

Nordic Educational Research Association (NERA)/ Nordisk förening för pedagogiska forskning (NFPPF)

Outline March 2th 2007

The Board's report 2006

The board has, as usual, been working with the main tasks NERA/NFPPF, the annual *congress*, the *Journal Nordisk Pedagogik* and the *networks* within the overall aim of developing educational research in Nordic countries.

The Board as elected at the annual meeting in March 2006:

Denmark:	Ordinary:	John Krejsler Lejf Moos
	Deputy:	Charlotte Palludan
Finland:	Ordinary:	Sven-Erik Hansén Göran Björk
	Deputy:	Sirpa Lappalainen
Iceland:	Ordinary:	Rahnildur Bjarnadóttir
	Deputy:	Gyda Johannsdóttir
Norway:	Ordinary:	Kirsten Hofgaard Lycke Hans Petter Ulleberg
	Deputy:	Harald Thuen
Sweden:	Ordinary:	Moira von Wright Elisabet Örn
	Deputy:	Solveig Hägglund
Cashier:		Tone Dyrdal Solbrekke
Auditors:	Ordinary:	As trid Birgitte Eggen(Norway)
	Deputy:	Nina Volckmar (Norway)

The following persons were elected to the nominating committee:

Denmark:	Niels Kryger Lotte Rahbek Schou, chair
Finland:	Reijo Byman, Marjatta Kalliala
Iceland:	Ólafur Proppé Allyson Macdonald
Norway:	Stein Laugerud Kirsten Stien
Sweden:	Ingrid Carlgren Elinor Edvardsson Stiwne

The board will express its cordial appreciation to the cashier, the auditors and the nominating committee for an excellent job for the good of NERA.

Members and administration

On the December 31st 2005 the association had 846 members. In the end of the year (December 31st 2006) the number of members was 916 private members, xx institution members, xx student members xx family members, and 11 board members). The number has also this year drastically increased and is far above what it used to be a few years ago. The expanding trend has lasted during the last few years and started to rise particularly from the Reykjavik congress 2004.

The membership registration was during the Örebro congress like the previous year congress in Oslo, done as part of the congress registration and the invoice has been handled by the congress organizer and sent to the publisher. The principles the board has been formulating (listed later) concerning the registration routines have shown to be appropriate and future congress organizers are recommended to follow them. The new routines explain part of the increase of the number of members.

Nordisk Pedagogik/Nordic Educational Research

Since 1986 Universitetsforlaget, Oslo, publishes the journal and since 1991 the Department of Education, University of Gothenburg, houses its editorial office. So far this model has been a well functioning way of organizing the journal.

Biörn Hasselgren has continued as editorial chef and the board of NERA has functioned as the editorial board. The board has met twice during the year, in connection with the congress in March and in August.

The number of subscribers has increased and passed thousand subscribers during 2005 (1.070). This is an essential increase compared to the number (868) of the previous year. During 2006 the number of subscribers had further increased and reached 1.164. The economy of the year has been positive, meaning no losses. This is due to the stably increasing number of subscribers and of financial support. *Nordisk Pedagogik* was in 2005 evaluated by NOP-S (Nordic Board for Periodicals in the Humanities and Social Sciences) and received a very positive judgement about the quality. As a result the journal has got financial support from NOP-HS 8 039 € per year for three years 2006-2008.

Four issues and 414 pages were published in 2005 and four issues and 375 pages 2006.

Altogether 71 manuscripts were sent in to the journal for publication. (43 year 2005 and 62 year 2004).

A separate detailed annual report concerning *Nordisk Pedagogik* is attached as an appendix.

The networks

The major way of organizing congress programs and other activities within the association is by research networks. The board has intensified the work with the networks during the last years.

Hans Petter Ulleberg has been the responsible network coordinator. He has during the year met the all coordinators during the congress and discussed ways of further developing the networks. He has also asked the conveners to control the NERA homepage about all information concerning the networks.

The policy document for networks has been further refined, presented for the Annual meeting and is available on the web site.

The network coordinator has also provided the Örebro-congress committee with information from networks about questions concerning the structuring of the congress.

NERA has currently the following networks and coordinators:

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Adult Learning - Inside and Outside Institutions

Contact: Eva Andersson (www.ped.gu.se/personal/eva.andersson)

Arts, Cultures and Education

Contact: Elisabeth Malmström (elisabet.malmstrom@staff.hkr.se)

Homepage: www.vasa.abo.fi/users/alostern/arts

Early Childhood Research

Contact: Anders Arnqvist (anders.arnqvist@kau.se)

Classroom Research and Ethnographic Studies

Contact: Cathrin Martin (Cathrin.Martin@ped.uu.se) - fungerer dette år for
Fritjof Sahlström (fritjof.sahlstrom@ped.uu.se)

Curriculum Research

Contact: Tomas Englund (tomas.englund@pi.oru.se)

Educational Leadership

Contact: Kasper Kofod (kako@dpu.dk)

Empirical Research on Value Issues in Education

Contact: Robert Thornberg robth@ibv.liu.se

Gender and Education

Contact: Elisabet Öhrn <http://www.adm.hb.se/~eoh/>

General Didactic

Contact: Silwa Claesson (silwa.claesson@ped.gu.se)

Health Care Pedagogics

Contact: Ewa Pilhammar (ewa.pilhammar@fhs.gu.se)

Higher Education

Contact: Åsa Lindberg-Sand (Asa.Lindberg-Sand@pedagog.lu.se)

Historical Research

Contact: Boel Englund (boel.englund@lhs.se)

Inclusive Education

Contact: Joel Kivirauma (joel.kivirauma@utu.fi)

It & Education

Contact: Michael Dal (michael@khi.is)

Multi Cultural Educational Research

Contact: Joron Pihl (joron.pihl@lu.hio.no)

Nordic Network for Literacy Research

Contact: Lars Holm (larsh@dpu.dk)

Philosophy of Education

Contact: Jan Bengtsson (jan.bengtsson@PED.GU.SE)

Physical Education, Sport and Leisure Studies

Contact: Håkan Larsson (hakan.larsson@lhs.se)

Research on Health Education

Contact: Ulf Olsson (ulf.olsson@lhs.se)

Research on Teacher Education

Contact: Göran Brante (goran.brante@bet.hkr.se)

Rural Education

Contact: Andrew Kristiansen (andrew.kristiansen@hitos.no)

School - Home - Cooperation (Nornape)

Contact: Margaretha Kristoffersson margaretha.kristoffersson@pedag.umu.se

School Development

Contact: Ulf Blossing (ulf.l.blossing@kau.se)

Sociology of Education

Contact: Risto Rinne (rinne@utu.fi)

Teachers' work and lives

Contact: Per Lindqvist (per.lindqvist@hik.se)

The board's network

This is for the board's communication

Vocational Education and Training

Contact: Peter Koudahl koudahl@dpu.dk

Youth Research

Contact: Joanna Giota (joanna.giota@ped.gu.se)

Accepted funding for network activities 44 195 NOK. There has been a discrepancy between applications for network activities and the principles for financial support of the networks. The board has followed the principle of supporting only established networks.

Applications for two new networks have been sent in during the late fall. The applications will be discussed and decided upon during the board meeting in March meeting in 2007.

The Congress in Örebro

Year 2006 the congress was organized in Sweden by the University of Örebro 9-11 March. The theme was *Education widens Democracy*. The congress attracted a large number of paying delegates

NFPF/NERA members	361
Non-members	75
Student-members	178
Student non-members	35
Altogether	649 paying participants.

The number of papers reached [?? but ??] withdrawn abstracts compared to 480 but xx withdrawn abstracts the previous year.

The congress was evaluated excellent and successful in terms of arrangements and the program, and the key-note speakers represented high international quality.

NERA/NFPF has received 74 750NOK according to the contract with the congress organizers.

The work of the board according to the plan for 2006

The board and its officers: The board was re-elected except from Gorm Hansbøl who wanted to resign. He was replaced by John Krejsler. Sven-Erik Hansén was re-elected as president of the NERA, Leif Moos elected as vice-president, Göran Björk as secretary, and Tone Dyrdal Solbrekke re-elected as treasurer.

Three board meetings were held: March 9, 12 and August 19-20. March meetings were held in connection with the Örebro-congress and the August meeting on the 2006 congress venue Örebro. Between the meetings the board has communicated and made per capsulam decisions through e-mails.

The board has beside described activities paid special attention to following issues:

1. Increasing the number of members:

In order to keep and even more increase the number of members and to facilitate registration the same kind of various measures as the previous year have been discussed and the following issues have been taken:

1. The registration of new members has been done as part of the congress registration and the invoice has been handled by the congress organizer. The list of new members has been collected by the congress organizer and sent to the publisher.
2. Already registered members have paid their membership fees directly to the publisher (in November).
3. On the bill to all members (sent in November) a text informed about the deadline of payment and possibilities to get reduction on the congress fee.
4. Like earlier the publisher has done a booklet which has been distributed during the Fall 2006.
5. A list of participants containing addresses will be sent by the organizer to the publisher after the congress.

2. Networks:

In addition to what already has been reported measures have been taken to elaborate the web site communication between conveners and network members. The relationship between the networks and the congresses organizing committees has continuously to be further elaborated concerning the web-site, and particularly the question of what kind of information should be included and under whose responsibility.

3. PhD-students:

During the Örebro congress a reception was arranged for PhD students. The network coordinator Hans Petter Ulleberg was in charge as representative for the association. A report from the gathering was prepared (Appendix 2). The same kind of reception will be arranged at the Turku-congress.

4. Web-site:

The board has continued renewing the web-site during the year. The ambition has been to overcome the earlier technical and communicative problems. The web-site has been concentrated to one place and measures have been taken to facilitate particularly network convenors to master their own network pages and thus the communication within the networks. Janus Moos from Denmark has been engaged to update and administer the homepage.

5. Policy for the future:

A future group within the board has prepared a working paper about future issues. The aim has been to work out a policy for the future of the association in relation to new conditions, particularly concerning publication and economy. The paper was discussed during the August meeting 2006. (Appendix)

6. International activities:

- *Member organization in EERA:* NERA has continued to have the board member Leif Moos the representative in the EERA board. He has continually informed the board about EERA meetings.
- *Affiliation of NERA to AERA:* NERA has been affiliated to AERA. NERA and thus received an opportunity to arrange a symposium at AERA congress 2007. This possibility was announced to NERA networks and the board selected one of the topics which met the stated criteria.
- *European database on research dissemination in association with EERA:* A consortium (EEQI: European Educational Research Quality Index) including learned societies (EERA and others), universities, research labs, computing centres, scientific publishers and commercial partners from 17 European Countries has been formed and is in the progress of producing a proposal for EU funding.
- *Future group and international activities:* The future group has also been dealing with policy matters related to the association's engagement in international activities.

7. Nordisk Pedagogik:

The work making Nordisk Pedagogik even more public through maintaining the expansion of the number of pages has continued. Gorm Hansbøl, has functioned as referee coordinator. A discussion, initiated by the Publisher has started about possible publishing of Nordisk Pedagogik on the net, has started.

8. Ahlström Award:

Ingrid Carlgren and Gunnar Handal have been appointed to the Ahlström Award jury during 2006.

Will be announced during the congress.

A new jury will be appointed 2008.

9. Further elaboration of the relations between the networks and the congresses organizing committees:

The ongoing discussion between the board and the organizing congress committee has contributed to substantial clarifications.

- One important issue, started in connection with the Oslo congress, is the fact that the registration of new members has been done as part of the congress registration and the invoice will be handled by congress organizer.
- Another effort has been to bring clarification for local congress organizers about structuring the congress program. The paper *Nordic Educational Research Association [NERA] policy on keynotes, symposia, paper sessions, roundtables, poster sessions and workshops* has been further developed and sent to the local organizing committee at the University of Turku.
- A third way of improving the relationship is the exhaustive feed back and statistics produced by the local organizing committees of the congresses.

Future congresses:

Denmark Pedagogical University has accepted to arrange the congress 2008 and the contract has been signed 2006.

The congress 2009 will be held in Norway and negotiations with NTNU are going on.

Concluding remarks:

The year 2006 has generally been a stable and successful year. The economy is in good shape, the congresses have expanded and the interest in publishing in Nordisk Pedagogik has essentially increased.

On the other hand the board faces new challenges related to the future of the association in relation to new conditions, especially concerning publication, and new tasks, like the continuous administration of the web-site, requiring economical resources. A future group within the board has been established, and the discussion about future issues continues.

In addition to the reported activities the board has, as usual, spent time on preparing for the annual meeting.

For the board

Sven-Erik Hansén
President of NERA/NFPF