

# Minutes NERA Board meeting 7 March 2018

Times: 9:00- 18.00 in Oslo

## Attendees:

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

## **1. Opening** – Anna Slotte

## **2. Election of secretary** – Robert Thornberg

## **3. Election of two controllers** – John Benedicto Krejsler and Christian Ydesen

## **4. Acceptance of agenda for the meeting**

The agenda was accepted.

## **5. Minutes from Board meeting September 2017**

Minutes approved.

## **6. Economy**

**a)** Maike Luimes presented the budget 2017 and the budget is good but there is a gap between incoming balance from 2016 (318 370 NOK) and outgoing balance 2017 (199 194 NOK).

**b)** Maike Luimes presented the budget proposal for 2018, which also predicted a further decrease from incoming balance to outgoing balance (94 840 NOK).

**c)** Maike Luimes made the board aware of the decrease of members from 2016 to 2017. The Board discussed the issue of membership as well as the arrangement and costs regarding the Board panel at the conferences. The Board discussed the possibility to strengthening the Board panel in the conferences by replacing one keynote speaker with the panel debate in order to give the panel a single slot and thus avoid the attraction conflict between network parallel sessions and the panel in future conferences. This has to be further developed. A working group (John Benedicto Krejsler, Gry Paulgaard, Herner Sæverot, Elisabeth Bjørnstad and Eva Hultin) was appointed to come up with a proposal to the Board. Considering possible funding strategies was also noted.

The Board decided to decrease the pre-conferences and network activities economical support from 50 000 NOK to 30 000 NOK.

### **7. NERA's co-operation with Universitetsforlaget, discussion**

Routines for facilitating and enhancing member registration were discussed. In particular, facilitating online payment of membership fee in conjunction with the registration of participation at conferences was stressed. Another proposal discussed in the Board was the possibility to embed the membership fee in the conference fee instead of offering the choice of membership conference fee vs. non-membership conference fee. The Board decided to work to develop a system in dialogue with Universitetsforlaget to embed the membership fee in the conference fee. Information about access to Nordic Studies in Education was briefly discussed. We agreed that this change is so important that it should be communicated explicitly to the GA. Furthermore, we have clarified and updated membership in bylaws.

### **8. Follow up the General Assembly 2017**

Anna Slotte gave a brief report. Important that the Agenda clearly communicates information paragraphs and decision paragraphs.

### **9. Networks (Elisabeth Bjørnstad)**

#### **a. Network issues (Conference situation 2018; the convenor's duty to update their network website; revision of network report form)**

Elisabeth Bjørnstad gave a report. A challenge is the variation of commitment among the convenors, which also affects the quality of the network websites. Most of the convenors collaborate well with the conference committee but not all of them. The Board discussed the problems with non-committed convenors and network with very low activity (e.g., 1-2 sessions at the conference or lack of network meetings). Information about the networks connected to the NERA website were discussed as well.

#### **b. Economical support to networks, follow up from the meeting in August 2017.**

- i. The board has supported Network 22, *Post-approaches to Education*, with 14 100 NOK for organising a pre-conference in connection to NERA congress 2018 in Oslo (decision in capsulam).**

Anna Slotte gave a brief report.

- ii. **The board has supported Network 18, *Families, institutions and communities in educational context*, with 19 000 NOK for organising a pre-conference in connection to NERA congress 2018 in Oslo (decision in capsulam).**

Anna Slotte gave a brief report.

- iii. **Torill Strand (Network 16) has submitted a content report in addition to her already submitted economical report (See appendix)**

Anna Slotte gave a brief description. The Board approved the report.

- iv. **Network 22 has repaid the fees (honorarium) of the responsible persons for the pre-congress (2000 NOK). Report submitted. (See appendix)**

- 1. **(The Board decided to request this in the August meeting. The issue need to be accepted)**

Anna Slotte gave a brief description. The Board approved the report.

- c. **Revision of the policy document regarding network support, suggestion (Anna Slotte, Maike Luimes and Elisabeth Bjørnstad) (See appendix).**

Elisabeth Bjørnstad gave a review on the suggested revised policy document. The Board discussed the policy document and the revisions, which resulted in further revisions.

- d. **Revision of the guidelines for network convenors, and suggestions for changes in the policy document. (See appendix).**

Elisabeth Bjørnstad gave a review on the suggested revision. The Board discussed the policy document and the revisions, which resulted in further revisions.

## **10. International collaborations**

**a) EERA/ECER:** John B Krejsler reported from the EERA meeting in 26–27 August 2017. The European democratic and critical dimension was discussed in relation to the geographic expansion of EERA. Next ECER conference will be in Bolzano, Italy. In 2019, ECER conference will be in Hamburg, Germany. In 2020, ECER conference will be in Glasgow, UK. IN 2021, the ECER will take place in Geneve. An European research method book and a new journal, European Educational Research Review as well as a book series, are under development.

**b) AERA:** Anna Slotte informed that Network 24 will represent NERA in AERA in April 2018.

### **11. Board report 2017. Discussion of draft**

The Board reviewed the draft and approved the draft with some minor edits.

### **12. The Board plans for 2018**

**a) Board members and duties 2017.** Gestur Guðmundsson will resign this year and a new member from Iceland will replace him. The other Board members will remain in the Board. The Board discussed the duties and roles in the Board.

**b) NERA in Facebook. Discussion.** The Board decided to create a Facebook group as a complement to the NERA website. A working group was established (Christian Ydesen, Eva Hultin and Anna Slotte) to develop the Facebook group. In addition, a Twitter working group (Elisabeth Bjørnstad, Maike Luimes and Christian Ydesen).

**c) The board's plan to be presented at GA. Discussion of the draft.** The Board reviewed the draft and approved the draft with some minor edits.

### **13. Homepage issues**

Maike Luimes introduced Eivind Larsen who will have the technical responsibility of NERA website. Maike gave the Board a brief NERA website tour and the Board discussed website issues, including the difficulties to find the login page to Nordic Studies in Education and the advertisements on the network websites.

### **14. Upcoming congresses**

**a) Oslo 2018:** Berit Karseth gave a brief report. Around 630 participants have been registered. A challenge has been several late cancels. In total, more than 50 cancels (both early and late cancels).

**b) Uppsala 2019:** Anna Slotte reported that she will have a meeting with Jonas Almqvist from Uppsala University together with Eva Hultin and Gry Paulgaard at the NERA Congress in Oslo 2018.

**c) Turku 2020:** The University of Turku (Åbo) will host NERA 2020.

**d) Denmark 2021:** The University of Southern Denmark has been proposed to hosting the congress based on their expressed interest to hosting the congress.

**e) Iceland 2022:** The University of Iceland will host the congress.

**15. NERA annual delegates assembly 2018: 9.3. 13:00 – 14:00. Checking of agenda and appendixes**

The agenda was briefly overviewed and an additional paragraph was included.

**16. Other issues**

The final accounts from the NERA Congress in Copenhagen 2017 were discussed and approved. However, a general discussion about economic issues and costs in relation to congresses were made.

**17. Closing the meeting**

Anna Slotte closed the meeting.

Controllers:

Christian Ydesen

John Benedicto Krejsler