

Network 9: Assessment, Evaluation, Testing and Measurement

Minutes of the network meeting held on September 9, 2021

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1. Introduction

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, ECER 2021 was held in an online format, therefore the network meeting was also held online via Zoom. The network meeting was chaired by Monica Rosén, the Link Convenor of Network 9, in co-operation with her fellow co-convenors Eugenio Gonzalez, Martin Goy, Sarah Howie, and Jana Straková, as well as her assistant, Erika Majoros. The link to the network meeting was distributed before the conference to the Network 9 mailing list to allow interested colleagues to participate in the meeting even if they did not register for the conference. The meeting was attended by 41 colleagues. The agenda for the meeting comprised seven main topics.

2. Agenda of the meeting

2.1. Network 9: Convenors and participation

Monica Rosén opened the meeting and introduced the co-convenors. Monica Rosén then pointed out the modes of participation and communications in Network 9. She explained that the EERA constitution prevents a formal individual network membership (membership in EERA is through the national organizations of educational research). In Network 9 therefore a mailing list has been used as a central means of keeping in touch with those participating in the conference programmes of the network, to distribute Calls and Announcements of relevance for the network programme and activities at ECER as well as for the network themes of Assessment, Evaluation, Testing and Measurement. Currently, more than 270 colleagues have signed up to the Network mailing list that was established in December 2019 as part of the EERA mailing list system. Monica Rosén invited those not yet on the list to join and to spread the word to further interested colleagues. Monica Rosén then pointed out that the second means of communication in Network 9 is the network website, which is mainly used for documentation

purposes (e.g., for the Aims and Scope of the network, contact information of convenors, reports, and acknowledgements, etc.). The network website is part of the EERA website, see: <https://eera-ecer.de/networks/9-assessment-evaluation-testing-and-measurement>.

2.2. ECER 2020: Network 9 submissions overview

Monica Rosén invited Marting Goy to give an overview of the submissions to Network 9 for ECER 2021. The conference programme consisted of 50 individual papers in 20 sessions, 2 symposia (with a total of 8 papers in 2 sessions), 2 posters, and 1 research workshop. In addition, the programme also comprises the annual Network 9 Keynote as an invited contribution. Of the submitted proposals, the reviewers for Network 9 rejected 14% in 2021, which is a slightly higher rate than for the general ECER 2021 submissions across all networks (9%). Martin Goy reported that the submissions to Network 9 for ECER 2021 were considerably lower than for the last ECER (69% of the 2020 initial submission numbers). This drop is in line with lower submissions numbers to ECER 2021 across all networks compared to 2020 (67%). Martin Goy stated two aspects as further context for the submission numbers in Network 9: 1) In Network 9, proposals that were accepted for ECER 2020 were not automatically accepted for ECER 2021. Instead, it was strongly recommended in the Network 9 Call for papers that, in case of authors considered a resubmission, proposals were updated to reflect the most recent research. All resubmissions were again subjected to the regular review process. Thus Network 9 may have lost a number of contributions by being comparatively rigorous. 2) In 2021, there are at least two further international conferences of relevance for authors in Network 9: EARLI and the IEA-IRC. Both compete to a certain extent with the Network 9 programme at ECER as venues for presenting research. . Monica Rosén then presented the countries of origin of the authors of the Network 9 submissions accepted for ECER 2021, which amounted to 30 countries, reflecting the international composition of conference presentations. Monica Rosén presented the topics of the two symposia and encouraged future symposia submissions. Monica Rosén expressed her delight on behalf of the network that Gyöngyvér Molnár from the University of Szeged (Hungary) would hold an online keynote on the theme of “Development of an Online Diagnostic Assessment System in Support of Personalized Teaching and Learning” and engage with the network members in a discussion on September 9 (in the session following the network meeting).

2.3. Acknowledgement of reviewers

Network 9 is indebted to the colleagues who support the network by participating in the review process for the ECER conferences. On behalf of the convenors of Network 9, Monica Rosén cordially thanked all reviewers, chairpersons, and discussants for volunteering their time and expertise, and for contributing to the quality of the research presented and discussed in Network 9. The names of chairpersons and discussants are listed in the conference programme. To make the contribution of the reviewers visible as well, the names of the reviewers will be published after the conference with an acknowledgement on the website of Network 9 (see also the Appendix of these minutes). This list serves furthermore as a transparent account of the review procedure.

2.4. Network activities

Monica Rosén presented the capacity-building activities of Network 9. Network 9 members continuously support the Emerging Researchers' Group (ERG) of EERA as reviewers of submissions and mentors of sessions at the Emerging Researchers' Conference. The ERG is looking for further colleagues from Network 9 to join their reviewer group. Monica Rosén shared the contact details of the ERG Link Convenor, Saneeya Qureshi (University of Liverpool, email: saneeya.qureshi@gmail.com). Colleagues from Network 9 who are interested in lending the ERG their expertise as reviewers are invited to write to Saneeya Qureshi to indicate their willingness to participate in the review for the Emerging Researchers' Conference 2022. As a further contribution of Network 9 to capacity building, Monica Rosén pointed out that the first full-day workshop in a pre-conference setting was organized in the context of ECER 2021: On September 1, Plamen Mirazchiyski (International Educational Research and Evaluation Institute, Slovenia) held a research workshop on "Analyzing Large-Scale Assessments and Surveys Data using R" with support from Erika Majoros, the Link Convenor's assistant.

2.5. Preview on ECER 2022

Monica Rosén gave a short preview of ECER 2022, which is planned to be held in Yerevan in August 2022 (submission starts: December 1, 2021; ends: January 31, 2022). Monica Rosén showed the planned conference dates, pointing out that in 2022, the Emerging Researchers' Conference is scheduled for August 22–23, Monday and Tuesday and. ECER is planned for Tuesday through Friday (August 23–26). The theme of ECER 2022 is "Education in a changing world: The impact of global realities on the prospects and experiences of educational research".

2.6. Succession of co-convenors

Monica Rosén reported that Martin Goy is leaving his role as co-convenor. Monica Rosén cordially thanked Martin Goy on behalf of the convenors of Network 9 for his work over more than 12 years (ECER 2008–2014 as Link Convenors' assistant to Wilfried Bos, ECER 2014–2021 as co-convenor). Martin Goy cordially thanked Wilfred Bos for giving him the chance to work in Network 9. He further cordially thanked the network for entrusting him with the co-convenor tasks, and his fellow convenors for many years of fruitful joint work. Martin Goy also briefly addressed that there are no fixed terms lengths for the co-convenor positions in Network 9, making the duration of term an individual choice. He reported that he had discussed the possibility of ending his term at ECER 2021 with Monica Rosén before ECER 2020 and that he communicated his decision in the convenors group in January to ease the transition of tasks. Monica Rosén announced that the convenors group has nominated Elena Papanastasiou to be appointed as co-convenor of Network 9. The proposal was unanimously supported by all the convenors and network colleagues in attendance. Monica Rosén thanked them for their vote.

2.7. Any other business

Monica Rosén presented the research school "School of Quantitative Research Methods in

Education” (QRM), which offers advanced method courses free of charge. The major part of the courses has been held online even before the pandemic with one meeting in person (www.gu.se/en/qrm). Sarah Howie shared another initiative, the “Africa Center for Scholarship Full Scale of Research Methods”. Scholars from all over the world are invited to work at the African Doctoral Academy for capacity development in research, academic writing, and academic careers (<http://www.sun.ac.za/english/SUInternational/about-us-1/centres/africa-centre-for-scholarship>). Elena Papanastasiou shared information about the AEA Europe conference. The keynote speakers will be John Hattie, Raphael Pasquini, and Monserrat Gomendio (<https://www.aea-europe.net/conferences/22nd-annual-conference>).

2.8. Appendix: List of reviewers in Network 9 for ECER 2021

The network is indebted to a growing number of scholars who support the network by participating in the review process for the ECER conferences. The Convenors of Network 9 would like to thank all reviewers listed below for volunteering their valuable time and expertise, and for contributing to the scientific quality of the research presented in Network 9.

- Rainer Alexandrowicz, University of Klagenfurt, Austria
- Linda Borger, University of Gothenburg, Sweden
- Johan Braeken, Centre for Educational Measurement, University of Oslo, Norway
- Michael Bruneforth, Federal Institute for Quality Assurance in the Austrian School System, Austria
- Gasper Cankar, National Examinations Centre, Slovenia
- Charalambos Y. Charalambous, University of Cyprus, Cyprus
- Kerstin Drossel, University of Paderborn, Germany
- Gudrun Erickson, University of Gothenburg, Sweden
- Anna-Maria Fjellman, University of Gothenburg, Sweden
- Julia Gerick, TU Braunschweig, Germany
- Andrejs Geske, University of Latvia, Latvia
- Eugenio Gonzalez, Educational Testing Service, Center for Global Assessment, Princeton, United States
- Martin Goy, Center for Research on Education and School Development, TU Dortmund University, Germany
- Jan-Eric Gustafsson, University of Gothenburg, Sweden
- Heidi Harju-Luukkainen, University of Jyväskylä, Finland
- Sabine Hoidn, University of St. Gallen, Switzerland
- Sarah Howie, Africa Centre for Scholarship, Stellenbosch University, South Africa
- Anke Hussmann, TU Dortmund University, Germany
- Ursula Itzlinger-Bruneforth, Federal Institute for Quality Assurance in the Austrian School System, Austria
- Stefan Johansson, University of Gothenburg, Sweden
- Alli Klapp, University of Gothenburg, Sweden
- Paulina Korsnakova, International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Maria Krieg, University of Göttingen, Germany
- Pekka Antero Kupari, University of Jyväskylä, Finland

- Sirkku Kupiainen, University of Helsinki, Finland
- Jeffrey Lockshin, Algorithm A-star, Moscow, Russian Federation
- Ramona Lorenz, Center for Research on Education and School Development, TU Dortmund University, Germany
- Wen-Hui Lu, Providence University, Chinese Taipei
- Michael O. Martin, TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center, Boston College, United States
- Patricia Martinkova, Institute of Computer Science, Czech Academy of Sciences, Czech Republic
- Plamen Mirazchiyski, International Educational Research and Evaluation Institute, Slovenia
- Lucie Mottier Lopez, University of Geneva, Switzerland
- Ina V. S. Mullis, TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center, Boston College, United States
- Sonja Nonte, University of Osnabrück, Germany
- Rolf Vegar Olsen, Centre for Educational Measurement, University of Oslo, Norway
- Antra Ozola, University of Latvia, Latvia
- Ramona Palos, West University of Timisoara, Romania
- Jelena Radišić, University of Oslo, Norway
- Maria Rasmusson, Uppsala University, Sweden
- Pasi Tapio Reinikainen, Finnish Education Institute, Finland
- Monica Rosén, University of Gothenburg, Sweden
- David Rutkowski, Indiana University Bloomington, United States
- Katja Scharenberg, University of Education Freiburg, Germany
- Ronny Scherer, Centre for Educational Measurement, University of Oslo, Norway
- Anabela Serrão, University of Lisboa, Portugal
- Petr Soukup, Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic
- Agnes Stancel-Piatak, IEA Hamburg, Germany
- Isa Steinmann, Centre for Educational Measurement, University of Oslo, Norway
- Jana Straková, Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic
- Rolf Strietholt, IEA Hamburg, Germany
- Tobias C. Stubbe, University of Göttingen, Germany
- Sari Sulkunen, University of Jyväskylä, Finland
- Cecilia Thorsen, University West, Sweden
- Anna Toropova, Karolinska Institute, Sweden
- Mario Vennemann, University of Paderborn, Germany
- Ariane Willems, University of Göttingen, Germany
- Kajsa Yang Hansen, University of Gothenburg and University West, Sweden