Minutes of the
EERA Council Meeting in Berlin
17 & 18 March 2017, 09:00 - 17:00
Humboldt Universität, Unter den Linden 6,

Attendees:

Angelika Wegscheider, EERA Office; **Anna Aleksanyan,** Educational Research Armenian Center (ERAC); **Arcady Margolis,** Moscow State University of Psychology and Education; **Branislava Baranovic,** Croatian Educational Research Association (CERA); **Conor Galvin,** Educational Studies Association of Ireland (ESAI); **Daniela Preis,** EERA Office; **Dragica Pavlović Babić,** Educational Research Association of Serbia (ERAS); **Edgar Krull,** Estonian Academic Research Association (EAPS); **Eduardo García-Jiménez,** Asociación Interuniversitaria de Investigación Pedagógica (AIDIPE); **Edwin Keiner,** LOC 2018; **Eric Mangez,** Association des cherchers belges francophones en éducation (ABCéduc) and Editor EERJ; **Erich Svecnik,** Österreichische Gesellschaft für Forschung und Entwicklung im Bildungswesen (OEFEB); **Gemma Moss,** British Educational Research Association (BERA); **Gonzalo Jover,** Sociedad Espanola de Pedagogia (SEP); **Hannes Hell,** LOC 2018; **Herbert Altrichter,** EERA Treasurer; **Isabelle Mili,** Swiss Society for Research in Education (SSRE); **Jani Ursin,** EERA Networks' Representative on Council; **Joanna Madalińska-Michalak,** Polskie Towarzystwo Pedagogiczne (PTP); **John Benedicto Krejsler,** Nordic Educational Research Association (NERA); **Julianna Mrazik,** Hungarian Educational Research Association (HERA); **Lucian Ion Ciolan,** University of Bucharest; **Maarten Simons,** Editor European Educational Research Journal (EERJ); **Marco Rieckmann,** Deutsche Gesellschaft für Erziehungswissenschaft (DGfE); **Maria Grazia Riva,** Società Italiana di Pedagogia (SIPED); **Maria Pacheco Figueiredo,** EERA Secretary General; **Milosh M. Raykov,** Malta Educational Research Association; **Mustafa Yunus Eryaman,** Turkish Educational Research Association (EAB); **Nikolai Gorbatchev,** Belarus National Association "Innovation in Education" (BNA "IE"); **Oksana Zabolotna,** Ukrainian Educational Research Association (UERA); **Paulina Korsnakova,** Slovak Educational Research Society (SERS); **Pavel Zgaga,** The Slovenian Educational Research Association (SLODRE); **Petr Novotny,** Czech Educational Research Association (CERA); **Saneeya Qureshi,** ERG Representative; **Satu Perälä-Littunen,** Finnish Educational Research Association (FERA); **Sergey Malinovsky,** Russian Association of Educational Research; **Sofia Marques da Silva,** Sociedade Portuguesa de Ciências da Educação (SPCE); **Svitlana Shchudlo,** Ukrainian Educational Research Association (UERA); **Theo Wubbels,** EERA President

1 Apologies and Welcome of New Members

Theo Wubbels welcomed all attendees and informed Council that Monique Volman, George Head, Helen Phtiaka and Huseyin Uzunboylu, had sent their excuses for not being able to attend. Karmen Trasberg was also unable to attend, but had appointed Edgar Krull as replacement. Theo Wubbels also welcomed Julianna Mrazik as new HERA representative.

2 Confirmation of Minutes and Changes to the Agenda

The minutes of the last Council Meeting were confirmed by Council.
Theo Wubbels informed Council of some reorganisations in the agenda, all "Future ECERS" would be discussed on Saturday, Working Groups would take place in the afternoon.

3 ECER 2017

3.1 **General Report**

Submissions entering the reviewing process

	ECER	ERC	
Papers	1946	216	
Posters	102	16	
Pecha Kuchas	11	6	12 networks offered them, but submissions only came in to 5 NW
Videos	5	0	4 of them in NW 29
Workshops	17	0	
Round Tables	14	0	
Symposiums	133	0	
	2228	238	2466

Tuesday Morning Workshops/Capacity Building Workshops:
NW 09: Advanced Data Analysis Using the IEA's IDB Analyzer
NW 09: Multilevel Modelling (MLM) with MPlus using Large-Scale Assessment Data
NW 20: Promoting inclusion: Reframing to regenerate transformative educational research

Theo Wubbels introduced the capacity Building Workshops on Tuesday morning and stated there would be a fourth one from Elsevier. Angelika Wegscheider pointed out that Submission numbers were more or less about the same as for the Dublin conference. She also reported that MAXQDA would fund the Best Paper award for three more years, and that SAGE confirmed funding for the Bursary.

3.2 **Update from LOC**
John Krejsler reported on the Social Event on Thursday (Self paid option) taking place in the Carlsberg Brewery. Costs will be 50 Euro. He also showed a film which is included on the EERA website.

3.3 **EERA Sessions**
10 Sessions had been submitted as EERA Sessions, partly from Networks, partly from Council members.
Theo Wubbels asked Council members to give first advice to the committee and then stated that the committee consisting of Theo Wubbels, Isabelle Milli, Marco Rieckmann , Gemma Moss, Conor Galvin and Branislava Baranovic would work until May for feeding back to submitters.

1. LOC Session
2. Education, learning and participation. FERA 50 years anniversary – celebrating with colleagues
3. Education and Research in a Post-Fact World: Responses, Responsibilities and Possibilities (Symposium coming in via NW 28)
4. Publishing in Education Journals (Some Tips to Help You Succeed), Routledge
5. World Education Research Association Invited Symposium: World-wide perspectives on methodologies in school-based education research
6. A Glocal Dialogue on Evidence and Public Good in Educational Policy, Research and Practice
7. Tested (Film screening)
8. Prospective Member Session
9. Contested Educational Cooperation at the European Periphery (coming in via KERA)

10. General Education in a Globalizing World

3.4 Keynote Chairs 2017

Keynotes WED: Naidoo will be chaired by Lucian Ciolan (EERA Council), Rasmussen by someone appointed by LOC
Keynotes THUR: Klemencic will be chaired by someone appointed by LOC, Säfström will be chaired by John B. Krejsler (EERA Council)

3.5 Associations Meet & Greet

NERA will be one of the associations inviting to a meet & greet during ECER. SSRE also expressed their interest.
Other associations who would like to do a meet & greet are invited to be in touch with Office.

3.6 Best Poster Jury

Eduardo Garcia Jimenez, Joanna Madalinska Michalak and Conor Galvin will be this year's EERA Best Poster Jury. Office will be in touch with them regarding the procedure.

4 Upcoming ECERs

4.1 ECER 2018

The dates will be 3 to 7 September 2018.
Council approved of the first four keynote speakers, and in case one is not available, the next on the list will be asked, respecting the gender balance.
LOC thanked Council for their comments on the theme and title and showed three logo options to Council. The first option was selected. He also reported on the organisational developments: 92 rooms are booked in different buildings of the university, but all within 3 – 5 minutes walking distance. Bolzano being rather small, the full city centre will "become ECER", as the social event may take place on the main square, and there will be signage all around the city. The flyer draft he showed was an unusual A3 format, with a city map inside. It was suggested that the inside could be rethought and rather have a ECER poster instead of the city map. The tourism agency is in charge of hotel bookings, and there will be low budget accommodation in the youth hostel as well as in student accommodation. There will be an ECER 2018 boot in Copenhagen, and a video presentation will also be ready then.

4.2 ECER 2019

The contract has not been signed yet, as there were open issues with the budget. The keynote and theme working group was set (according to the general regulations consisting of the networks representative on Council, one EERJ editor (this year Maarten Simons), the ERG representative, EERA's Secretary General, the EERA President and two volunteers from Council (This year: Marco Rieckmann, and Petr Novotny). LOC 2019 will be asked to nominate a colleague from LOC for the working group.

4.3 New Information Package: Hosting an ECER

Maria Figueiredo explained the structure and aim of the document. Comments were that the information on work share between EERA Office and LOC should be more detailed- Also, the roadmap should rather say "ideally four/three /Two years in advance" as "four years beforehand" could be intimidating.
The package will go out to all who have signalled interest for one of the future conferences after the council meeting. Currently EERA is calling for ECER 2020 and beyond.

4.4 Bids for Coming Years: Glasgow, Geneva

Isabelle Mili presented the proposal for ECER 2020 in Geneva. This could either happen in a convention centre or at the university. Council would prefer the university as venue, but then it has to be checked whether the possible dates are suitable (in parallel with BERA). The colleagues from Geneva intend to send the official proposal by June.
Glasgow, Malta and Cyprus also expressed interest. The tourism board of Salamanca had been in touch with office and was referred to the Spanish member associations. Theo pointed out that potential hosts could also bid for 2021 or beyond.

5 EERJ Editors' Report

Eric Mangez reported on a successful year with growing readership and growing submission numbers. One concern however was that with the high numbers of special issues, the time between acceptance and publication grows, as special issues are only published when all submissions for them are in. For papers not part of special issues "online first" can be applied and the paper goes out in between the usual publication cycle.
On average authors get a first review 87 days after submissions, which is not too bad compared to other journals. But the process is time consuming, because appropriate reviewers need to be found. Someone asked whether the power point could be shared with Council, so that it can be presented "at home". The editors agreed to prepare a more general one that can be distributed.
The EERJ Moot 2017 will be on the four freedoms; the organisers are thinking about how to use social media in order to start the discussions already before the conference. (Twitter hashtag?)
EERJ will again do a workshop at the ERC and will also participate in the Summer School. Saneeya Qureshi thanked EERJ for their participation in the Best Paper Reviewing Group and their remarks on the procedure.
Theo Wubbels thanked the editors for their work. He also said that, should the number of papers still increase, the structure of the editorial board may be reconsidered, in order to lower the work load per person.

6 ERG Report

Saneeya Qureshi informed Council on the progress of the Emerging Researchers' Conference 2017, and on a Pilot: 6 emerging researchers were monitored when acting as reviewers. They all had 2 reviews to do, and George Head mentored every step. The project was well received. The Best Paper 2016 and the 2017 Bursaries are in process. Saneeya also informed Council that she is now the EERA representative of the Doctoral and Early Career Network of WERA. Another very interesting development is that Studia Paedagogica, the journal that cooperates with the Best Papers, besides EERJ, is now included in the Scopus database. Petr Novotny pointed out that this is also due to the fact that they cooperate with EERA's ERG.

7 Working Groups

Theo Wubbels introduced to the working groups, referred to the related documents and also suggested that the Groups on "Relations of Council and Exec" should be combined with "association exchange" thereby discussing relations of council, exec and national associations. He also asked working groups to come up with actions that should be taken until the next council meeting.

- ECER evaluations
- Relations of Council, Exec and national associations
- External relations

- Standing and New Activities

7.1 **ECER Evaluations**

Office had produced an evaluation report on ECER 2016 in Dublin. The secretary general had drafted a paper on dimensions to evaluate the conference with the participants. Based on this, the group discussed how to evaluate ECER and suggested the following principles and actions

Principles
ECER and EERA mission should be the basis for evaluation
Indicators for meeting the aims need to be developed
Different voices and perspectives need to be included (reviewers, participants, „special agents",…)
Objective data should be sought as well as personal perceptions

Actions to be taken
Make data from previous ECERs available to EERA council
Raise the discussion about quality with networks
Consider a targeted survey
Can "special agents" be selected in order to monitor specific aspects of the event?
Be careful with ECER venues (level of costs)

Council discussed which data should be collected for which purpose. Previous surveys amongst participants had answer rates of 25 – 30% but the data gathered was not really used. Any new survey should have a real added value. Maria raised the question how the immediate evaluation of ECER during the council meeting at the venue could be made more fruitful and suggested to nominate colleagues who would have a special eye on certain aspects of the conference. This idea was put aside for the time being, as it was seen as only being apt for technical/administrational questions and less the quality of the event.

Actions to take forward:
1.) Make data of previous ECERs available to council (also in line with what was asked for when discussing network structure)
2.) Working group: find a first set of indicators & see which questions could be addressed in future years by colleagues wearing "special glasses"

7.2 **Relations of Council and Exec**

After the Dublin council meeting a working group from council (John B. Krejsler, Paula Korsnakova and Maria Figueiredo) analysed the way EERA council worked since moving from three to two council meetings per year. Office and Secretary General have analysed the number of participants and the way decisions have been made. .
Based on these reports, the group discussed which items council should address, how Council and Exec should communicate, and what would be the best number of council meetings. In addition it was also discussed how the member associations would see the role of "their" representative to EERA and how this affects the mandate of the council members.

The working group reported that

1.) they would like to learn more about how different national organisations work, support and make use of their national representative; therefore a survey could be done amongst the Council members. The overview gathered would be useful for new member organisations and for organizing representation in council

2.) the relationship between council & exec should rather follow democratic and not a corporate model. Execs task should be to pick out controversial issues for discussion in council (vs avoiding conflicts and value issues)

Suggested actions
Survey amongst council members
Introduce a buddy system not only for new associations, but also for new members
Working groups on central issues
Make history available/smaller number of papers
Investigate in alternative meeting formats

Council agreed that council meetings should be used to also address controversial issues. Often Exec has to act quickly on certain issues and sends out statements in the name of EERA. However, it would be appreciated if basic issues could be discussed in Council to give general guidance on what Council wants for EERA.

7.3   **External Relationships**
The last few months had seen several reports and statements that EERA was involved in. EERA eg, via membership in EASSH, tries to influence the EC in its attention for educational research through the attention of the EC for Social Sciences and Humanities. (eg Interim evaluation of H2020 and response to report on SSH integration in H2020). EERA also supported the EURO Science statement on the situation of researchers/research in the USA.

The working group suggested that
- EERA should develop cases to show how and why educational research has important effects, eg in the refugee crisis
- a comparison between the position and role of educational research in FP7 and H2020 should be done
- a statement could be sent to the next meeting of EU ministers in Education
- in general EXEC should always consult via email when a statement is to be signed.

7.4   **Strategy and Standing and New Activities**
EERA's activities include among others the ECER, ERG, Networks, Publications, Season schools, Promoting ethical educational research, and External Relations. For some of these council has allocated grants through its schemes for:
- network activities
- publication proposals
- season schools
- bursaries and awards

The working group was invited to consider how to enhance, broaden, retailor existing activities and to come up with new ideas that would help to fulfil the EERA mission. The group raised the question if it would be better to enhance existing activities or include new ones, which was left without final conclusion.

Ideas suggested for consideration were
- (Co-)funding national associations to carry out comparative case studies
- Invest more in Professional advancement (after the 2017 pilot)
- Increase the means for NWs & convenors (secure funding for the NWs)
- To implement an Online job board, also including internships/mentoring

- To consider an EERA Newsletter
- To foster horizontal relationships between associations.

8   EERA Publications

8.1   **European Research Method Book**

Sofia Marques da Silva reported that a first proposal went to the publisher SAGE.16 chapters are planned, and the finalisation is envisaged for 2019. This is going to be a unique book as it does not focus on methods, but on challenges the researchers across Europe face. This new focus is challenging for SAGE, but they did ask for something special and new. There are still some gaps that need to be covered as some challenges have not been addressed so far; also some additional countries/chapters should be included. Perhaps a Call directly pointing at the gaps asking for specific contributions could help here. This could also be a closed Call to Council and Networks. However, all this can only happen when SAGE has come back with a comment on the proposal.

8.2   **European Educational Research Review: oral report Theo Wubbels**

Theo reported on the process of the planned review journal, whose outline also is with the publishers currently. The provisional title is "International Review of Educational Research". The aims and scope are systematic reviews of studies in education that use an international approach by providing evidence from at least two different educational systems and contribute to evidence for practice and policy.
It will not be a comparative journal in the sense of "comparative method". A first issue is not to be expected before 2 years from now.

8.3   **EERA Book Series: oral report Jani Ursin**

Jani Ursin reported that the proposal for the book series is still being developed, but that also this should go to the publishers in Spring. The editorial group has received 5 proposals from Networks.

The following 3 were asked to develop the ideas into full book proposals and were thought of being the starting issues of the book series.
- NW8 (Research on Health Education): Wellbeing and Schooling: Cross Cultural and Cross Disciplinary Perspectives
- NW25 (Research on Children's Rights in Education): Children's rights in education: International approaches to furthering the 'aims of education' through contemporary educational practices
- NW 28 (Sociologies of Education): Resistances in Education

Two more networks were asked to develop their proposals for later editions.
NW 7 (Social Justice and Intercultural Education): Social justice and intercultural education: European debates
NW 27 (Didactics - Learning and Teaching): Thinking through didactics in a changing world. European perspectives on learning, teaching and the curriculum.

Council commented that this broad and European view is very valuable, as in for example Didactics, the language groups are quite closed communities. Someone asked about the editorial team and its role and Jani pointed out that the books will be edited by researchers from the field while the editorial board for the book series would be responsible for checking if a book proposal is apt for the series as such.
Council discussed if the series should be opened to other groups than networks, which could be an

option later on. But it was argued that the series has been developed especially in order to give networks a platform for publications. Further ideas may be developed for other group/needs.

9 EERA Summer School

9.1 Report Linz 2017

Herbert Altrichter reported that the 2017 preparation process is well on its way. Participants have been selected, the programme is more or less done.
Conor Galvin wanted to let Council know that one of his students applied for the EERA Summer School and was very happy with the clear information she received, and with the whole application process.

9.2 Report 2018/19

Theo Wubbels reminded Council that Brno was accepted as host for 2018/2019 on the condition that a budget complying with the EERA regulations would be developed. This has now been submitted and the contract can be set up. Petr Novotny, as the organiser of 2018 and 2019, will go to the 2017 Summer School to come to know the event. One of the Brno Summer Schools will be on qualitative research, the other on quantitative research.

The Call for Hosting an EERA Summer School 2020/2021 will go out soon. It was suggested that for the summer school a similar document would be developed as for "Hosting an ECER" (including the mission, overview of past events, testimonials, etc…) Office & Secretary General will work on that.

10 Office

10.1 Update

Angelika reported that office is still working with 3 permanent members of staff and 2 student helpers, which is a good solution for the time being. Both students will come to work at ECER 2017. The latest projects in office were the leaflet and a new contact database, also keeping an historic overview of keynotes, their countries, exec and countries, etc.
In addition office has been working and will still be working on some website re-dos and restructuring. The aim is making EERA/ECER look more inviting.

10.2 EERA Leaflet

Council received the new EERA Leaflet and was informed that it would be distributed at Season Schools and other EERA activities, but would not be part of the conference package distributed to every participant at ECER.

11 Network Issues

11.1 News from Networks – Oral Report

Jani Ursin reported on issues raised in the network reports, which focused around the inclusiveness of ECER and involving colleagues from Eastern and Southern Europe as well as on Capacity building asking for more Workshops and for more flexibility in the timing of those. Interactive and joint sessions were appreciated a lot and it was suggested to develop more interactive formats. Networks had also asked to consider the venue and the timing of the conference, avoiding too expensive places and August conference times. In addition networks had asked how EERA can shape European education and research policy in current uncertain times.

11.2 Network Funding – Report

Eight applications came in, which shows active engagement of networks.. The five following were accepted:

Projects funded:
- NW 18: Specialist Symposium on Values, Voice and Ethics in Educational Research (4800 EUR)
- NW 23: Pre-Conference „Promoting inclusive European collaborative education policy research: creating a third space within EERA Network 23" (4750 EUR)

Season Schools funded:
- NW 03: Crossing boundaries: curriculum traditions meet, 1 year, Sept 2017
- NW 29: Arts Education Winter School - Arts-based research: how do the artistic and the educational entangle, 1 year, January 2018 (5000 EUR)
- NW 28: SUSEES – Summer School in European Education Studies ,1 year, 2017, (5000 EUR)

Three proposals were rejected. The reason for rejection was for example that the funding would have been used for travel costs to a workshop on skills of a very limited group, and without outcome for EERA.

The question came up whether there is an evaluation of the funding schemes. While the organisers of the projects have to send in a financial as well as a general report, there is no general evaluation at the moment. Council decided that there should be a fixed procedure of evaluation, with a committee that looks into outcomes and reports, monitors the results and reports back to Council. The committee for the next two years is Petr Novotny, Erich Svecnik and Isabelle Mili.

11.3 New Network Applications

Two applications for establishing a New Network were presented, one on Gender Education and one on Psychoanalysis & Education. Application were presented to Council for information, the network link convenors will discuss the proposals more thoroughly in the spring meeting.

One comment on the Gender network was that it looks like a Nordic Countries proposal, as the references are mostly from there. Also, there seems to be no relations between convenors and books or articles, this could be broadened.

The proposal of the network "Education, Pedagogy and Psychoanalysis" was commented more critically, as the focus suggested by the title is very broad. If the title was Psychoanalysis in Education and Pedagogy, it would be more specific. However, the question remains whether there is a critical mass for this very specific focus.

The introduction of the two proposals for establishing a new network led to a discussion about the network structure in general, the size and quality of networks. Exec explained that the networks have evolved over the years, like a living organism, they are different, and they are allowed to be. However, the structure and size could be addressed again at next year's network seminar. The last time this was done will then be five years ago, and it does make sense to raise this discussion regularly. Would it be possible to somehow look into the quality of a network, beyond the number of submissions? Could the quality of presentations be addressed more? It was suggested that networks get a list of questions regularly (e.g. every three years) that need to be discussed/answered within their group. These questions could be developed by the link convenors.

Some also asked for some kind of quality survey, and that a non-active network is no longer supported.

As every new network creates new challenges when it comes to room planning etc., therefore it should be carefully considered whether the number of networks can be increased without limits. It was suggested that new networks could start as pilot projects, as it would be easier then to shut them down if they don't work. Exec said this is not necessary for the moment, as the new networks have proved to be quite successful, and there is a monitoring phase of three years anyway. The question of closing down would, if at all, concern older networks.

It was decided that for the next Council Meeting, an audience average per network will be prepared next to the submissions numbers and overview of reviewers.

11.4 Honorary Members

Council accepted all five suggestions for Honorary Members from the Networks.
- **David Bridges** from NW 13: Philosophy of Education
- **Linda Hargreaves** and **Rune Kvalsund** from NW14: Communities, Families, and Schooling in Educational Research
- **Jenny Ozga** from NW 23: Policy Studies and Politics of Education
- **Martin Lawn** from NW 28: Sociologies of Education

11.5 New Template for Honorary Members

Council approved of the new template, which will go online.

11.6 Criteria for New Networks

Council confirmed the changes in the document on Criteria for New Networks, which will be included into the General Regulations.

12 General Regulations

12.1 Emerging Researchers' Group

Maria introduces the work done by her and Saneeya in order to streamline the procedures for the Emerging Researchers Group. The principles were accepted in general, but some rewording and editing was suggested like using "completing doctoral studies" instead of graduating and introducing full stops in the definition of ERG. For the selection procedure of the ERG Link Convenor Council asked to have not only the candidate but also a short list presented to council. Maria and Saneeya will rework the text and have it ready for final decision in the August Council Meeting.

12.2 Induction of New Link Convenors

The suggested text was accepted and is ready to go into the general regulations and on the website.

12.3. Description of procedures for establishing a new network

The suggested text was accepted and is ready to go into the general regulations and on the website, including the criteria confirmed under 11.6.

13 Policies on Ethical Educational Research

Following EERAs policy that each member association should have a policy to promote ethical research and should present this to other member associations, 3 member associations were invited to report on their experiences.
BERA, ISAE and EAPS reported on their experiences with ethical issues, guidelines and debates on how to set them up and how to keep up reflections and discussions on ethical concerns. EAPS and ISAE both alluded to prominent cases of ethical misconduct e.g. regarding the disclosure of data to the press and providing politically sensitive results. BERA presented their work within a forum of SSH to come up with ethical principles against mere checklists. Council then discussed in working groups. The exchange was found to be fruitful and inspiring.

WORKING GROUPS HAVE BEEN INVITED TO SEND BRIEF REPORTS ON THEIR DISCUSSIONS.

The editors of EERJ suggested that their special issue on ethics could also be a source for discussion within EERA.

14 Election President

24 member associations were represented through their council members or through nomination of a proxy. Joe O'Hara was elected as new EERA president.

15 Member Issues

15.1 Ukraine Full Membership Application

The Ukraine colleagues gave in addition to their documents a short oral report with an overview of past and planned activities.

Pavel Zgaga, who had been asked to evaluate the application, found that they had very positive activities and developments. He encouraged them to continue in the same way. The values and principles in their constitution match well with EERA's. And it seems wise to also have professionals as members, as it is good to also have this input. Therefore, Pavel Zgaga absolutely recommended accepting their application.

Council confirmed the full membership of UERA.

15.2 Luxembourg: Application for Candidate Membership

Marco Rieckmann commented on the application from Luxembourg, and he also found it very good. They do a lot of research with a broad scope and have very interesting projects. Therefore he recommends accepting their application.

Council accepts the University of Luxembourg as candidate member.

15.3 Armenia Full Membership Application

Joanna Madalinska Michalak who had been invited to check the application informed Council that her first impression of the application was positive, as the objectives go well with EERA's. However, at a deeper view, she found that the application had probably been made too early. There is a lack of balance of the members, there are only 16 researchers, the others come from different practitioner fields. She thinks the association should also consider establishing a membership fee, as e.g. member dues to EERA will need to be paid. Therefore she had some reservations.

Council followed this recommendation and Theo Wubbels suggested that Armenia is invited to apply again next year in March. Joanna Madalinska Michalak was willing to help prepare the new application. In the meantime, Anna Aleksanyan can attend the Council Meetings as a "guest", as the official time for candidate membership has been exceeded.

15.4 All candidate members are invited to briefly report on where they are in the process of establishing an association

Lucian Ciolan reported that they have now applied for the right to use "Romanian" in the association's title. As soon as the government approves, the application can go to court. They hope to be able to apply for full membership in Copenhagen.

Malta is also quite close to becoming an official association.

15.5 Associations' Reports

Russia

One month ago, the Russian Educational Research Association was officially approved by the Ministry of Justice. They are now keen to collaborate with the national associations of EERA and would be happy about offers for exchange.

They have a similar structure as EERA. They do not yet have a group for emerging researchers, but that is one of their goals. Individual membership will help cover the rest of the country. They are forced to be selective for the individual members (Hirsch index criterion), otherwise they would have thousands of possible members. They do not intend to be an elitist organisation, but there are many researchers in Russia without interest in international work and collaboration. Therefore their plan is to accumulate high profile researchers for the first year, for setting up the association, and then to open the criteria.

16   EERA Organisation

16.1   Life Membership

Theo Wubbels suggested that EERA would stop awarding live membership, which currently is reserved for presidents only. Instead he suggested listing all former exec members in order to acknowledge the various contributions to EERAs development. Council approved of this in principle. A formal proposal will come for the August meeting.

16.2   Budget

Herbert Altrichter reported that 2016 will again be a year with a strong positive result. Audited figures will be available for the August meeting. He again invited 2 -3 Council Members to evaluate the budget and the audit with him during ECER 2017 as a preparation for the council meeting.
This year's budget checkers are Isabelle Mili and Maarten Simons.

17   External Relationships

External relations had been dealt with under the group work.

18   Next Meetings

26 August 9:00 – 17:00, Copenhagen
27 August 9:00 – 13:00, Copenhagen

19   AOB

Exec was approached by the organisers of the Hong Kong Conference, also hosting the WERA Focal Meeting whether someone from Council would be willing to do reviews for them. Isabelle Mili said she could do a very limited number, in case they are related to Didactics. Satu Perälä-Littunen and Milosh Raikov are also available.

When evaluating the council meeting, it was said that the kind of work done this time in the working groups was very productive and inspiring, and that this should be an inherent part of each meeting. In order to have enough time for that, Council should be asked to be well prepared (reading all documents in advance etc.), which would lessen the time needed for some more "technical" agenda items.

Another suggestion was that each time, a group photo is taken during a meeting. This is already planned for Copenhagen.
The feedback for the dropbox pilot was positive; there was only the request to work on the order of documents. This could be improved by having everything in folders.