

# Minutes - NERA Board meeting 21-22.8 2018, Uppsala University

Place:

Uppsala University

Blåsenhus, hus 11, Tupprummet  
von Kraemers allé 1

Attendees:

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

## AGENDA

1. Opening
2. Election of secretary  
*Christian was elected unanimously*
3. Election of two controllers  
*John and Gry were elected unanimously*
4. Acceptance of agenda for the meeting  
*The agenda was accepted*
5. Minutes from the Board meetings (Anna)
  - a. March 7, 2018, checked by Christian Ydesen och John B. Krejsler  
([Appendix 5a](#))  
*The minutes were approved*
  - b. Minutes from the Board Meeting March 10, checked by Elisabeth Bjørnstad and John Benedicto Krejsler ([Appendix 5b](#))  
*The minutes were approved*
6. Minutes from the General Assembly 2018, checked and published on the web site.
  - a. Follow-up: Board's plan. ([Appendix 6](#))  
*The minutes were approved*
7. Oslo conference 2018
  - a. Evaluation report (Anna)
    - i. Participation evaluation ([Appendix 7](#))  
*The evaluation report shows that participants were generally satisfied with the overall organization of the Congress and appreciated the information provided before and during the Congress.*

*Regarding the parallel sessions, participants found the role of the conveners, chairs and presenters key in bringing fruitful discussions and new insights. Collaboration among Networks is also underlined as an asset of the Congress.*

*Participants perceived that the NERA Congress is an attractive conference. The congress offers participants the opportunity to: build contacts among the Nordic countries, expand professional networks and obtain feedback from peers.*

*The Congress is an ideal place to discuss current research interests and to share new knowledge in the educational research field. In addition, the feedback highlights the importance of disseminating knowledge about Nordic educational practices and policies.*

*For a few respondents (11), the Congress did not meet their expectations. In their opinion the layout of the program was problematic. They suggest to organize the program by time/dates and not by Networks. Another common critique refers to the level of the presentations in the parallel sessions. These respondents suggest that the acceptance requirements should be strengthened.*

*Some of the respondents also pointed out that the Congress should not include Saturdays.*

*There was some discussion about how to promote and upgrade posters as a valid form of presentation. It should not be perceived as merely a presentation form of emerging researchers. It requires careful consideration in terms of time and placement in the program, announcement, the location of the posters and quality assurance. Perhaps a template for posters is a way forward.*

*The issue will be discussed with the local planning committee.*

b. Report from network meeting in Oslo (Elisabeth) (**Appendixes**)

*Elisabeth reported from the network meeting and presented the main issues and problems raised at that meeting. Generally the convenors were satisfied. But the flow of information to some networks had not been adequate (e.g. cancellations of presentations). A solution could be a centrally placed information board.*

*The network meetings should not be placed on the first day of the conference nor on the last day of the conference.*

*We must take careful consideration in the allocation of rooms to the networks.*

*Some network provide only very scarce and imprecise information in their network reports.*

*There is a big issue in terms of what we can demand from the network convenors (volunteer work). A network is a very dynamic entity ranging between extremes.*

*Elisabeth takes up these issues at the next network meeting.*

## 8. Economy (Maike)

### a. Budget situation, Half Year Balance Regnskap (**Appendixes 8a**)

*Maike Luimes presented the budget proposal 2018 and the current account balance. The in-going/out-going balance is reduced with around 80,000 NOK.*

### b. Economical report from Oslo congress 2018 (**Appendix 8b**)

*Maike presented the financial report submitted by the University of Oslo to the Norwegian research council.*

### c. Membership fee – conference fee

*It is not possible to execute any changes in 2019 due to legal binds. Prior to the March meeting a plan must be drawn up for how to handle member fee, conference fee and the journal from 2020. This plan may entail contacts with a different publishing house (Nordic and international) and considerations about the future NERA language policy.*

*A working group consisting of Herner, Satu, Eva, Christian, Robert and Gry was established for the purpose of considering alternative publishing houses.*

*A working group consisting of Herner, Satu, Eva, Robert, Christian and Gry was established for the purpose of considering NERA's language policy.*

*A working group consisting of Elisabeth, Maike and John was established for the purpose of considering handling of membership, membership fee and conference fee.*

### d. Brønnøysund register, update

*Maike presented the issue. The board members must all be registered with the Brønnøysund register due to Norwegian legislation concerning associations. Forms were circulated, filled in, and handed back to Maike.*

## 9. NERA - Universitetsforlaget (**5 appendixes in a folder**) (Anna, John, Maike)

### a. Budget – Open access. (vedlegg II)

*Maike presented the budget for gold open access. Gold open access will result in increased expenses. The NERA financial model is based on membership fees, conference registration fees and NoP-support.*

*There was a discussion about the tipping point (i.e. the balance) between income and expenses.*

*There was a discussion about the administration of finances and members, the budget expense items, the financial model of NERA, and gold open access.*

### b. New contract (213 NSE Utgiveravtale 1999 + 213 NSE Utgiveravtale 2019 + Avtale Kundeservice + Forlagets arbeid med tidsskriftene)

*The new contract cannot be signed as it is. The board decides to pursue a path of continuing with the old contract until the issues listed under 8.c. have been sorted out.*

*The board decides to ask for changes and further clarifications of the new contract:*

- *The mentioning of the journal's format and the number of articles seems redundant since the journal is entirely web based*
- *More transparency in terms of the publisher's remuneration. (It seems like some expenses (e.g. language processing and composition) are listed twice)*
- *The conditions for termination of the contract must be made equal between the parties (9 months' notice)*
- *The invoicing must take place later than April 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 because of liquidity considerations*
- *The boards' and the NERA association's legal obligations in terms of finances must be clarified*

*The board decides to seek advice and competence from a capacity at UiT The Arctic University of Norway.*

*Further discussions with the university press will be conducted taking into account the issues about member registration, VAT exemption and the financial model. A working group is set up consisting of Anna, Maike, Herner, John, Michael, and Gry (linking with the UiT adviser).*

- c. Membership registration, membership service (kundservice) etc.

*See item 8.c. and 9.b.*

## 10. Network issues

- a. Network reports and other network issues (Elisabeth) (**Appendixes**)

*Elisabeth presented the issues raised at the network meeting. A main issue was the platforms used for communication between network members and between networks and the NERA board. Generally, the networks are very diverse, but the convenors are positive. See also item 7.b.*

*This year twenty of the networks have delivered reports about the network activities. Only three networks have not submitted their reports.*

*Three networks have changed convenor.*

*Two networks have only had one session at the Oslo conference, but they have high academic quality.*

- b. Economical support to networks

- i. Network reports from grants used (Maike, Elisabeth)

1. NW 22 /Bosse Bergstedt (2 **Appendixes 10b i/1**)

*The board approved the report.*

2. NW 18 /Limin Gu "Families, institutions and communities in educational context. (**Appendix 10b i/2**)

*The board approved the report, but the unspent money should be transferred back to NERA.*

- ii. Applications from networks for economic support to pre-conference etc. (Anna)
  - 1. NW 22, Post-approaches to Education / Bosse Bergstedt  
(Appendix 10 b ii/1)  
*The board grants 15.000 kr.*
  - 2. NW 16, The Nordic Society for Philosophy of Education/.  
Elisabet Langmann (Appendix 10 b 11/2)  
*The board grants 15.000 kr.*

c. NERA representation at AERA (Anna)

- i. AERA 2018, report from NW Network 5, Curriculum research network (Appendix 10 c i)  
*The board approved the report.*
- ii. AERA 2019, Per Capsulam decision made: NERA network 5, The Curriculum Research Network, will represent NERA at AERA 2019 "Re-theorizing Comparative Curriculum Leadership Research – Bildung centered non-affirmative education theory and discursive institutionalism." (Appendix 10 c ii)

d. Application for establishing a new network within NERA, "Justice through Education" (Appendix 10 d)

*The board approved the application.*

11. International collaborations (Satu, Eva)

a. EERA (Appendix 11a)

*Eva has not attended any EERA meetings, but will participate in the next meeting.*

*Satu informed about the main issues discussed in EERA:*

- *New members coming from Eastern Europe sparking a discussion about what Europe is*
- *A new president, Joe O'Hara, will take over in Bolzano*
- *The next conferences will take place in Hamburg in 2019, Glasgow in 2020, and Geneva in 2021?*
- *Satu, as representative of FERA, has been elected senior adviser for the emerging researchers' network*
- *The summer schools are running, but it is a challenge to get organizers into the pipeline*

b. Other issues?

*The Irish and Scottish educational research associations have a special interest in NERA. Eva continues the contact with them established by John.*

12. The Board plans for 2018

- a. Development of the board panel (Working group: John, Gry, Eva, Elisabeth,

Herner)

*The board decided to:*

- *Make the board panel an annual event where a working group on the board suggests a 'hot'/salient theme for discussion on the board after having put out their antenna: at the network (convener) meetings, at the conference, by reading NSiE, and in their ongoing participation in their networks and contexts throughout the Nordic countries.*
- *The theme should be of relevance across Nordic countries, and be used to build up the relation between NERA as an organization and the conference+ the networks.*
- *The theme could be related to the conference theme, or could address other issues if deemed more relevant/interesting.*
- *The panel replaces a keynote*
- *To promote the idea behind the NERA PANEL SESSION to the audience (on the website, at the introduction to the next conference)*
- *We start in Åbo.*

*A discussion took place about the following issues:*

- *Should the presentations be of a general disciplinary oriented character or should they include explicit references to what happens in the home country of the presenter (to build up contextual knowledge)?... should it address discipline-oriented issues, policy vs science issues, policy-science-practice issues, moral-ethical issues?*
- *Should the board panel work together with NSiE concerning potential theme issues arising from the panel debate (as they would hopefully be inherently Nordic in perspective and relevance)*

b. NERA in Facebook? (Christian, Eva & Anna)

*Postponed*

c. NERA in Twitter (Christian, Maike & Elisabeth)

*Postponed*

d. Other issues?

*Postponed*

### 13. NERA Conferences

a. Uppsala Conference 2019:

*Jonas Almqvist presented the status of the upcoming conference and the work of the organizing committee (home page, program, social events, the venues, key notes, and hotels).*

*The Board was generally pleased with the report but gave some feedback and suggestions to the committee. A discussion was raised and input was provided about the placement of the key notes, the cost of the conference dinner, how to avoid that conference participants leave the conference early, the differences between paper presentations, symposia, roundtable, and poster sessions, and how to handle symposia administratively.*

b. Coming conferences

i. Turku 2020, contract signed by dean Marja Vauras in May, 2018  
(Appendix 13 b)

ii. Denmark 2021

*John is in good contact with the organisers. The organisers have some practical questions (venue, transport, registration). The issues were discussed and resolved. John reports back to the organisers.*

iii. Norway 2022

*No venue has been found. Tromsø and Bergen should be further investigated (Gry and Elisabeth).*

iv. Iceland 2023

*Venue: the University of Iceland*

14. Website update: Information about the NERA board. (Appendix 14 c)

15. Other issues

16. Next meeting

*March 5th, 0900-1800, March 6th (8.00-10.30), and March 8th*

17. Closing of the meeting

Controllers:

Gry Paulgaard

John Krejsler