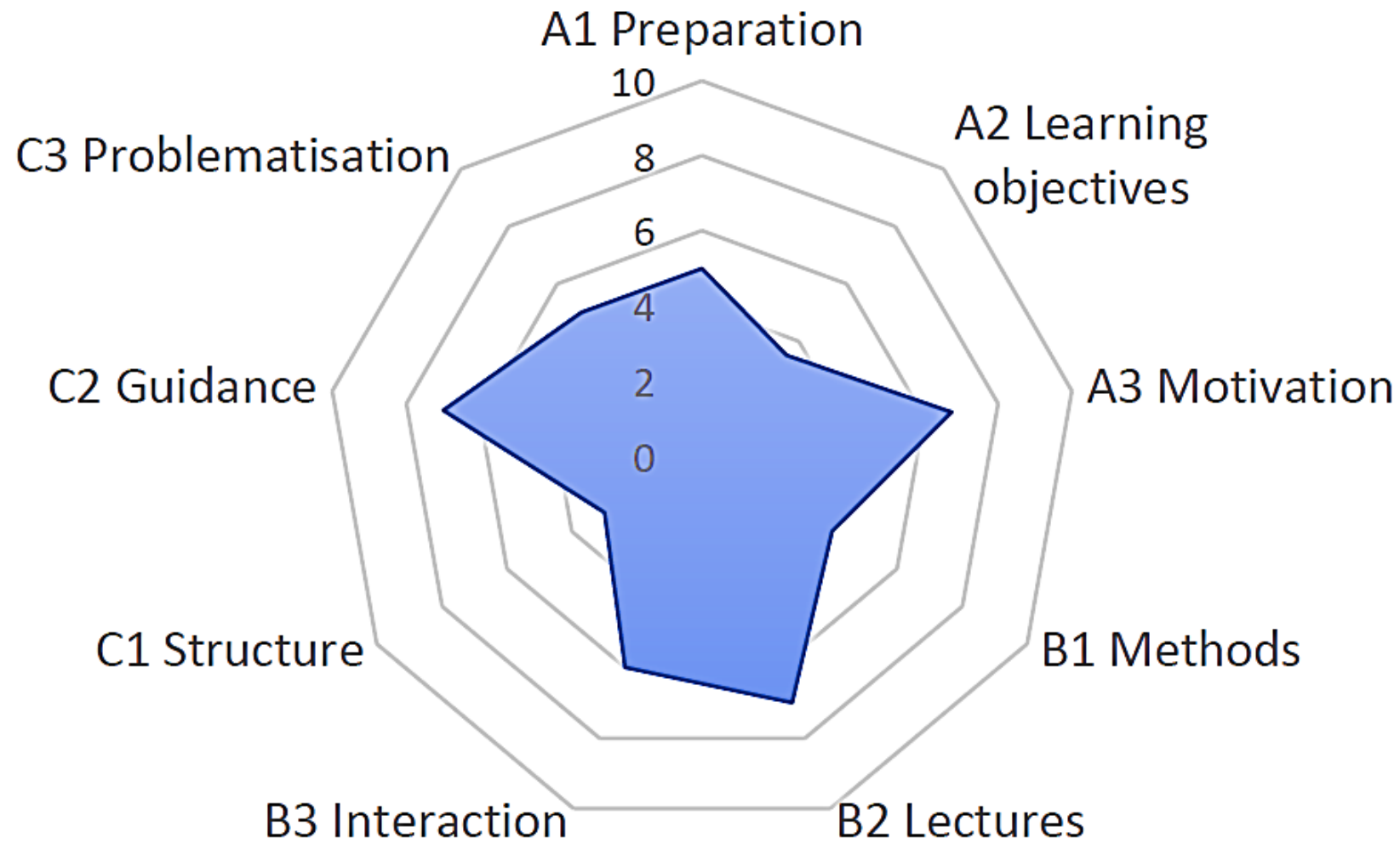
Individuality

Creativity

Levers for good teaching



Detailed Evaluation



SWITEX

Result-oriented

Goals

10

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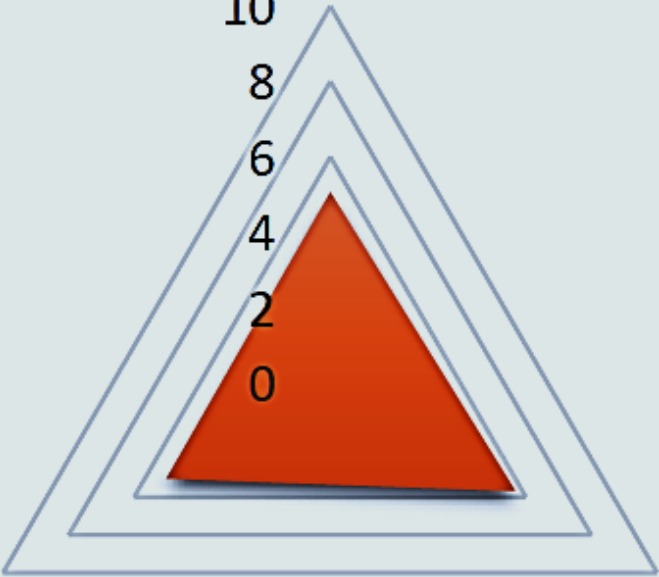
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Learning-
friendly
Teaching



Varied methods

SWITEX Advantages



Pragmatic, result-oriented, and simple to use

Didactics is a craft – it cannot be learned without practice

Not uniforming, individual styles are honored

Not about technological means, but the didactic core

Promotes a company culture of open discussion

What SWITEX is NOT

A purely academic exercise?

Formalistic quality control?

Only preparing teachers for an exam?

Unilateral, top-down assessment?

Stifling individuality?

Endless paperwork?

An internal exercise?

What SWITEX is



A practical, hands-on tool that benefits students directly

Real teaching enhancements

Focus on improving long-term teacher performance

Dialog about results

Develop the teacher's personal potential

Simple, concrete, personalized

Swiss image as a marketable symbol for excellence

Potential for cooperation



Detailed introduction

SWITEX principles,
and benefits for
your institution



In-classroom coaching

Personalized training
by observing and
providing feedback



Mentorship development

Train teachers to
become coaches



Certification and recognition

SWITEX label
awarded for 3-year
period, renewable



Continuous improvement

regular follow-up to
ensure successful
implementation and
development.

Group Work 1 : Exploring SWITEX

- Divide into small groups
- Each group explores a different aspect of SWITEX

Plenary discussion of results

Objectives (A)



1. Formulate demanding learning objectives

-> worksheet

2. Formulate strategies how to foster students taking responsibility for their learning

Methods (B)

1. Improve the questions of a teacher to the students

-> Worksheet

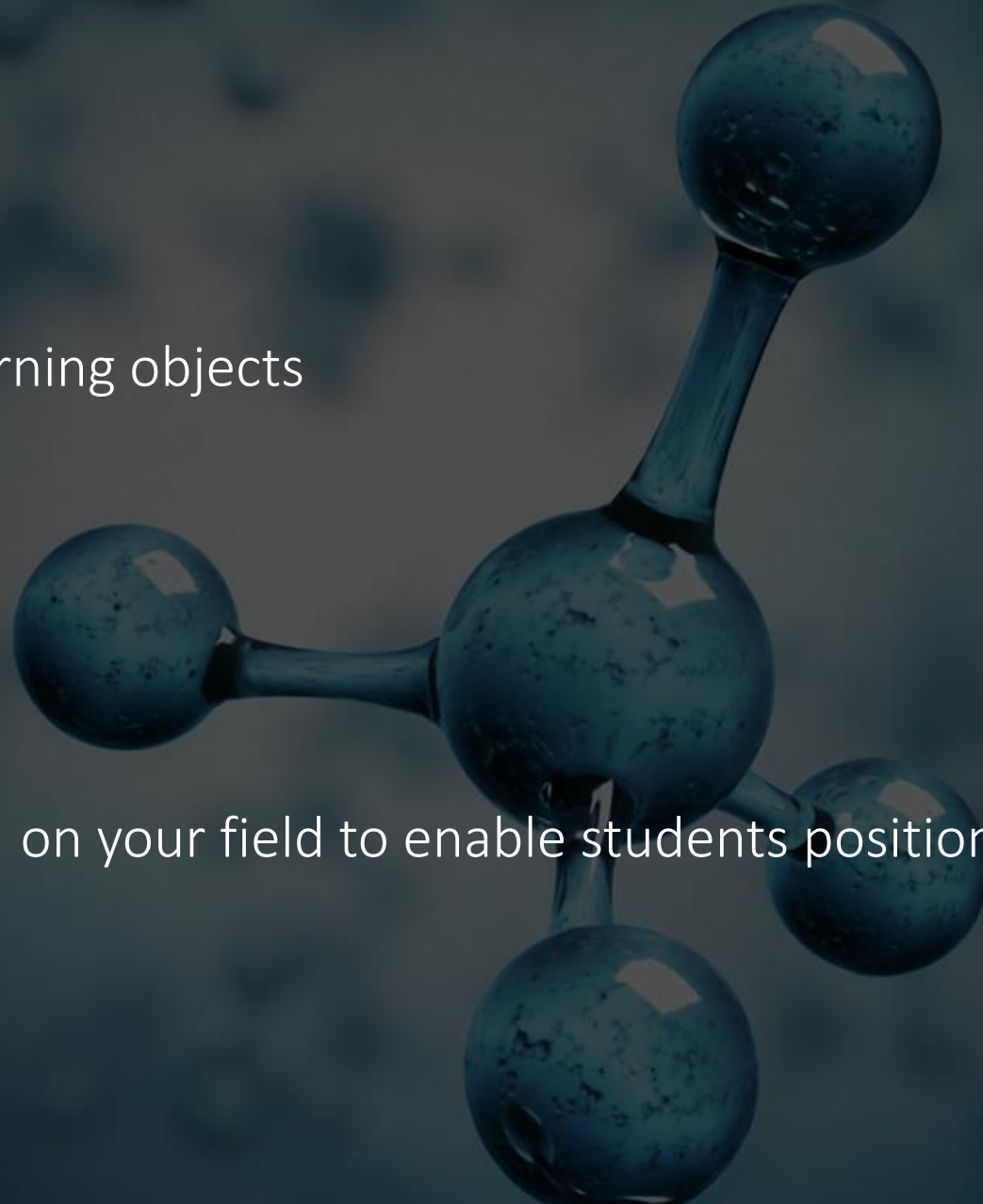
2. Formulate tasks that foster students' creativity

Lessons (C)

1. Problematize familiar learning objects

-> Workshop

2. Oppose conflicting views on your field to enable students positioning themselves



Group Work 2: Applying SWITEX

- How could SWITEX principles be applied in your context?
- Which challenges are to be faced?
- How could the challenges be overcome?

Plenary discussion of the results

Discussion: Constructive Critique

How is it received ...

... in your institution?

... in your culture and country?

Share examples of situations.

Conclusion and Feedback

Personal takeaway

Summary of key points discussed

Feedback on the workshop