

NERA/NFPF Board Report for 2016

1. General remarks

The board has been working on the NERA/NFPF's main tasks: The annual congress, the journal and the networks within the overall aim of developing educational research in the Nordic countries. The Board wants to express its cordial appreciation to the cashier and the auditors for an excellent job for the good of NERA/NFPF.

2. The Board as elected at the general Assembly in Helsinki 2016

Norway: Elisabeth Bjørnstad, Gry Paulgaard
Deputy member: Ketil Knutsen

Denmark: John Benedicto Krejsler, Christian Ydesen
Deputy member: Karen Ida Dannesboe

Finland: Sirpa Lappalainen, Anna Slotte
Deputy member: Satu Perälä-Littunen

Iceland: Gestur Gudmundsson
Deputy member: Thuridur Johannsdottir

Sweden Eva Hultin, Robert Thornberg
Deputy member: Linda Rönnberg

Auditors : Daniel Petterson, Gunnar Engvik

Election committee:

Norway Rachel Jakhelln; Deputy member: Britt Oda Fosse

Denmark Kirsten Elisa Petersen; Deputy member: Søren Langager

Finland Janne Varjo; Deputy member: Joel Kivirauma

Iceland Kristin Jonsdottir

Sweden Stina Hallsén; Deputy member: Johan Liljestränd

3. Members and administration

In 2016 (2015) NERA had 573 (553) members, including 438 private, 9 (9) board members, 111 (95) students, 14 (11) departments.

4. The Congress in Helsinki

The congress in Helsinki had 670 people attending. The congress was held at the University of Helsinki, and the theme was Social justice, equality and solidarity in education? In a feedback survey the attendees gave following scores about the conference.

On a scale of 1 to 5, how would you rate the following (5 is excellent, 1 is poor)?

| | mean |
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| Your overall satisfaction with the congress: | 3,9 |
| Congress facilities: | 4,0 |
| Welcome reception (Wednesday 9 March): | 3,8 |
| Congress dinner (Thursday 10 March): | 3,7 |
| Network meeting: | 3,4 |
| Format of the congress: | 3,8 |
| Quality and relevance of the paper sessions: | 3,7 |
| Quality and relevance of the keynote lectures: | 3,9 |
| Quality and relevance of the symposia: | 3,9 |
| Quality and relevance of the panel discussion: | 3,7 |
| Abstract submission system: | 4,1 |
| Congress registration: | 4,3 |

The board has discussed the evaluation and emphasized the importance of doing the evaluations during the last day of the conference. The board is concerned about the low score of the network meeting and will discuss how to address the issue.

5. The work of the Board according to the Board plan for 2016

The Board has continued to work on NERA's main tasks: The annual congress, the journal and the networks, within the overall aim of developing the quality of educational research in the Nordic countries.

- The new templates for contract and guidelines for arranging conferences were finalized and have been used.
- The work with developing the publication of the journal continues within the working group.
- NERA has supported networks as following: Network 22, Posthumanistic and Poststructuralist Pedagogical Research, with 19 000 NOK for organising a pre-conference with the theme "The material conditions for education, pedagogy and learning"; Network 16, The Nordic Society for Philosophy of Education

with 18 000 NOK for organising a pre-conference research seminar on "Bildung in contemporary societies" in Copenhagen in March 2017 and Network 19, Teachers' work and education with 13 000 NOK for organising a conference with the theme "Quantity and/or Quality – Challenges and Possibilities in Teachers' Work and Education" in November 2016. The conference was later on cancelled and the grants was returned to NERA.

- NERA has chosen a group to represent NERA at the AERA congress (American Educational Research Association). Two networks had sent proposal for arranging a symposium by AERA: 1) Network 5, The Curriculum research network, with the symposia "Post-Nationalism and Cosmopolitanism: Implications for Leadership and Curriculum Making", the proposal sent by Prof. Michael Uljens, Åbo Akademi University and 2) Network 21, Politics of Education and Education Policy Studies with the symposia "The Transnational Turn in Nordic National Education Policy and Transatlantic Connections: Perspectives on Nordic education policy and similar trends in US K12 and TE policy", the proposal sent by Prof. John Benedicto Krejsler Aarhus University. According to the principles decided in NERA's Policy paper the NERA board drew lot among the applicants. Network 5, The Curriculum research network will represent NERA at AERA:s Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas.
- John Benedicto Krejsler represented NERA at the EERA Council at the Council Meeting in Berlin March 18-19, 2016 and March 17-18, 2017 and in connection with the ECER Conference in Dublin on August 27 and 28, 2016.

6. Next congress

Next congress will be held at University of Oslo, March 8–10, 2018. The theme is Educational Research: Boundaries, Breaches and Bridges and keynote speakers will be: Keynote speakers: Professor Wolff-Michael Roth, University of Victoria, Professor Karen Mundy, University of Toronto and Professor Monika Nerland, University of Oslo. Professor Berit Karseth is chair for the organizing committee.