

Minutes NERA Board meeting 8-9 August 2017

Times: Tuesday August 8th, 13:00 – 15:45, and Wednesday 9th 9:00 – 11:45

Place: Aalborg University, Copenhagen

Attendees:

Anna Slotte (Finland), Satu Perälä-Littunen (Finland), John Benedicto Krejsler (Denmark), Christian Ydesen (Denmark), Elisabeth Bjørnstad (Norway), Gry Paulgaard (Norway), Gestur Gudmundsson*** (Iceland), Robert Thornberg (Sweden), Eva Hultin* (Sweden), Maike Luimes (treasurer)

Frauke Becher ** (Universitetsforlaget)

* Paragraphs 8-16

** Paragraphs 15a

*** Paragraphs, 1- 8d, 14a, 14c, 15a

1. Opening – Anna Slotte

2. Election of secretary – Robert Thornberg

3. Election of two controllers – Elisabeth Bjørnstad and Christian Ydesen

4. Acceptance of agenda for the meeting

The agenda was accepted.

5. Check of previous minutes from Board meetings in Helsinki

Minutes approved.

6. Minutes from the General Assembly 2017, checked and published on the website

a) Follow-up: Board's plan: The board discussed the plan and was pleased with the plan. The concept of quality was discussed in terms of concrete meanings and transparency, and the importance of working with this in relation to the congress.

7. Copenhagen congress 2017

a) Evaluation reports:

- i. **Evaluation from chairs:** The main problems were discussed (e.g., lack of computers in some of the rooms).
- ii. **Participation evaluation:** In response to the participant evaluation report, the board discussed the importance of quality criteria, guidelines, and transparency for the blind peer-review process as well as emphasizing the poster and roundtable formats in addition to paper and symposia formats. The issue of opportunities for social networking at the congress was also discussed. In addition, the possibility of having a pre-congress for PhD students was discussed.

b) Report from network meeting in Copenhagen: Elisabeth Bjørnstad reported from the network meeting and presented the main issues and problems raised at that meeting (e.g., date for early bird was too tight in relation to notifications of acceptance, all co-authors have to be included in the abstract book, the difficulty of recruiting chairs to the sessions, when network meetings are scheduled at the congress, and support to pre-conferences for the networks). Nevertheless, the convenors were very positive to the increased abstract length (500 words), and were in general positive to the congress in Copenhagen as well. The convenors emphasized that the abstracts have to be blinded also for the convenors to secure that the peer-review process are blinded. The relationship between the congress, the journal and the networks were also discussed in the network meeting, and the Board suggested to invite the Editor Herner Sæverot to the next network meeting.

8. Network issues

a) Network reports and other network issues:

- i. **the convenor's duty to update their network website:** The Board discussed the importance of updated websites of the networks. The board decided to e-mail the convenors to ask them to review their network respective websites and, if needed, update their website. The issue will be taken up on the next network meeting where the website system will be introduced and a demonstration of how to work with the websites will be conducted.
- ii. **other issues:** Only 12 network reports have been submitted to Elisabeth Bjørnstad. Based on them, network 18 and 8 are very small. The Board decided to let Elisabeth revise the report form.

b) Economical support to networks:

i. Network reports from grants used: Elisabeth Bjørnstad and Maike Luimes presented the reports, followed by a Board discussion. The Board concluded that Torill Strand (network 16) has to submit a content report in addition to her already submitted economical report. The Board identified a need to be more explicit in the guidelines on what expenses can and cannot be included, in particular that salary/honorarium is not an accepted expense. The Board decided to request the convenor of network 22 to repay the fees (honorarium) of the responsible persons for the pre-congress (6000 NOK).

ii. Applications from networks for economic support to pre-congress etc.: The Board decided to let Anna Slotte, Maike Luimes and Elisabeth Bjørnstad revise the policy document regarding network support.

- 1. Network 18, Families, institutions and communities in educational context (Limin Gu):** The Board decided to request the applicant to specify the travel and accommodation costs, and the final decision will be made per capsulam.
- 2. Network 24, School development (Olin & Lund):** The Board decided to reject the application due to its incompleteness.
- 3. Network 22, Post-approaches to Education (Bergstedt):** The Board decided to communicate the policy of what expenses can be accepted to the applicant and to request the applicant to specify the costs, and the final decision will be made per capsulam.

c) NERA representation at AERA:

i. AERA 2017, report from Network 5, Curriculum research network: The Board approved the report.

ii. AERA 2018, applications and decision:

- 1. Two applications: 1) Network 21, Politics of Education and Education Policy Studies; 2) Network 24, School Development:** The Board accepted Network 24 to represent NERA at AERA 2018 based on the established procedure of drawing of lots when there are more than one applicant.

d) Guidelines for network convenors: The Board decided to postpone

paragraph 8d to an email conversation and decision within the Board. Elisabeth Bjørnstad and Gry Paulgaard are responsible for the work.

9. Guidelines for arranging congresses, follow-up:

a) Blind review: The Board approved the proposal.

b) Routines for payment of membership fees and controlling of membership status before the NERA congress: The Board approved the proposal but added that VAT/tax has to be included in the official fees/prices.

10. International collaborations

a) EERA: NERA material and dialogue at ECER in Copenhagen: John Benedicto Krejsler gave a brief report.

b) NERA members' online access to European Education Research Journal: Anna Slotte gave a brief report.

c) EERA, other issues John Benedicto Krejsler reported that the ECER congress will take place in Copenhagen. In 2018, the ECER congress will be in Bolzano, Italy. In 2019, the ECER congress will be in Hamburg, and in 2020, it will probably be in Glasgow.

11. Economy:

a) Budget situation: Maik Luimes presented the budget 2016 and the budget is in good balance. The Board decided to use the proposed cost to develop the login function of the NERA website.

b) Economical report from Copenhagen congress 2017: The report has not been submitted to the Board yet. The Board decided to make the final decision per capsulam when the report has arrived.

c) Membership fee; need to raise: The Board approved the proposed raise of the membership fee with 5 NOK.

12. The Board plans for 2017:

a) Organizing Panel discussion at the congress 2018? Theme: The tension between Education/Pedagogy (pedagogik) and Educational Sciences (utbildningsvetenskap) in which the former has been threatened by the later in the Nordic countries (Sweden, Norway and Denmark). At the meeting in August 2016 the Board decided to either put the Board panel into the NERA congress 2017, or postpone it to NERA congress 2018. A working group was assigned to plan this included Herner Sæverot, Gry Paulgaard, John Benedicto Krejsler, and Gestur Gudmundsson: Gry Paulgaard and John Benedicto Krejsler gave a brief report. Two alternative setups were shortly discussed.

b) NERA in Facebook: Anna Slotte argued for the value of a NERA account on

Facebook, and the Board will discuss this further in the next Board meeting.

13. NERA's negotiations with SAGE (The Working Group: Gestur Guðmundsson, John Benedicto Krejsler and Maike Luimes, Herner Sæverot):

The Board decided to end the negotiation with SAGE.

14. NERA Congress

a) Oslo congress 2018, Oslo: The Local organization committee gave a report on the plans, the preliminary congress program, the keynote speakers, the congress website, and budget. The Board was in general pleased with the report but also gave some feedback to the committee.

b) Coming congress

- i. Uppsala 2019:** Anna Slotte gave a brief report. The contract has been written. It has also been signed by the Dean Elisabeth Nihlfors (Faculty of Educational Sciences, Uppsala University). The Board approved the contract, and it will be additionally signed by Anna Slotte.
- ii. Turku 2020:** Anna Slotte reported briefly. The Board decided to add in the agreement template, paragraph 4, the following after "invocies": "congress fee and membership fee for new NERA members in cooperation with Universitetsforlaget".
- iii. Denmark 2021:** The Board decided to give the Danish Board members to come up with a host proposal to the next Board meeting.
- iv. Iceland 2022:** The Board will follow up this issue.

c) Research gate platform for promoting research congress to targeted members of the ResearchGate community: Satu Perälä-Littunen reported an offer from ResearchGate concerning a targeting advertising. The minimum price they offer were 7000 euros. The Board decided to reject the offer.

15. Other issues

a) NSE issue: Frauke Becher gave a brief review of the actual budget for 2017 and budget proposals for 2018, 2019 and 2020. The Board discussed with Frauke about green and gold open access. The Board agreed to end hard copies of the journal to only have the journal published online with green open access. In addition, the Board will continue to consider gold open access and will have a new discussion of that in the future. Possible connection between the NERA website and the journal via a login procedure was also discussed.

b) Next Board meeting will take place in March 7, 2018 at 9:00, the day before the NERA congress 2018 in Oslo.

16. Closing of the meeting: Anna Slotte closed the meeting.

Controllers:

Elisabeth Bjørnstad



Christian Ydesen