

# Minutes of EERA Council Meeting

## 12 March 2021, Online

**Attendees:**

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Association</b>
1	Ana Kozina	The Slovenian Educational Research Association (SLODRE)
2	Andreas Hadjar	EERA Treasurer elect
3	Angelika Wegscheider	EERA Office
4	Anna Aleksanyan	Educational Research Armenian Society (ERAS)
5	Arcady Margolis	Educational Research Association (RERA)
6	Arnaud Dubois	Association des Enseignants et Chercheurs en Sciences de l'Education (AECSE)
7	Branislava Baranovic	Croatian Educational Research Association (CERA)
8	Daniela Preis	EERA Office
9	Dita Nimante	University of Latvia (Candidate Member)
10	Eduardo García-Jiménez	Asociación Interuniversitaria de Investigación Pedagógica (AIDIPE)
11	Elisabetta Biffi	Società Italiana di Pedagogia (SIPED)
12	Enda Donlon	Educational Studies Association of Ireland (ESAI)
13	Eric Mangez	Association des chercheurs belges francophones en éducation (ABCéduc)
14	Erich Svecnik	Österreichische Gesellschaft für Forschung und Entwicklung im Bildungswesen (OEFEB)
15	Eva Hultin	Nordic Educational Research Association (NERA)
16	Gonzalo Jover	Sociedad Española de Pedagogía (SEP)
17	Helen Phtiaka	Cyprus Pedagogical Association (CPA)
18	Herbert Altrichter	EERA Treasurer
19	Huseyin Uzunboylu	Cyprus Educational Sciences Association (KEB-DER)
20	Ignacio Monge	LOC Geneva
21	Ineke M. Pit-ten Cate	Luxembourg Educational Research Association (LuxERA)
22	Iouri Zagoumenov	Belarus National Association "Innovations in Education" (IE)
23	Jana Poláčková Vašátková	Česká asociace pedagogického výzkumu (ČAPV)
24	Joanna Madalińska-Michalak	Polskie Towarzystwo Pedagogiczne (PTP)
25	Joe O'Hara	EERA President
26	Julianna Mrazik	Hungarian Educational Research Association (HERA)
27	Karmen Trasberg	Estonian Academic Research Association (EAPS)
28	Lucian Ion Ciolan	Romanian Educational Research Association (ARCE)
29	Marco Rieckmann	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Erziehungswissenschaft (DGfE)
30	Maria Pacheco Figueiredo	EERA Secretary General
31	Mhairi Beaton	British Educational Research Association (BERA)
32	Milosh M. Raykov	Malta Educational Research Association (MERA)
33	Nihat Gurel Kahveci	Turkish Educational Research Association (EAB)
34	Oksana Zabolotna	Ukrainian Educational Research Association (UERA)
35	Paolo Landri	European Educational Research Journal
36	Paulina Korsnakova	Slovak Educational Research Society (SERS)
37	Petra Grell	EERA Networks' Representative on Council
38	Raimonda Brunevičiūtė	Lithuanian Academic Educational Association (LERA)
39	Saneeya Qureshi	Emerging Researchers' Group
40	Satu Perälä-Littunen	Finnish Educational Research Association (FERA)
41	Sébastien Akira Alix	Association des Enseignants et Chercheurs en Sciences de l'Education (AECSE)

42	Sofia Marques da Silva	Sociedade Portuguesa de Ciências da Educação (SPCE)
43	Sotiria Grek	European Educationl Research Journal
44	Stephen McKinney	Scottish Educational Research Association (SERA)
45	Wilfried Admiraal	Vereniging voor Onderwijs Research (VOR)
46	Yasar Kondakci	Educational Administration Research and Development Association (EARDA)
47	Zoe Moody	Swiss Society for Research in Education (SSRE)

## 1. Apologies and Welcome of New Members

Joe O'Hara informed Council that Dragica Pavlovic Babic sent her apologies. Doris Edelmann, Liudmila Ruspiene and Kadir Beycioglu were also unable to attend, but sent colleagues replacing them. Joe welcomed two new council members, Ineke M. Pit-ten Cate, representing LuxERA and Sébastien Akira Alix, new representative of AECSE. In addition, we had a guest from the BERA Office - David Chatterjee.

## 2. Confirmation of Minutes

Council confirmed the minutes unanimously.

## 3. ECER 2021

### 3.1 General Report: Submission numbers, EERA Workshops

Angelika Wegscheider gave a short overview of the ECER 2021 submission numbers. Submission numbers are lower than in previous years, nevertheless a rich conference programme is expected with about 40 sessions running in parallel in each slot/throughout the days of the conference.

### 3.2 LOC Report

Zoe Moody and Ignacio Monge informed Council about the envisaged LOC sessions on the Swiss educational system as well as another session on funding options, about the status quo of finding volunteers needed as technical support in each session and on ideas for détente as side programme of the conference, e.g. sports offers and a cooking session.

Questions from Council were answered: Information on data collection will be clearly stated. All sessions will have a technical support. Session supporters, presenters and session chairs will get a training for the platform prior to the conference. The participants will be encouraged to visit the platform in advance too, by making available the keynotes, posters, material on the presentations and possibly the exhibition stands too. This will also help participants get familiar with OnAir. Joe thanked the local organisers for their preparations so far.

### 3.3 EERA Sessions

#### Setup Evaluation Committee

Maria, Joe, Lucian Ciolan and Satu Perälä Littunen will act as the evaluation committee.

### 3.4 Format of Keynotes

Council confirmed that the keynotes should take place in the same format as last year, i.e. with pre-recorded videos available on demand, and a live online session, the EERA Keynote Panel, on the Friday of the conference.

### **3.5 Associations Meet and Greet: Who wants to offer one?**

Council was informed that this could also take place this year, with “stands” at the exhibition, and a fixed meet and greet session in one of the lunch breaks. Those interested should contact Daniela Preis.

### **3.6 Committee Poster Award**

Eduardo Garcia Jimenez, Karmen Trasberg, Jana Poláčková Vašátková and Ineke M. Pit-ten Cate volunteered as Poster Jury members and will fix a spokesperson. They will be in contact with Doretta Dow from the EERA Office to look into the different time schemes.

## **4. Future ECERs**

### **4.1 ECER 2022 Yerevan**

#### **4.1.1 Theme**

The conference theme was discussed and agreed by Exec and subsequently confirmed by Council.

#### **4.1.2 Keynote Speakers**

One council member suggested to change the order of invitations and invite an Armenian researcher (as the current proposal only includes a replacement candidate from Armenia), in order to strengthen the local aspect. Other council members endorsed this idea, as Armenia is a country not really known in the international research community, and this would help to change that. Council supported this suggestion and confirmed the accordingly amended list.

#### **4.1.3 Leaflet**

As the 2021 conference is to be held online, no printed leaflet will be needed for distribution at ECER 2021.

#### **4.1.4 General Report LOC**

Anna Aleksanyan reported on the preparations. They plan for an in-person event, but also have a plan B, should we need to go virtual again. They have a local partner, professional conference organiser who has already organised virtual events but are open to exploring other options for a virtual conference. At the moment they are contacting hotels for pre-reserving rooms.

### **4.2 ECER 2023**

Stephen McKinney informed Council that they are about to prepare a new budget, new theme and a new list of keynotes. Due to the pandemic, it is not yet sure what of the former plans regarding social events etc can still be realised, as it is not foreseeable what will still exist then.

#### **4.2.1 First Ideas for Theme [Information]**

The theme is still under development but will probably be connected to diversity.

#### **4.2.2 Setup Scientific Committee [Decision]**

In addition to the ex officio committee members, Council Members joining the Scientific Committee: Helen Phtiaka, Sofia Marques da Silva, Ana Kozina and Branislava Baranovic.

## 4.3 Bids as of 2024

### 4.3.1 Nicosia

For Nicosia the LOC has signalled that original budget can more or less stay the way it was for the bid of 2023. Next steps will be to finalise the budget and agree on a date.

### 4.3.2 ECERS 2025 and onwards

For 2025 we still have a first offer from Serbia, for 2026 we expect an offer from Finland, 2027 is reserved for Northern Cyprus.

## 5. Finances

Herbert Altrichter reported on the preliminary 2020 results and on different budget schemes depending on the income from ECER 2021.

Joe thanked Herbert for his considerate budgeting in the past years that allowed EERA to overcome the year without ECER quite well.

Herbert answered the question whether there is a plan B in case of low participant numbers at ECER 2021 saying that there is no such plan, but even with low numbers, we are on the safe side for another year. On the long run however, we may need to change the main source of income.

Another question addressed the custody fees (negative interest rates) and whether there now is a plan to avoid them. Since council has voted previously against plans to avoid negative interest rates, no further steps have been taken. In 2020 EERA paid about € 3400 negative interest.

## 6. Publications

### 6.1 EERJ

#### 6.1.1 Editors' Report

Sotiria Grek and Paolo Landri reported on their first year as lead editors of EERJ.

They thanked Council for their support with reviewing and would like to encourage them to continue this support.

Joe thanked them and the board and also asked Council to contribute by reviewing.

#### 6.1.2 Financial Report

Postponed to September meeting.

### 6.2 Book Series

The first book is to be launched in April, and Council could have a look at the cover. Joe thanked Dennis Beach and the board for their work.

### 6.3 Blog

Joe informed Council on the development of the EERA blog, which has a slowly growing audience, also linked to the intensified social media activities. In order to maintain or also speed up the posting schedule for new blog posts, a more steady flow of incoming contributions is needed.

He also asked Council to encourage their colleagues at home to contribute to the blog, as a platform to introduce their association or their research projects.

## 7. Communication and Social Media

Doretta Dow's new Social Media strategy has proved to be very successful, as it has raised EERA's and ECER's profile. Lots of work is going in, but there are also lots of outcomes and a broader visibility. Council should consider joining in by spreading and sharing the hashtags, new posts etc.

## 8. Emerging Researchers' Group

### 8.1 ERC Report

Saneeya's report

- The Best Paper award is now concluded and the winner announced: <https://eera-ecer.de/about-eera/promoting-emerging-researchers/erc-best-paper-award/best-paper-award-winners-2006-present/> The winner has been invited to submit a blog post, and this condition is tied into all the ERG Awards, including the Bursary Awards and the Best Poster Competition.
- We contacted past Best Paper winners to ask for their testimonials about the impact of the process on their academic success, and their reports are available here: <https://eera-ecer.de/about-eera/promoting-emerging-researchers/erc-best-paper-award/winners-testimonials/> The successful publication history of the Best Paper winners can also be found here: <https://eera-ecer.de/about-eera/promoting-emerging-researchers/erc-best-paper-award/winners-published-papers/>
- Thanks to all Council members who help ensure the robust and comprehensive process of review for this Award, which is very much valued by emerging researchers.
- The ERC programme has been finalised as being over two days, and I will be approaching members of Council for their help with the final session which will be on "Getting to know EERA, making the most of the ECER and ERC Closing Ceremony" as the focus of this session will be to foster this online community of emerging researchers and augment their capacity to engage with the wider EERA networks and activities, and also provide a bedrock of ideas for future ERG initiatives and EERA blogposts.
- Finally, thanks to all members of Council, and particularly to Satu, the ERG Senior Mentor for their support of ERG activities that are very much a team effort, also supported by a group of excellent emerging researcher co-convenors.

She asked Council to consider contributing to the ECER/EERA session on the Friday afternoon. Joe thanked her and Satu, and asked them to also pass on the thanks to the co-convenors.

## 9. External Relationships

Due to the low EERA income in 2020, WERA and ISE were asked whether the membership fees could be reduced or even waived. They both agreed to this request and this was formally acknowledged at Council.

### 9.1 WERA

WERA agreed to reduce the fees for 2021 substantially.

Joe informed Council that a former EERA Network link convenor, Rocío García-Carrión, has been elected as WERA's Secretary General. This will ensure the connection between EERA and WERA remains strong.

The WERA focal meeting will take place in Summer, virtually, together with the SEP conference. EERA has a slot there, so if someone in Council is interested or has an idea what to do with it should contact Angelika or Joe.

### 9.2 EASSH

The EASSH fee is already rather low, so no attempt was made to reduce that.

### 9.3 ISE

ISE agreed to waive the fee for 2021.

## 10. EERA Activities

### 10.1 Summer School

#### 10.1.1 Update Jyväskylä

The 2021 Summer School will have 100 participants, 62 from last year, and 38 new ones, with far more applicants than available places. The virtual format seems to be attractive. The programme is being set up, and professional organisers will take care of the platform which will offer one-to-one chat options, a virtual lobby, E-Poster walls etc. The keynote will be open to everyone, via a link on the EERA website. As usual, feedback will be collected after the event.

Joe thanked Satu for her report and stressed that it is really important to offer such opportunities to network and interact in times of isolation.

#### 10.1.2 New Call/New Candidates

Sofia Marques da Silva introduced the application from the University of Porto combined with three other research centers from Minho, Coimbra and Aveiro. They are experienced, not only thanks to ECER, but also with organising season schools. The envisaged themes are "Research Design from Scratch" for 2022 and "Participatory Approaches" for 2023. The financing is in progress. Council fed back that the themes are very interesting, relevant for emerging researchers with a value for everyone.

### 10.2 Writing Workshops

Jana Polachova Vastatkova hopes to be able to organise the workshop which was cancelled last year as an in-person event this year. The decision will be made in May.

Stephen also hopes that this will be possible, as their concept is very interactive, hands on, and it would be difficult to shift it online. But if necessary, it will be feasible.

The feedback from the participants in Luxembourg was very positive.

### 10.3 GENE Award

Joe presented this new collaboration, with the Global Education Network to Council. GENE approached EERA after the last council meeting suggesting to organise an award together. As very promising applications came in, the amount was increased from 50.000 to 80.000 €. EERA should now evaluate if we want to continue. In September, Council will see a formal proposal, and volunteering reviewers might be needed.

## 11. Networks

Petra Grell reported on recent activities of networks. NW 33, Gender and Education has raised the issue of sexual harassment and revictimization and asked Exec if this could be addressed within the EERA community. Two networks have been offering online seminars in 2021: NW 14 (1) and NW 23 (a series of 4) This was done without EERA support beyond advertising. They indicated that their activities will also lead to posts for the EERA Blog. NW 01 has successfully submitted to the Network Funding Scheme.

### 11.1 Network Honorary Members

No nominations this year

## 12. Members

Applications for new members have been paused until we are back to normal, as in the current situation, the usually given support could not be offered.

### **12.1 Slovenian Member Association:**

ECER Review in School Chronical (English translation and Slovenian original in Dropbox). They will be asked whether they would like to make a blog post out of it.

### **12.2 KERA**

Kazakhstan asking for advice/mentoring in developing their association further. Exec agreed. Marit Hoveid will be contacted to work with the association, together with Maria Figueiredo, as Secretary General, and Andreas Hadjar, as representative of a newly formed, dynamic association.

## **13. Office**

### **13.1 General Update**

Angelika informed Council on the last months in the EERA Office and how office organises working from remote. One colleague will be on sick leave for quite some time and office will be supported by student helpers.

Joe asked her to pass on best wishes to the ill colleague and thanked the EERA Office for their work.

## **14. Next Meeting**

24 September, morning and afternoon