

NERA/NFPF Board Report for 2019

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. In addition, particular work has been done on bringing the journal Open Access and concluding contract with new publisher, as well as reorganizing the way NERA's economy is run. The Board wants to express its cordial appreciation to the cashier and the auditors for an excellent job for the good of NERA/NFPF, and the vice-president for his work on developing a payment solution for membership fees.

2. The Board as elected at the general Assembly in Uppsala 2019

Norway: Gry Paulgaard, Ketil Knutsen
Deputy member: Hans Erik Bugge

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

Finland: Satu Perälä-Littunen, Monica Londen
Deputy member: Piia av Ursin

Iceland: Michael Dal
Deputy member: Vilborg Jóhannsdóttir

Sweden Eva Hultin, Robert Thornberg
Deputy member: Linda Rönnberg

Auditors: Daniel Petterson, Carl F. Dons

Election committee:

Norway Emilia Andersson-Bakken; Deputy member: Britt Oda Fosse
Denmark Kirsten Elisa Petersen (chair); Deputy member: Lotte Hedegaard Sørensen
Finland Janne Varjo; Deputy member: Petteri Hansen
Iceland Gestur Guðmundsson; Deputy Member: Vilborg Jóhannsdóttir
Sweden Michael Håkansson; Deputy member: Björn Haglund

3. Members and administration

In 2019 (2018) NERA had 383 (366) members, including 294 (286) private, 9 (9) board members, 80 (63) students, 0 (13) departments.

4. The Congress in Uppsala

The congress in Uppsala had 728 people attending (Oslo 2018 610, Copenhagen 2017 699). The congress was held at the University of Uppsala, and the theme was "Education in a Globalized World".

The Organizing committee in Uppsala has sent the board an evaluation report and an economic report. The board has discussed and taken care of the main issues raised in the participant evaluation report. The Board has also taken in issues in discussions with the local organizing committee in Turku.

The board has also paid attention to the main issues and problems raised at that network meeting in 2019. The board strives to continue complying the wishes from the networks.

5. The work of the Board according to the Board plan for 2019

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 most extensive issue in 2019, which will continue throughout 2020 has concerned the new economic situation caused by the Plan S, which aims for Open Access of scholarly publishing by 2020, and the accompanying changes in regulations of economic support for our journal Nordic Studies in Education. The Board has dealt intensely with the issue and finally concluded what we believe is a satisfactory contract with Cappelen, our new publisher.
- This also means that we have had to reorganize the way NERA's economy is run. NERA has decided to administer membership, which we expect will give us a stable economy from 2021 when membership becomes mandatory for congress participants (as approved on the NERA General Assembly of 2019, and proposed to be confirmed at the NERA General Assembly of 2020). This brings us in line with other educational research associations like EERA, CIES and AERA. In the transition period the 2020 economy is very tight. The NERA payment link was launched late, and was more complicated than expected, but is now fully functioning. The number of challenging issues have caused problems and confusion among conference participants concerning payment, which has possibly resulted in fewer members (approximately 206!). However, the number of participants at the NERA 2020 conference is still high, and satisfactory. Further, the board sent a petition to EERA to exempt NERA from

membership fee in 2020, which was approved by EERA. NERA negotiated with Cappelen a lower fee for publisher in 2020, which has been generously granted. Other efforts have been made to reduce costs.

- NERA has granted no economic support to networks in 2019 and will not do so in 2020 due to the extraordinarily challenging economic situation
- The NERA Board has chosen a group to represent NERA at the AERA2020 Annual Meeting in San Francisco (American Educational Research Association). NERA network 15, The Literacy Research NetworkThe Curriculum Research Network, will represent NERA at AERA 2020 with the symposium: "Research on teaching quality with different conceptual approaches and instruments – taking a Nordic perspective."

6. Next congress

Next NERA congress will be held at the University of Southern Denmark, March 3–5, 2021. The theme is "Hope and Education". The keynote speakers will be Professor Matthew Clarke, York St. John University, Professor Dennis Beach, University of Gothenburg, Professor Emerita Katrin Hjort, University of Southern Denmark and Professor Line Lerche Mørck, Aarhus University.