

## **Robert Kordts's keynote**

### **Title**

**From innovation to exnovation: The need for phasing out harmful practices in education.**

### **Abstract**

Educational innovation is widely celebrated in both research and practice, yet far less attention is given to the practices, traditions, and assumptions that may need to be deliberately phased out. This keynote proposes *exnovation*—a concept originating in degrowth and environmental scholarship—as a complementary lens to innovation within higher education. Drawing on Scholarship of Teaching and Learning perspectives that emphasize the importance of engaging with real-world challenges, the talk invites reflection on how entrenched myths, assessment traditions, research routines, and growth-oriented cultures may unintentionally undermine educational quality, equity, and sustainability. The keynote will explore how exnovation can help create space for more responsible, society-relevant educational practices, particularly in relation to, but not restricted to, climate and environmental education. Through conceptual framing, illustrative examples, and dialogic engagement with the audience, the session aims to stimulate critical reflection on what higher education might need to let go of in order to contribute meaningfully to a more just and sustainable future. <https://www4.uib.no/en/find-employees/Robert.Kordts>