

ESREA

European Society for Research on the Education of Adults

Meeting of the ESREA Steering Committee, 16/6 2007, 14.30-18.30 and 17/6 9.00-15.00, University of Minho, Braga, Portugal.

Present: Michal Bron (Sweden), Antonio Fragaso (Portugal), Paula Guimaeres (Portugal), Dr Rui Viera de Castro (Portugal), Wolfgang Juette (Austria), Larissa Jogi (present during June 16) (Estonia), Ewa Kurantowciz (Poland), Barbara Merrill (United Kingdom), Edmee Ollagnier (Switzerland), Henning Salling Olesen (Denmark), Linden West (United Kingdom)

Secretary: Andreas Fejes (Sweden)

Emilio Lucio-Villegas (Spain) was present at 9 and Barry Hake (Netherlands) was present during the entire meeting

1. Henning was elected to chair the meeting
2. Andreas was elected to be the secretary of the meeting
3. Michal was elected to check the minutes
4. The agenda was approved
5. On page 2, last line the meeting of the new network took place afterwards the SC meeting. Number 7: A sub group consisting of Linden, Wolfgang and Michal to discuss publication policy of ESREA. On the gender network, it will take place at the beginning of July. **With these changes the minutes was approved.**
6. Andreas presented the way the Secretariat is conducting its business in the new location. ESREA is now a non-profit organization according to Swedish law which means that we need to pay tax on commercial incomes and on capital. However, gifts, membership fees and some other incomes are exempted from taxation. The book keeping is taken care of by the secretary.
7. The provisional account for 2007 up to June 12 was presented.

Recruitment efforts were discussed. The secretary should send out lists of paid up members to the SC and to the convenors of networks. Henning raised the issue of recruiting younger scholars to ESREA and also to the Steering Committee.

Barry raised the issue that convenors need to send e-mail lists to the secretary as to be able to get back to these persons about membership. Linden raised the issue that we should be able to launch a new ESREA profile at the Seville conference.

The secretary wants the SC members to send information on institutions to contact concerning membership.

8. **The revised budget was decided upon as suggested in appendix 1.**

9. Emilio presented the planning of the ESREA 2007 conference. 65 papers are accepted. About 60 persons are registered so far. Emilio hopes for around 100 participants.

There are 5-7 rooms for parallel sessions in the Civic centre. Each room has the capacity for 20-50 people. The idea is to have 5 parallel sessions with two papers each – 45 minutes per paper (20 minutes for presentation). Each person presenting a paper is also a discussant for another paper.

The main room in Las Sirenas has capacity for 100 people. If there are more than 100 people there are 4 possibilities:

- Faculty of fine arts, 10 minutes walk from Las Sirenas
- a non-profit bank 10 minutes from Las Sirenas
- the school of music is 2 minutes walk (Emilio will check if this is possible)
- The roundtables can also be changed in the program if needed

The webpage has all the abstracts published, and the full papers will also be published on the website. The full papers need to be submitted to the printers in mid July, to be able to guarantee the publication on time. Papers received afterwards will be photocopied and distributed to the participants.

Before the conference all participants will have local information concerning taxis, restaurants, maps etc.

The conference dinner will be in a restaurant near the cathedral. The location of the welcome reception is not decided yet.

There will be one roundtable each day. The roundtables will be based on a few questions the chair asks the participants to answer during the roundtable.

Emilio wants the SC to suggest people to participate in the roundtables. The participants in the roundtables should be from different areas of Europe. A wish was raised to have representatives of networks among the panelists.

Social diversity and adult learning: Learning to live together: This roundtable is in relation to the changes taking place in the European society, migration, multiculturalism etc.

Social development and literacies in Europe: Similarities and difference. A focus on understanding the differences of literacies in Europe.

Participatory active citizenship against social exclusion. A focus on the fight against social exclusion. Ewa had some comments to the title. She will negotiate its change directly with Emilio.

Quoted from the minutes from the meeting in Bad Honnef in May 2007: “Someone in the thematic network of ESREA should be in the roundtables if possible. How many should there be in the roundtables? 1 hour is too short for 4 persons. Fewer people if there is 60 minutes. The scientific committee continues to discuss these issues with Emilio and put forth their ideas in Braga. It would be good to have persons from different parts of Europe/different fields/different cultures in each

roundtable. Ewa and Rudi accepts to chair one roundtable each, Rudi prefer social diversity, and Ewa citizenship.”

It was decided that the scientific committee and the chairs of the roundtables will approve who will participate in the roundtables and send the names to Emilio by the latest during the first week of July. The chairs of the roundtables will write a short synopsis for the roundtable and the persons participating which they will send to Emilio at the beginning of September.

Linden raised the issue of language. Will some people avoid participating in a roundtable if they can't speak in their native language? Antonio suggested that the chairs and Emilio will have to solve this.

For the evaluation of the conference, Barry will choose persons during the conference to participate in the panel based on geography, new/old members/participants etc.

Seville University has promised to pay for the conference proceedings. The rest of the costs will be covered by the participation fees. The money issue seems to be balanced at the moment.

The web page of the conference can probably be alive for 4-6 months after the conference.

Who are eligible for the PhD student prize award? The Scientific Committee needs to know as to be able to evaluate and decide who will receive it. Emilio will send a list of PhD students to the scientific committee.

10. **Active democratic citizenship network** has just finished its meeting in Braga held June 14-16 with approximately 60 participants. The next meeting will be 2009 in Stockholm

Working life and learning network will meet in the Northern College in England at the end of June. Some Canadian colleagues from the Ontario Institute will participate

Between global and local network had their first meeting in Faro with approximately 40 participants. The next meeting will be in Poland May 14-17 2008. There is an ambition to have a meeting in 2009 in Ghent if possible.

Cross-cultural influences network had a meeting last year. Barry will meet Francoise Laot in a couple of weeks to discuss a possible future meeting.

Gender and adult learning network will meet in Poland in early July. 15 persons will participate. Edmée raised the issue about putting in a lot of energy for a meeting with only 15 participants. The question Edmée asks is if the gender network should be included in the Life history network. Antonio suggested making seminars together with other networks, to have a joint meeting.

Life history and biographical network had their last meeting in Roskilde in March with approximately 65 participants. There is a continuous debate in the network

concerning how inclusive it is/should be. There has been a decline concerning French and German participation. Linden will go to the French organisation to speak about the network. Linden wants someone to take over the network. It is a very active network with a lot of commonalities and differences. The next meeting is in March 2008 in Canterbury.

Access, learning careers and identity network met in December in Louvain-la-Neuve. It was a good meeting with about 25 participants. A good mixture of PhD students and senior scholars. The next meeting will be in 2008.

A general discussion was held about the development of the networks where some of them have become quite large with between 60-100 participants.

Older learner network has not been re-vitalised yet. Tarja Tikkanen who was to re-launch it is still involved in other large project at the moment. We should look for a convenor for this network.

11. The discussion concerned organizations who are not members of ESREA as of today. Michal has spoken to colleagues in Israel, Serbia and Estonia who wants/are interested to have a closer relation to ESREA. A discussion was conducted concerning how we can promote ESREA in organizations that are not members today, and organizations/individuals outside of Europe.

It was decided that ESREA should actively participate in promoting the organization by participating with academic presentations combined with ESREA information at conferences/meetings held by organizations of interest to ESREA across the world. Membership in ESREA is open for people and organizations all over the world. When a request is sent to anyone in the SC, it should be circulated to the SC members to see if it is of interest to go and who has the possibility to go. Subsidy for participation in such activity can be decided by an ad hoc decision of the chair, secretary and the treasurer.

12. Linden raised the issue about the marketing of the Peter Lang books. The first volume has low sales and the second seems to be selling a bit better. We need to be more active ourselves in the marketing of our books. The relations to Peter Lang weren't as good as it could have been during the production of the second book. We need a discussion with Peter Lang on how to improve the process. Linden thinks we need to have a meeting with Peter Lang to discuss these issues.

Linden would like to see if the British journal *Studies in the Education of Adults* could dedicate one issue to ESREA scholars? Maybe even publications by DIE would be a similar option.

Michal raised the issue that we need a more equal relation to Peter Lang. We pay for the printing and the process is not always smooth. Further, they price the book quite high which means that the sales probably become lower than would be the case with cheaper books.

Wolfgang raised the idea that we in the future might be able to do something together with DIE and NIACE.

Henning asked the question when in the future we might be ready to publish an electronic journal.

Pro forma from Barbara was discussed. One question concerns how long the book will be. Henning pointed out that we need to keep to the amount of pages agreed on with Peter Lang. Any further pages needs to be discussed in the Steering Committee. **A decision was made to go on with the book proposal from Barbara for a 2008 book in the Peter Lang series. Andreas will contact Peter Lang concerning this decision.**

Barry Hake proposed a book from the cross-cultural network. Francoise Laots University has promised 1000 Euros as support for the book. Andreas will see how the subsidy can be acquired. A pro forma for the book will be discussed at the Steering Committee meeting in Seville in September.

Michal and Paula suggested a publication from the ADC network. They published one within the Peter Lang Verlag ESREA series two years ago and Michal asks if it is possible to publish a new one already? He believes that there are enough good papers from the meeting to be able to do a good book. Linden answered that the Life history network also has a lot of good papers to base a book on. Thus, we need clear procedures of how often a network can propose a book. **It was decided that the network is not excluded to propose a new book in relation to their recent publication. Paula and Michal will present a pro forma at the next meeting.**

The secretary's role with Peter Lang is to be the contact person who communicates which books have been decided upon by the Steering Committee and to take care of the financial issues.

Barry will draft a letter for Peter Lang about issues raised by Linden, Wolfgang and Michal concerning problems in the process of production of the books which Barry will circulate before sending it to Peter Lang.

13. The forthcoming SC election was discussed. Henning argued that it's important to have a real election, more candidates than seats. Further, we need to cover regions and languages. Andreas suggested the following timetable for the election: 15/10 the intention of standing for election needs to be sent to the secretary; 1/11 the list of candidates will be circulated to the members; 1/12 the last day to vote through an electronic ballot; 10/12 the last day for the results to be made official. The timetable will be distributed to members on September 1. **Further, it was decided to ask if Gunnar Sundgren, who is elected as the ESREA auditor, together with the secretary will count the votes in the election.**
14. Andreas presented three options for the ESREA website:
 - As it is
 - Use the Linköping University server, thus also its lay-out
 - Use an external server and have somebody design it

The Linköping website was illustrated to the SC. How can the Linköping page be made as ESREA focused as possible? **It was decided that the secretary would develop the Linköping idea and launch it as the new ESREA website. Further,**

the secretariat will also look at the possibilities for a separate ESREA server/webpage in the future.

We need to create an ESREA logo, a branding to be used on the web page and in the information material. **It was decided that the secretariat will see how a logo can be developed for ESREA.**

Andreas informed the SC that he would like to move the e-mail list to the Linköping server and thus inform the members which the new address to the members will be. **The SC decided that the secretary will continue to develop the newsletter, the use of the e-mail list and the information profile of ESREA. It would be good to have a clear information strategy for ESREA at the end of this year.**

Wolfgang raised the idea for a second e-mail list with all the addresses to participants in network meetings. The convenors could be asked to send these lists to the secretary after the meetings.

Linden raised the issue that the newsletter should be more interactive with contributions from network convenors where some major issues debated in the network are raised.

It would be good to have an overview of when the newsletter will be published and what the deadlines for contributions are. The secretary will arrange this.

15. A discussion took place about translating the ESREA folder to Spanish and French. **It was decided that Antonio will translate to Spanish, Edmée to French and Wolfgang to German.**

16. The next steering committee meeting will take place in Seville, Sunday September 23-Monday 24.

Concerning the first meeting in 2008, Larissa has invited the SC to have meeting in Tallinn in March in relation to a Baltic conference on adult education. The possible difficulties/costs for the most members were discussed but it seemed possible. Wolfgang suggested having the March meeting in Dresden in relation to a conference held there by the German association for education (the conference is March 16-19), in which several ESREA SC members were likely to attend a workshop on European adult education. **A decision was made to have the first Steering Committee meeting 2008 in Dresden.** It was decided to discuss with Larissa if the SC meeting could be hosted in Tallin in the autumn 2008 - or alternatively to offer participation of ESREA SC members at a separate conference with the Baltic colleagues in the winter/spring. **Andreas to follow up.**

17. The meeting ended at 15.00.

Henning Salling Olesen

Andreas Fejes

Michal Bron

Appendix 1 - Budget for ESREA 2007

Incomes

Gift (transfer from Leiden)	22000
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(there is still around 3000 Euros in Leiden which will be used for some expenditures, and the rest will be transferred to Linköping in January 2008)

Membership fees	9000 (In 2006 it was 8400)
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31000

Expenses

Travel costs secretariat:	2500
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Costs for transition of the secretariat	500
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SC dinners:	900
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PhD bursaries:	3250
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PhD Prize	250
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Peter Lang books	3000
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Technical assistance book:	1200
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Website:	1000
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ESREA information material:	200
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12800

Result	18.200
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Transferred to reserves	-18.200
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Balance	0
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