

Minutes

EERA Network Seminar 2020

7 May 2020 – via Zoom

Attendees:

First name	Last name	Network / Role
Hannu	Heikkinen	NW 01. Professional Learning and Development
Christof	Nägele	NW 02. Vocational Education and Training (VETNET)
Nienke	Nieveen	NW 03. Curriculum Innovation
Fabio	Dovigo	NW 04. Inclusive Education
Michael	Jopling	NW 05. Children and Youth at Risk and Urban Education
Klaus	Rummler	NW 06. Open Learning: Media, Environments and Cultures
Lisa	Rosen	NW 07. Social Justice and Intercultural Education
Monica	Carlsson	NW 08. Health and Wellbeing Education
Martin	Goy	NW 09. Assessment, Evaluation, Testing and Measurement
ML	White	NW 10. Teacher Education Research
Heidi	Flavian	NW 11. Educational Improvement and Quality Assurance
Christoph	Schindler	NW 12. LISnet - Libraries and Information Science NW
Ian	Munday	NW 13. Philosophy of Education
Laurence	Lasselle	NW 14. Communities, Families, and Schooling in Educational Research
Kathrin	Otrell-Cass	NW 15. Research on Partnerships in Education
Ed	Smeets	NW 16. ICT in Education and Training
Iveta	Kestere	NW 17. Histories of Education
Rachel	Sandford	NW 18. Research in Sports Pedagogy
Camilla	Kirketerp Nielsen	NW 19. Ethnography
Carmen	Carmona Rodriguez	NW 20. Research in Innovative Intercultural Learning Environments
Christine	Teelken	NW 22. Research in Higher Education
Pete	Kelly	NW 23. Policy Studies and Politics of Education
Laura	Tuohilampi	NW 24. Mathematics Education Research
Ann	Quennerstedt	NW 25. Research on Children's Rights in Education
Pierre	Tulowitzki	NW 26. Educational Leadership
Florence	Ligozat	NW 27. Didactics - Learning and Teaching
Eszter	Neumann	NW 28. Sociologies of Education
Judit	Onsès	NW 29. Research on Arts Education
Stefan	Bengtsson	NW 30. Environmental and Sustainability Education Research, ESER
Irina	Usanova	NW 31. Led - NW on Language and Education
Michael	Göhlich	NW 32. Organizational Education
Branislava	Baranovic	NW 33. Gender and Education
Saneeya	Qureshi	Emerging Researchers' Group
Joe	O'Hara	EERA President
Petra	Grell	Networks' Representative on Council
Herbert	Altrichter	EERA Treasurer
Stephen	McKinney	ECER 2020 Glasgow LOC
George	Head	ECER 2020 Glasgow LOC
Angelika	Wegscheider	EERA Office
Doretta	Dow	EERA Office

Apologies: Maria Pacheco Figueiredo (EERA Secretary General)

1. Welcome and introductions

After a short and colorful “Wild Phase” involving everyone testing microphones, waving hello, admiring virtual backgrounds and expressing appreciation for the Zoom platform, EERA’s Networks Representative on Council, Petra Grell, welcomed everyone to the virtual Network Seminar and asked all attendees to introduce themselves. Link Convenors new to the Network Seminar this year: Laurence Lasselle (NW 14. Communities, Families, and Schooling in Educational Research), Kathrin Otrell-Cass (NW 15. Research on Partnerships in Education), Camilla Kirketerp Nielsen (NW 19. Ethnography), Judit Onsés (NW 29. Research on Arts Education)

2. EERA and ECER during Corona Pandemic

2.1 EERA and the cancelling of ECER 2020

(Slides 9 - 12)

2.1.1 Analysis and Decision Process

EERA President Joe O'Hara offered a short explanation of [EERA's governance](#) and explained the acronyms EXEC (EERA's Executive Board: President, Secretary General, Treasurer, Networks' Representative on Council) and LOC (Local Organising Committee: for ECER 2020 the local organisers in Glasgow). The link between Council, the Executive Board and the Networks is provided by the Networks' Representative on Council.

Joe related how beginning in February it became clear that we were in completely unprecedented circumstances and that the Covid-19 situation was clearly very serious. EXEC and LOC began to discuss how it might affect ECER and what impact it might have on EERA in general. You can read Joe's full statement on the ECER 2020 cancelation [here](#).

Joe also formally recognised the work of the ECER 2020 reviewers in these challenging times, especially the work done after ECER had been canceled. Joe shared two tweets expressing gratitude to EERA for the reviews they received (slides 14 – 15).

In response to a question asking if the ECER 2020 submissions will be transferred to ECER 2021 Joe responded that because each year ECER is organized around a specific theme, the submissions will not be transferred.

2.1.2 LOC Glasgow perspectives and wishes

George Head from ECER 2020 LOC Glasgow related that the Committee feels that it is very important, especially during these times, to keep the ECER 2020 theme “Educational Research (Re)connecting Communities” going. He explained that the decision to cancel ECER 2020 was not made easily, there were many factors to consider and the decision needed time. To make the decision, the situation had to become clear in Scotland and other countries, especially with regard to travel.

Stephen McKinney, ECER 2020 LOC, also expressed what a difficult decision canceling ECER was and how bitterly disappointed everyone was as they (LOC, the University of Glasgow, SERA (Scottish Educational Research Association) had been very excited about hosting ECER and had already put in so much work. Paramount in making the final decision was the safety of ECER participants. In response to a remark made that the decision to cancel “could have come sooner”, Stephen explained that Covid-19 happened a bit later in Scotland than in other places

and thus clarity on the local situation took a bit longer. Seen from today's standpoint, the decision was absolutely the right decision: teaching in Glasgow will be virtual through the end of August/into September (perhaps till the end of the year) and who can enter the buildings at the University of Glasgow will be restricted in August and September. Glasgow LOC will prepare a bid for a future ECER, supported by the University of Glasgow and SERA.

George related that when the decision was made to cancel, LOC also found it important to mark the conference dates. This would not be an attempt to replace ECER but they discussed ways the conference dates could be marked including perhaps Keynotes, contributions by Networks and the Emerging Researchers' Group. George and Stephen expressed appreciation that the reviews were completed and sent out and think this provides Networks with the possibility to use accepted proposals as they deem appropriate.

2.1.3 Clarifying the Impact on EERA, Finances, Council, LOC

Petra invited the EERA Treasurer, Herbert Altrichter, to report and asked him "What is the impact of the ECER cancelation. Will EERA survive?"

Herbert began with a short explanation of EERA finances. EERA has one single significant source of income, ECER. This money is used for payments to LOCs, the maintenance of the EERA Office, Network funding and other EERA activities. In 2013 Council decided to keep enough funds in savings to allow EERA to continue for one year even if a conference had to be canceled. EERA will thus be able to continue to support Network Projects and compensate travel. However, because the income from one year has been lost, it is not feasible to invest in external projects such as a virtual conference, instead we need to build on the opportunities available in Networks. All funds earmarked for Network Projects in 2020 which have not yet been used can be used to support Networks' ideas on how to connect. The amount open is €40,000.

Long-term perspectives: No one can predict when normalcy will return or indeed what normal will be, but there are signposts. If ECER 2021 can take place normally, there will be no financial restrictions on Network Funding etc. However, if ECER 2021 is canceled or has to be smaller, all expenses associated with EERA will have to be reconsidered.

In response to the question of how long it would take to build the financial buffer back up, Herbert responded that it depends on how many people attend the next conference so it is not easy to predict. He repeated that while the loss of income for one year is a significant challenge, EERA has the resources to carry this loss. However if there were to be a loss of income for a second year there would have to be some restrictions on expenditure.

Appreciation for Herbert's transparent report and the foresight of EERA Council in building up a financial buffer was expressed.

2.2 ECER 2020 submissions and reviewing process

(Slides 20 - 24)

Office Manager Angelika Wegscheider reported that ECER 2020 would have been a large gathering, noting that the Emerging Researchers' Group in particular continues to grow. Angelika explained that as it became clear toward the end of the reviewing period that ECER 2020 would have to be canceled, the Link Convenors were given the option of setting a final status with only one review submitted. Most Networks opted to ask their reviewers to finish the second reviews.

Angelika also shared an example of the type of feedback EERA Office received after the review results were sent out: “Dear Organisers, I would like to thank you for the generosity of time and the professionalism with which the reviews have been carried out and shared with us. I can only hope that, in the future, we will be able to continue the dialogue around our submissions - even if in a virtual setting. Thank you again, and warmest wishes to you all.”

2.3 Un-conferencing: Strengthening Networks

(Slides 25 - 27)

Christof Nägele, Link Convenor of NW 02. Vocational Education and Training (VETNET), said people, especially young people, need more opportunities to publish. VETNET has offered authors who submitted to their network for ECER 2020 4 options: Get your proposal published in the VETNET ECER proceedings; Add a video at your choice; Move your paper to the VETNET Conference Crossing Boundaries; Re-submit your proposal to the ECER 20201 You can find more information on the [VETNET website](#) (see slide 26).

Klaus Rummler, Link Convenor of NW 06. Open Learning: Media. Environments and Cultures, predicted that everyone will soon be fed up with Zoom. NW 06 is considering a special issue in an open access journal, online opportunities for network sessions and publishing posters in some format and more (see slide 27).

In response to a question regarding how Networks should deal with Network management, electing new Link Convenors etc, Petra replied that Network Procedure are published at the [Networks Website](#) and Network Regulations in the [General Regulations](#). There are no strict rules on how to handle elections of new link convenors when there is no gathering, but the standard rules should give guidance enough as these regulations do incorporate some flexibility. For more on this topic see *6.1 Network Management Issues* below.

3. Working Groups on Network Ideas

The working groups were introduced. Groups were asked to analyse the current situation, evaluate presented ideas and discuss appropriate next steps. Each group was asked to document the main aspects of their discussion in an etherpad:

- (1) Analysis: Current situation in each network (communication, collaboration, community)
- (2) Evaluation: Practicability and benefits of ideas (E.g. Organising a special issue based on (a selection of) ECER submissions or a kind of virtual platform or event (asynchronous / synchronous))
- (3) Next steps: Evaluating resources that could be developed further

4. Plenum: Outcome Working Groups

4.1 Oral Report Group A: Christine, Christof, Fabio, ML, Saneeya

The group reported that one network (NW 02) shared in more detail their plans and procedures, including a publication of proceedings. Other Networks' discussions were focused on questions.

4.2 Notes from Working Group A

1. Current Situation

Many submissions each, around 200 each, resources, fewer people to support, technical support, VetNet: no interest in running an online conference, don't know how to share the screen, but still it takes time to get used to online services.

NW10 received the usual number of submissions. Most people were able to complete their

reviews in the first round. Convenor group recognise the need to maintain EERA community as well as recognise challenges related to resources - time, organisation, equity, technology of any online event(s). Difficult to ask reviewers to complete further reviews.

Is consistency an issue?

2. Ideas:

- a. rough estimation of about xx people
- b. shorter presentations, 4 parallel session, one hour, about 3 half days
- c. make sure it takes not too long, cannot stay too long
- d. alternative suggestion: very short presentation of only 7 minutes, parallel sessions, but requires training and moderation
- e. nw 22: find out what the submitters want/thing, and organise along the subthemes in a rather strict mode/format, co-convenors can moderate the online meetings
- f. nw 10: needs: organisation, technology, ...guidance from EERA, consistent.

Can the office support a online NW meeting by allowing us access the EERA Zoom account so that we could hold a Zoom meeting?

videos of papers?

3. Next steps:

1) VetNet decided to skip the online conference, can handle proceedings conference in April 2021 instead, papers have very good downloads, want to continue with that, continue to preserve the special nature of VetNet.

2) what kind of uniformity does EERA require? or is it up to the networks to decide what and how they offer?

what would special issue look like?

problems with videos - would everyone be able to access technology

What about the recognition of membership? Perhaps a symbolic fee of about 10 Euro

4.3 Oral Report Group B: Klaus, Ann, Carmen, Heidi, Laura

The group reported several ideas and questions. Issues were raised including using conftool to contact people and adhering to GDPR regulations

4.4 Notes from Working Group B

1. Current Situation

Why would we attend ECER and what will we lose?

- - Feedback
- - Showing off
- - How could be give credits to the work that has already been done
- Accepted authors that are not network members have no contact with network - how keep contact with those?

2. Ideas:

- Platform(s) for collaboration / publication
- use conftool to contact authors, to send information
- special issue publications
- some network discuss digital alternatives - but hesitation and some problems

Publications instead of (un-/non-)conferencing

- Emerald poses opportunities for publishing / open access
- make use of our own open access structures
- upload posters to conftool as files, re-use them, make them commentable
- dedicated platform for comments, feedback and exchange

Questions

- continue to plan a virtual/fictional programme
- What happens to this year's abstracts on <https://eera-ecer.de/ecer-programmes/>

- How do we have a network meeting?

3. Next steps:

4.5 Oral Report Group C: Katrin, Christoph, Iveta, Judit, Michael (NW32), Rachel

This group reported that all were very disappointed ECER had to be canceled as Networks had been working very well. Ideas included joint activities (and the question of how to connect submitters), how EERA can support individual activities, can Networks act independently similar to special calls, if the EERA brand can be used for outside activities, can the EERA website be used to host an activity, if virtual activities will take place, would they be during the original ECER timeframe, what to do about Honorary Network Memberships and how to connect with Glasgow groups.

4.6 Notes from Working Group C

1. Current Situation: NW32, btw 40-50 submissions about the same as usual, Q? How do we deal with accepted submissions that belong to the Network discourse?

NW15 - book project, virtual meetings planned for August hopefully a physical meeting in Feb 21

NW18 - since 2012, highest submission this year, sad that conference won't go ahead also since ECER is in a bit of a competition with other conferences, maybe coffee and chat sessions, maybe a possibility to connect to some other networks, Q? what do we do with joint sessions

NW17 - Also sad conf is cancelled, had 36 submissions (growing trend), NW also expanded geographically, NW became very international, maybe organise online sessions (i.e. concept of feedback; impact of COVID crisis -for example because of closing of libraries; commenting proposals that have been submitted - maybe pick up idea of the use of videos)

NW29 - biggest issue how to deal with cancelled conference, maybe an online publication, how to network with other NWs?

What about honorary memberships? Keynotes

added info afterwards: NW 12: no communication yet.

2. Ideas:

Call EERJ - perhaps to encourage people who have connected topics

Maybe EERA should encourage networks to connect

Maybe thematic online sessions

Give networks more opportunities to act a bit more independently from the 'mother' EERA group, can we publish as EERA + specific NW or NWs

Specialist sessions - ie local organisers, maybe do an online version of that seminar to support the local context, nice to get EERA support doing this

Support from the EERA board, through for example symbolic things, being able to refer back to EERA, when getting in touch with journals

Facilitation of cross-networking maybe through webinars, perhaps EERA could host /post this information, give us all a platform to work together

Virtual meetings should stick to the original ECER timing

3. Next steps:

What do you think about our ideas??

4.7 Oral Report Group D: Ian, Branislava, Ed, Michael (NW05), Monica, Nienke

This group reported a combination of questions and ideas. NW33 asked if it would be possible for their two panels to take place in some format. The Psychoanalysis subgroup of NW 13 wants to organise some kind of online gathering. There was discussion about ideas including the possibility of a "flipped conference" where people would read the papers before and then discuss them live, special issues to honor the ECER 2020 theme, videos (although people are

becoming very “zoomed-out”). A question was if it is necessary to have consistency amongst Networks or can, for example, big Networks do different activities than small Networks.

Petra replied that Networks can host different activities as smaller and larger Networks have different challenges. Petra reminded Networks to use her to make connections between Networks. Office will create an online survey to collect ideas.

4.8 Notes from Working Group D

1. Current Situation

NW33 has 57 submissions. For all of them the final status was set up. People keep asking what will happen with their presentations. We also have two panels. Is there any possibility to have them in person somewhere? They are on LGBT+ and gender in higher education. Is any network interested in collaboration regarding these panels? I do not have any connection except this one.

NW5 - no communication from network members, suspect proceedings-type publication will be more popular than (another) online conference but open to ideas/ consulting network members.

NW8 - no communication yet, but think I will go forward with the idea of proceedings publishing, and reach out to the network and ask if there is interest in doing a special issue, reaching out to the 'nw journal'

Psychoanalysis nested in network 13 - wants to hold own conference

NW3 - no communication yet, new ideas are born here. Bring these back to the network.

NW16 - No communication yet. Whether potential participants want to publish and in what journal is up to them.

2. Ideas:

- Flipped conferences? Issue of audience -potential participants: can we connect to them through conftool?
- Publishing more attractive for completed research
- Videos but danger of too many talking heads -maybe together with a poster?
- Have online meetings for psychoanalysis
- what would special issue look like
- Use 2020 conference theme?
- Issues around consistency

3. Next steps:

Need to discuss on network by network basis

EERA org contact to journals

4.9 Oral Report Group E: Florence, Camilla, Eszter, Irina, Lisa, Martin

This group reported their biggest question and concern was how to deal with the ECER 2020 accepted papers. They asked if or how these can be transferred to ECER 2021. Is there a way to acknowledge the work that had already been done by the reviewers this year? They discussed several ideas, including “extended papers”. They assume that there will be many more papers submitted to ECER 2021.

4.10 Notes from Working Group E

1. Current Situation

NW19: Camilla new LC, communication difficult due to busy tasks, conference planned in June, but cancelled too - feel like in a vacuum – going to contact all convenors to set up more meetings - methodological papers, symposia and workshop that we would like to have - what can be arranged for them ?

NW7: Lisa over 100 proposal , reviewing process was fine, plan a convenor zoom meeting to discuss network develop and relationships - we had a joint special call with NW 17, 19 proposals for this call - feel sorry for them, and want to have them in ECER 2021 - colleagues striving to get some funding for network (exchange between 4 Eu uni)

NW31: Irina - people understand that it is difficult - participant are writing now - a network project funded this year and was connected to ECER 2020 - what do we do with this money - a lot of paper about our special call - can we move it to next year ?

NW2 : Eszter - we received many proposals about nationalism and populism - we asked the writers of the call to submit a special issue proposal for EERJ - we planned a summer school, but it will be postponed - Link convenor Paolo involved in EERJ editorial board, he wants to pass on, so we have a problem about rules of election of new LC

NW9: Martin - we have good number of papers - people are uncertain if they are accepted to ECER 2021, what it means to resubmit - if the reviews are positive, don't do the work again - but not for all of course. But reinvest the work done, How to deal with the submissions for 2021? the numbers, if we transfer papers, then we will receive an extra number of paper to manage (double the size?) - subsidiarity principle, the NW could choose their solution? we will find our own way, but need a general line. how to avoid problematic expectation from the authors?

NW 27: usual number of submissions, but same questions as before + convenors elections, in order to renew the team

2. Ideas:

- having proceeding published (with abstract? with more extended paper? with a short video intro) -

- transfer symposium, workshop to 2021 without reviews (but not single paper and poster) - in larger groups, some papers may fall apart?

- if we go for publication, based on abstracts, then we cannot accept them again in 2021

- if proceeding with extended papers, then a further reviewing is needed

3. Next steps:

4.11 Oral Report Group F: Pete, Hannu, Laurence, Pierre, Stefan

This group reported that all Networks were pleased with the number of submissions to ECER 2020. Their main focus was on ECER 2021 and potential problems with reviewing. They outlined a worst-case scenario: an accepted paper to ECER 2020 is re-submitted to ECER 2021 and rejected. To avoid this, they asked if it is possible to add a box in conftool "This proposal was submitted to ECER 2020" so that the Link Convenors can make sure the reviews are consistent. Additional questions were about acknowledging reviewers: Is there a way to make reviewers more visible? Would it be possible to give an award to the faithful reviewers, and to have them be publicly recognised? Is it possible to identify which reviewers have been active over the years through conftool?

4.12 Notes from Working Group F

1. Current Situation

NW23: approx 100 papers and 20 symposia it will be very difficult to do something online. Maybe advise to update paper and to present next year instead. Not sure what to do next and to handle logistics. Interested in what other networks in similar size are doing and organizing. Also the question of choosing among all submissions.

NW 26: 94 accepted submissions. 9 of those symposia. Reviewers in the network: 22. Feedback on the reviews positive. Feedback now coming in from the co-convenors. Sentiment at the moment, if there is no ECER then maybe wait until next year. No expectations and desire to have a online conference instead. The social and networking aspects are difficult to simulate or reproduce online. Next steps: transparency towards next year. If not possible next year than develop a big and solid solution for all the NWs.

NW 14: 110 submissions, 4 or 5 symposia, 10 reviewers. The theme fitted the NW very well. Regular newsletter but now not too much happening. We need to talk to the co-convenors to decide next step. Importance to know the procedure for next link convenor. Important to get new reviewers. So many subthemes to that there is a great variety of need for reviewers. Not ready to something not fully developed and high quality. Risk of disappointing people and to waste efforts on accepted papers.

NW 30: 117 submissions over 100 accepted, challenges with reviewing, 27 reviewers, convenors have had an online meeting, special call on activism in education in times of crisis. Discussions of doing an NW specific online meeting to let a number of papers presented online.

NW 1: 130 paper submissions plus 9 symposia. total 146 papers. 50 reviewers in the beginning this year very difficult to find reviewers. Convenors had to do a lot of reviewing. 7 convenors in the network - good division of work in the team. There is no plan b for the conference. The focus is on next year's ECER. Very good proposals for symposia this year, that aiming for book proposals. They might fit into Geneva.

General ideas and next steps:

Reviewing - how to maintain reviewers during times of greater work challenges/corona and normally :). How to make sure that people think that it is worth the effort if they expect that the conference might be cancelled.

- How can reviewers be better recognized for their effort (not only reception), making the contribution more visible during and after the conference. Rewards?
- Re-elections of Link convenors: using existing convenors? Reward for reviewers' long-time contribution: 100 paper reviewed papers ... different tiers of recognition. Commitments to the network over years - the person would be rewarded officially and publicly. Honor the long-standing members in different forms.
- Using conftool to get people to attend the NW meeting online. to invite reviewers and hold elections.

2. Ideas:

3. Next steps:

4.13 Discussion

Michael indicated that many working groups reported that they would like to bring the ECER 2020 submissions to ECER 2021. It is understood that each ECER has a new theme but some debates continue from year to next year. He proposed to obtain options of how the 2020 submissions can be brought to 2021.

It is clear to everyone that this is a complex situation. Joe highlighted that beyond the conference theme, EERA focusses on – as expressed in EERA's mission statement – high quality educational research for the benefit of education and society.

5. Combining EERA's and Networks' Strategies

5.1 Current and Future EERA Strategies

(Slides 34 – 43)

Joe reported that while ECER is the main EERA activity, it is not the only activity.

5.1.1 Keynotes

There was a new procedure this year for choosing keynotes for ECER 2021 which involved asking for keynote recommendations from the Networks. Petra received six recommendations and all six were brought to the EXEC meeting and discussed. (If there had been many more recommendations, she would have organised an online meeting to narrow the selection). For

the next conference this system of recommending keynotes will be slightly refined. Joe welcomed and appreciated the addition of the Networks' input to the procedure.

For the list of ECER 2021 Keynote speakers see slide 36 or the [EERA website](#).

5.1.2 EERA Summer School - EERSS

EERSS 2020 "Beyond the Basics in Educational Research Methodology: Research ethics in educational research" in Jyväskylä, Finland had to be postponed and will take place 14 – 18 June 2021 in Jyväskylä.

EERA welcomes sponsors for EERSS 2022 and 2023. The EERA Summer Schools have a strong tradition of supporting Emerging Researchers. Details on hosting an EERA Summer School can be found on the [EERA Website](#).

5.1.3 Transdisciplinary Issues in Educational Research

(Slide 38)

Dennis Beach asks the question "How can EERA find a way to bring research to a wider audience?" There are currently seven new book titles in process, these are coming from individual Networks, joint Networks and Networks working with external associations.

5.1.4 European Educational Research Journal – EERJ

EERJ has issued a special [Open Call for Papers "Education in Europe and the COVID-19 Pandemic"](#). Perhaps Networks would like to organise submissions?

5.1.5 EERA Blog

(Slide 40)

The EERA Blog working group has met several times to develop editorial and submission guidelines. This raises questions including who is the intended audience, what subjects are they interested in.

Joe reported that EERA is hoping to launch the blog around the ECER 2020 dates. The blog may serve as an additional platform on which Networks can share information. National Associations have shown interest in the blog.

5.1.6 World Education Research Association – WERA

(Slide 41)

WERA will host what is being referred to as "2020 + 1". This means that WERA intends to bring ideas and structure from this year into next year.

5.1.7 Initiative for Science in Europe – ISE

(Slide 42)

ISE provides a broadly-based focus on Europe, there has been a lot of recent activity including a [letter writing campaign](#). [EERA is very involved in these activities](#), bringing educational research into group discussions. This provides for "interesting conversations".

5.1.8 European Alliance for the Social Sciences and the Humanities – EASSH

(Slide 43)

Former EERA President Theo Wubbels was very active in the founding of [EASSH](#) and EERA continues this involvement today.

EASSH has joined the [World Pandemic Research Network \(WPRN\)](#) as a partner in order to assess the societal and human impacts of Covid-19. EERA Networks and National Associations are invited to record details of any research projects broadly relating to the current crisis on the WPRN website.

[A SHAPE-ID webinar](#) "Interdisciplinarity in Times of Crisis: Why the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Matter" was held on 14 May.

5.2 Applying for Network Funding

5.2.1 New Deadline for Network Funding: 20 June 2020

Petra asked for deadline suggestions and the 20 June was agreed upon.

5.2.2 When applying for Network Funding, Petra requests that you...

- Please consult the [EERA General Regulations](#)
- Please read the [Network Funding](#) information on the EERA website.

Consulting these two sources when making your application will make the process smoother and easier.

5.2.3 ECER 2020 Cancellation and Applications for Network Funding

Petra requests that Networks please inform her of any plans for marking the ECER theme and for potential network funding applications linked to this, Office will send out an online query for developing an overview on network activities.

Networks should feel free to organise cross-Network activities.

In response to a question as to whether a Network can now send a third funding application, Petra responded that there has not yet been a decision made on some open network funding projects. But she thinks that it will be possible to adapt an application for an activity which, due to the current situation, could not take place but this has not yet been discussed with EXEC.

Angelika explained that due to the situation, new applications which were meant to be decided on in March have not been discussed yet.

All Networks which have submitted applications will be contacted in due course.

6. Networks' Recommendations

6.1 Network Management Issues

Several Networks have similar questions regarding how to elect new Link Convenors and Convenors this year as there will be no Network Meeting at ECER. Ideas on how to do this included having an online meeting and vote as well as not having an online vote as the formal requirements cannot be met in that format and instead to prolong the position for a year. Some networks urgently need new Link Convenors/Convenors and really want to find a way to elect them this year in order to be ready for 2021.

It was suggested that as the importance of these elections differs this year from Network to Network, it would be a good idea to allow those Networks which do need the election this year to do it virtually whereas the others could wait till the Network Meeting at ECER 2021.

Joe commented that EERA is a rule-based association and there are different processes which must be followed at the same time the rules do allow for some flexibility as long as the principles behind the rules are followed.

Petra suggested that it is also possible to make a preliminary decision *now*, which will be confirmed next year. This might be the most appropriate route to take given that as Networks do not have members, it is assumed that those attending the Network Meetings at ECERs are the members.

Petra added that if you are unsure as to what is allowed, please feel free to contact her.

7. AOB

- Several Link Convenors asked for a more specific framework regarding decision-making in Networks. Petra referenced again that many of these guidelines can be found in the General Regulations
- It was requested that EXEC respond to the questions/suggestions raised during the seminar in a timely fashion as Networks will have to start organising cancellation-related activities soon.
- Several Networks asked again specifically for decisions regarding how to deal with ECER 2020 submissions in 2021.
- Saneeya Qureshi, Link Convenor of the Emerging Researchers' Group, expressed her sincere thanks to all ERG reviewers and gave an update on the ERC 2019 Best Paper Award. She explained that again this year, the Best Paper authors will be given the option of receiving additional mentoring from an academic within the specialised EERA network they chose and informed the Link Convenors that she may approach them with such requests.

8. Reminders and Farewell

The deadline to [apply for Network Funding](#) is 20 June 2020. The meeting was adjourned punctually at 15:30.