



## Minutes of the EERA Council Meeting in Helsinki

**Saturday 23 January 2010, 11:00 – 17:00**

**Sunday 24 January 2010, 09:00 – 13:00**

**Meeting Venue:** University of Helsinki,  
Siltavuorenpenger 20R, floor K1, room K108

### **Participants:**

**Herbert Altrichter**, Österreichische Gesellschaft für Forschung und Entwicklung (OEFEB); **Joana da Silveira Duarte** and **Fiona Hallett**, Emerging Researchers' Network; **Mustafa Yunus Eryaman**, Turkish Educational Research Association (EAB); **Ian Grosvenor**, EERA Secretary General; **Gunilla Holm**, Finnish Educational Research Association (FERA); **Marit Honerod Hoveid**, Networks' Representative on Council; **Gonzalo Jover Olmeda**, Sociedad Espanola de Pedagogia (SEP); **Sakir Cincir**, Educational Administration Research and Development Association (EARDA); **John Krejsler**, Nordic Educational Research Association (NERA); **Martin Lawn**, Editor of European Educational Research Journal (EERJ); **Raquel-Amaya Martínez González**, Asociación Interuniversitaria de Investigación Pedagógica (AIDIPE); **Ian Menter**, Scottish Educational Research Association (SERA); **Lejf Moos**, EERA President; **Joe O'Hara**, Educational Studies Association of Ireland (ESAI); **Daniela Preis**, EERA Office; **Rudolf Tippelt**, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Erziehungswissenschaft (DGfE); **Tuija Veinte**, LOC Helsinki; **Angelika Wegscheider**, EERA Office; **Theo Wubbels**, EERA Treasurer and Vereniging voor Onderwijs Research (VOR);

### **1. Apologies for absence and welcome to new members**

Apologies for absence from Brigitte Gruson, David Bridges, Joanna Michalak, Katharina Maag Merki, Petr Novotny, Francesca Gobbo, Peter van Petegem and Yasar Kondakci. Sakir Cincir replaces Yasar on the EERA Council from now on and was welcomed to the meeting.

### **2. Confirmation of minutes of Sept 09 Council Meeting**

Minutes were confirmed without amendments.

### 3. Matters arising from minutes and action points

No further matters arising.

## 4. ECER 2010

### 4.1 Main conference (short report) [LOC/AW]

#### 4.1.1 Programme Schedule, Reception, Keynote Chairs:

The Convenors' and Council Reception (= reception on Pre- Conference day) will take place in Siltavuorenpenger 5, the Welcome Reception in the Main Building, entrance area and the City Reception in the City Hall at the harbour.

Gunilla Holm would like to introduce F. Antihias, Lisbeth Lundahl will be introduced by Elina Lahelma, Ian Mentor will chair M. Verhoeven and H. Altrichter F. Rizvi.

Tallinn University suggested to invite ECER delegates to a pre-conference in Tallinn and had sent a proposal. Council found that the topic should have a focus on the Baltic region and that it would be better to have a slightly different timing, i.e. first have the seminar and then the city tour. Council agreed on suggesting a post-conference on Saturday with a more Baltic theme. LOC will report back to Tallinn.

LOC Helsinki had the idea of organising school visits during ECER. They could be offered in small groups of up to 20 people so that perhaps 200 delegates could take part. The registration should only take place after the delegates are informed about their time of presentation.

#### 4.1.2 Evaluating ECER 2010

The EERA Office suggested a more thorough ECER evaluation. Up to now, evaluation is only done via the session return slips which are filled in by session chairs. No remarks from delegates are collected systematically.

The idea was welcomed by council, but the evaluation needs to be designed in a way to help preparation of future ECERs and to also collect remarks via open questions. When selecting an online tool for the survey, tools which are for free should be considered first.

Some convenors had already during the Convenors Seminar agreed to contribute to a working group designing a questionnaire for an online query and to help enhancing the Session Return Slips for Session Chairs.

Following Council Member joined the group: Joana Duarte, Joe O'Hara, Sakir Cincir.

### 4.2 Pre conference (short report) [JD/FH]

For the Best Paper Award 2009, 28 submissions reached the ERNet. The authors were all asked to re-submit, and 14 revised versions were handed in. Like last year it was agreed to have one official best paper, winning the award, and up to 5 papers on the best paper shortlist, which would also be published in EERJ. Decisions should be taken in February.

151 submissions were handed in to the Pre-Conference 2010. There will be an interactive poster session for strengthening the importance of posters. 5 networks agreed to offer methodology panels; reviewers from Main Conference Networks offered support with reviewing for NW 21.

The number of scholarships was increased to 10 for authors from Eastern European Countries and 10 for authors from Low GDP countries.

#### **4.3 EERJ Round Table** (Discussion of theme)

Martin Lawn suggested three possible themes, the “European Doctorate”, “The Founding and Development of EERA and “Education Research in New Contexts”, which should reflect on the grown interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary in which Education Research takes place and how this affects the discipline as such.

Council found that the theme on the new contexts would be the most relevant for the Round Table, as Educational Research at Universities is undergoing big changes at the moment. There is a danger of colonisation because of institutional re-structuring. As the Universities of Munich and Helsinki already re-structured their Educational department, Rudolf Tippelt and Gunilla Holm will see if colleagues of theirs could be invited to the Round table to report on the changes.

The European Doctoral Training is an interesting theme as well and Council decided that it could maybe be addressed at the Pre-Conference.

The theme about EERA was seen as valuable for a later time, after the project linked to it is finalised.

#### **4.4 Proposal for session of member associations at ECER**

Council discussed the idea of giving member associations the possibility to organise an association session during ECER. This should help to promote EERA and ECER within the membership countries/associations. It should also help to bridge the gap between EERA being an association of association and ECER being a conference by EERA networks and help to make associations visible at ECER.

While the idea was welcomed in principle, it was also decided that a more thorough preparation and definition of these sessions and the evaluation process of them need to be developed before allowing them within the ECER context. Council Members were especially worried about the claim that an association session would not necessarily need to have contributions from different countries.

For ECER 2010 no association sessions will therefore be allowed, but it was decided to further investigate the idea and to discuss an amended proposal in next council meeting.

A working group was built up: Yunus, Lejf, Theo, Gonzalo.

## **5. Future ECERs**

### **5.1 2011: Berlin** (first discussion of theme) [LM] Dates: 12 –16 September 2011

#### **Proposal for Conference Theme**

##### **Urban Education**

Global cities and global city regions are greenhouses for educational change and educational reform.

And

##### **Global trends and local responsibilities**

In recent times the development of educational systems is strongly confronted with the tensions between globalisation and local decentralisation.

Council found that both themes were relevant and interesting. Council valued the somehow different perspective to educational research given by the “Urban Education Theme” but suggested to have the suburban issues included in this discussion as well.

Council found that the second option was also interesting, maybe more so if the responsibilities were substituted by solutions.

The trends mentioned are crucial for educational research, but would need to be focused to fewer aspects.

Council resolved to ask the LOC to go on working on either theme by focusing, sharpening and describing into a bit more depths.

The keynote-working group (Lejf Moos, Marit Hoveid, Martin Lawn) will act as a partner for LOC and cooperated in suggesting keynotes to Council in June.

## **5.2 2012: Cadiz** (short report and decision) [LM]

As requested, Cadiz LOC reported back that there would be enough rooms to house ECER at the University and for the delegates in hotels. LOC will also check if Students’ Residences would be available for housing delegates. The team of LOC also includes people who were in Vienna last year, i.e. know the scope of ECER. As the campus is not very close to the city centre, LOC has to think about getting the delegates from their hotels to the campus, e.g. is there public transport? Gonzalo Jover Olmeda pointed out that also his association, SEP, does support the application.

Council decided that ECER 2012 will take place in Cadiz. As it will be the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ECER, some special events should be taken into consideration. 2014 will be the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of EERA.

## **5.3 2013: Turkey** (short report and decision) [LM]

Both associations have scheduled a meeting to discuss the possibilities of a joint proposal. Council asked them to send a shared application as soon as possible, and the decision should be taken at the June meeting.

## **5.4 2014: London** (short report and decision) [LM]

2 - 5 September 2014:	BERA 2014 in London
26 Sep- 1 Oct 2014:	ECER 2014 in London

The hotel situation can be very difficult in London, not only for availability, but for quality and hotel “willingness”. It would be good to clear the hotel room situation as soon as possible.

Council decided that ECER 2014 will take place in London.

## **5.5 How to keep ECERs manageable?** (discussion) [IG/MH]

**Recommendation to council: Extending ECER from 3 days to 3 ½ - 4 days.** Following initial discussions in Vienna about managing the growth of ECER and the request of Council for the officers to present some proposals, Ian Grosvenor and Marit Hoveid presented a proposal to extend the conference by ½ to 1 day in order to accommodate more papers and other activities. The additional time will run concurrently with the pre-conference.

Council agreed that ECERs should be extended from 2011 onwards.

## **5.6 No shows, withdrawals** (short report)

Convenors had repeatedly reported that ECER was affected by no-shows and withdrawals a lot. Office has established a list of 63 no-shows as collected via session

return slips and has found out that the majority of them were paid up delegates, parts of them also listed as participants who arrived at the Conference.  
The no-shows are contacted by the EERA office and asked to explain themselves.  
After answers are collected, Convenors may get access to the list of no-shows within their network. (only link convenors)

#### **5.7 EERA Panel** (short report) [LM]

Council decided that the working group on members associations' sessions should also develop a proposal for an EERA panel.

#### **5.8 Using technology to enhance the ECER conference – some ideas and recommendations**

The full scope of the suggested ideas was seen as too big for ECER 2010 – especially the social networking website, but it was agreed to further investigate in this. One problem was the need to find systems which could be easily integrated into the running EERA/ECER websites.

LOC and EERA will try to incorporate other ideas like Keynote Streaming and Video Podcasting (as during ECER 09) into ECER 2010.  
The group who did the podcasting last year will be invited to do so this year as well. Office will answer VETNET and get in touch with them.

## **6. Constitution**

### **6.1 Discussion of principles and procedures for finalising a new constitution** [LM]

Some Council Members found that the new proposal might lay too much decision taking powers into the new Executive Officers, while others found that they would help to clarify the role of members to Council (that will also be the AGA) and clearly mark their controlling powers.

It was also pointed out that Officers are elected by Council, which should ensure that persons are selected carefully.

Council then agreed that the proposed new principles would help to solve the awkward situation of Council members exculpating themselves in AGA and welcomed them in principles, but also asked for amendments like giving Council members the right to establish task forces and working groups as well, to underline that the power rests within council and that Agendas need to be approved by council.

It was also suggested to introduce some induction measure for new council members to enable quicker integration and to consider the situation of member association who cannot afford participation in Council. This should be written in the new General Regulations.

Discussing the principles regarding membership was less clarifying as Council did not resolve in a definition for "general educational research" association. Each member association automatically has a seat on the new Council. This raised concerns that then a country with many associations would also have many voices – and votes – in Council. Council rejected the idea of having weighted votes according to the size of associations.  
It was suggested to have a working group investigating future applications and

then reporting back to Council on each applicant.

It was agreed that Office Bearers should rethink this issue and report back to Council. Other suggestions will be forwarded to the lawyer who will redraft his text. The new version should then be sent to Council Members for an online discussion. If agreed, the next Council Meeting in June would be organized and invited as an AGA in order to formally adopt the new constitution.

## 7. New Nations

### 7.1 Suggestion to stop accepting new members until a new constitution is agreed on (affects RUTE (Spain), KIB-DER & 2 Cypriote association) (short report)

It was suggested and agreed to postpone the decisions until a new constitution is adopted. Office bearers will re-discuss the issue at their meeting in Copenhagen in March and try to develop a solution. Associations will be contacted and informed on the situation that EERA currently faces. It was acknowledged that EERA keeps them waiting for quite a while but the step was seen as necessary.

For ECER 2010, a new Nations Meeting will be organised.

## 8. Next Generation

### 8.1 Next Generation Working Group (EERI, European Educational Research Infrastructure et al.) (Short report) [LM]

Lejf Moos briefly reported on the Meeting of the Working Group which was focused on developing a better overview on different attempts to address the needs of emerging researchers. He reflected on new strands on the Pre-Conference programme like the more prominent poster session and the best poster award plus the grown support that the Emerging Researchers Network and the Pre-conference receive from other networks (Co-Reviewers and Panels during Pre-Conf).

He also reflected on the NW 17 summer school and then presented the budget and programme proposal for the Summer School in cooperation with the University of Göteborg.

### 8.2 Summer school, Gothenburg (plans, budget, short report and decision) [LM] Copenhagen/Gothenburg January, 2010 /Lejf Moos & Karin Rönnermann

Following preparations in cooperation with University of Göteborg and DGfE (German Educational Research Association) Lejf Moos presented a proposal for a 5 day training course on Writing Educational Research, which should take place in Göteborg in 2010 and 2011. The idea is that EERA cooperates with a partner for a period of 2 years and that then the project is conducted with a new partner and a potential new focus.

Dates: University of Gothenburg, June of 2010, Monday 14 – Friday 18.

The EERASS will be a formal course for doctoral students to be given at the University of Gothenburg and students thus can gain 7.5 ECTS if their paper, which they develop

during the course and hand in later is (according to UG criteria) accepted. The first aim of the “European Educational Research Summer School (EERSS) “Writing Educational Research” is to introduce and practice academic writing in order to educate the next generation of European educational researchers to write research papers in English. The second aim is to introduce and educate research students to collaborate in European networks by giving the summer school in a European setting, where doctoral students meet and collaborate with European researchers and doctoral students, thus furthering their networking within the European educational research space.

EERA will support the Summer School with support for student housing, royalties for professors plus housing and travels for non Swedish professors.

The Emerging Researchers Network asked for being given some time to introduce the Network at the summer school.

Lejf requested Council members to consider to sign up as a supervisor in Gothenburg or to find a colleague, who is willing to do so. Contact Lejf.

### **Budget**

Support for housing (each € 180) for 35 students (criteria: low GDP countries)		6.300 €
Royalties for professors (each € 1.500)		
	University of Gothenburg	(5.000) €
	EERA	7.500 €
Housing for non-Swedish professors (5 x 5 x € 90)		2.250 €
Travel for non-Swedish professors (5 x € 300)		1.500 €
<i>Total EERA</i>		<b>17.550 €</b>

Council accepted the proposal and the budget (after small amendments) in principle.

### **8.3 Summer school, NW 17** (short report) [IG]

Ian Grosvenor reported that the Summer School attracted 36 applications, 29 will be taken. Applicants are both PhD students and early career researchers, they come from 10 different countries and only 4 of the 36 applicants have been at an ECER (Main-Conference?) before. Therefore he pointed out that the Summer School would highly contribute to the capacity building of new researchers.

### **8.4 ERNet, best paper** (short report) [FH]

See 4.2.

## **9. President’s Report**

### **9.1 EERQI - further engagement and representation of EERA**

(short report, see attachment entitled EERQI Report for Council)

Office Bearers will visit the project management to discuss future workload regarding open work packages, especially the final conference. Date envisaged for this: March 2010. In order to keep Council updated regarding EERQI, Office Bearers asked for volunteers who could participate in future meetings. Council Members found it difficult to put themselves forward as the project seemed to ask for very special knowledge. Therefore it was agreed to approach previous Council Members who are also members to EERQI consortium if one of them would participate in future council meetings and help office bearers to report on EERQI. Matthias Behrens and David Bridges will be approached.

## 9.2 WERA (short report)

Council discussed the current situation and noted that regions normally less represented in the educational research contexts are unfortunately also less represented in the newly elected WERA board. While elected officers were well chosen as they are capable and experienced researchers, it was also felt that for the next elections, an alteration in the nomination process should be introduced. Council saw EERAs task within WERA to put cultural questions on the agenda, by e.g. contributing to the working groups established in Vienna and inviting WERA to organize a symposium for ECER 2010 within the series of world-wide symposia, WERA would like to offer following decision in Vienna. The suggested theme could be linked to European Knowledge and/or Globalisation questions.

WERA will have a meeting in May, until then a working group (all EERA Council members who are also WERA Council members) managed by Lejf Moos should develop a proposal for a project group/WERA working group reflecting a European/cultural focus. It was also suggested to incorporate convenors in these discussions.

Rudolf Tippelt reported on a meeting organised by the Qatar foundation, the World Innovation Summit on Education.

Joana Duarte informed Council that WERA had approached NW21 to contact the WERA capacity building group. Office Bearers asked that these contacts would be channelled via the Office Bearers/President.

## 9.3 ISE (short report and discussion with decision)

EERA was approached by the European Sociological Association to engage in ISE, Initiative for Science in Europe in order to ensure the Social Sciences are well represented. Council agreed to follow this invitation, sending Lejf. He will report back to Council.

# 10. Secretary General Report & Network Representatives Report

## 10.1 EERA Archives, Senior Project Officer (short report) [IG, ML]

Ian Grosvenor reported on the tender which was issued after last council meeting and on Martin Lawn's offer which had been accepted by Office Bearers. The project includes 40 interviews with key actors in EERA's history, building up an authoritative archive within the EERA office by integrating different existing archives and filling gaps that still exist. In addition to the paper and document archive also an image archive will be built up and Networks' histories and archives will be developed. Martin Lawn will prepare and present a (drafted) report for the Council Meeting in June.

## 10.2 ECER Database (short report) [IG/ AW]

Negotiation with BEI continues. For a first step a consultant was asked to advice on how to enhance the exiting database on the EERA website. The next step will be to investigate in which formats BEI could provide their data and what would be necessary to model their data in a way which is suitable for integration in the database resting at the EERA website. By the end of the year, the integration should have taken place.

### 10.3 Network Convenor seminar (short report) [MH,IG]

Marit Hoveid announced that two networks had changed their names – Postgraduate Network is now called Emerging Researchers' Network, NW 12 (was: Libraries and Information Centres in Educational Research) followed the idea to develop abbreviations for network names and is now known as LISnet - Library and Information Science Network. Council agreed to these two changes.

Marit Hoveid and Ian Grosvenor reported on the results of the Network Convenor Seminar. A new reviewing grid had been developed and will be introduced for the reviewing process of ECER 2010. Networks agreed to update their keywords and descriptors regularly and to further work on overlaps and distinctiveness of the single EERA networks. Convenors asked for extending the Network Seminar (1 full, two half days, asking for 2 nights), for allowing more time to get to know other networks' focus and for having a better chance to set the agenda of these meetings.

Council agreed to the repetition of the Network Seminar and to the extension.

### 10.4 Applications for Funding - new criteria (decision) and 4 applications (for information) [MH]

Marit Hoveid reported on the history of EERA network funding which started with a very open call but asked for clearer specification of criteria while assessing incoming proposals. Office Bearers of EERA had reviewed at their meeting in Berlin (15 December 2009) some applications for Network funding and developed a clearer set of criteria that will determine what can be funded. She presented the criteria and asked for endorsement by council. In addition, Office Bearers asked Council to be in future empowered to decide within the group of office bearers based on the principles accepted by Council. After they exemplarily showed how they would interpret the 4 current applications by assessing them against the proposed set criteria, Council welcomed the criteria and also agreed that Office Bearers should decide on incoming proposals, but also report to Council.

Criteria for evaluating Network funding applications:

- An application should have the endorsement of the Network Link-convenor(s).
- EERA will not fund personal/institutional research time.
- The funded activity should benefit both the Network and EERA
- All applications should address issue of capacity building (Next Generation)
- All applications should normally demonstrate how at least three European countries participate.
- The application should be very specific in terms of outputs, e.g.: databases, publication (journal or book), putting together trans-national research bid/application, meeting between academics and practitioners, networking.
- The same project will not (normally) be funded more than one time.
- Each Network will normally only have funding for one application every other year
- EERA will not fund activities which involve the transfer of money to publishing houses.
- Where requests are made for travel and subsistence they must demonstrate how they relate to the application outputs.

Following the criteria, only two of the four proposals handed in prior to the Council Meeting would be rejected, one accepted, one accepted under the condition to slightly reshape the proposal.

## 11. Treasurer's report

### 11.1 Membership Fees (report/discussion)

Council accepted the proposal for a new structure of membership fees, as it would in most cases lead to a reduction in fees. However, based on the new structure no exemptions should be allowed any more.

The new proposal foresees 6 steps within the fees: Small/Medium/Large Associations in Low and High GDP countries. And it would allow the membership fee free period to candidate countries only.

#### Proposal

	Low GDP	High GDP
Small Association (<100)	50 Euro	200 Euro
Medium Association (100-300)	100 Euro	400 Euro
Large Association (>300)	200 Euro	800 Euro

The total income in the new scheme is about 15% lower than in the old scheme.

### 11.2 Terms of Registration for ECER 2010

Office suggested having a longer time allowing cancellations, but reducing the percentage that is refunded after a given time. Refund should be 80% of fees up to 8 weeks prior to the conference (which is what is done now) and 50 % up to 4 weeks prior to the conference (which would be new). Any other refunds would then require medical certificates and/or special agreement with the treasurer.

The suggested regulation would help to streamline the processes in the office, to ease discussions with delegates and might also help to get delegates register earlier, as they would have better chances to be refunded in case they cannot attend.

Council approved the change and it will come effective for ECER 2010.

### 11.3 Budget Report and Overview 2009/2010 (short report)

Theo Wubbels presented an updated budget and also introduced a new overview system that will allow to clearer follow budget changes and which better reflects new EERA activities like Network Funding, EERQI, the Senior Research Officer and other projects.

From June ongoing; budgets will be presented in the new system. In addition; he also introduced that together with the annual balance; open liabilities should be listed in order to give Council a clearer overview on the final results of each year.

### 11.4 Timescale for Audit (short report)

The formal audit will be done in April and the report will be available in May.

## 12. Next Meeting

June 2010: 19 – 20 June 2010, Berlin  
 August 2010: currently planned: (ECER) 24 August, afternoon, 28 August, morning, Helsinki. These dates might be re-discussed due to the Talinn Seminar and the potentially

restructured roles of Council/AGA once a new constitution is adopted.  
Office bearers will make suggestion at their March meeting.

## **13. AOB**

### **13.1 Case of plagiarism – further actions?**

An Australian author contacted EERA and sufficiently proved that an ECER 2009 presenter plagiarised his previous work within the abstract handed in during submission process. The abstract in question was taken from the database and the author was contacted to position himself. He apologized to the original author. Council discussed on how to proceed with cases like this in principle: should an author be expelled from EERA, should a network or member association be informed. It was decided that names should not be given to third persons and that for the current case the author should not be expelled from ECER but be informed on the results his paper had shown in plagiarism detection software.

A Working group (Ian Menter, Herbert Altrichter and Rudolf Tippelt) will propose a statement on Academic Conduct for the EERA Website, the member associations should try to highlight the question within their communities and they should also be addressed within the setting of the Emerging Researchers Network.

### **13.2 Council Meeting dates**

John Krejsler suggested changing the Council Times to workdays, to better accommodate family obligations. If two workdays would not be possible, he suggested finding a compromise and choosing Friday and Saturday. This will be re-discussed during June meeting.

## **14. Annex to these Minutes**

- Annotated Agenda for the meeting including the proposals + budget
- Action Sheets