

NERA Board meeting 3.3 2020: Minutes

Turku University, Assistentinkatu 5, 20500 Turku

Board members:

Monica Londen(Finland), Satu Perälä-Littunen (Finland), John Benedicto Krejsler (Denmark), Christian Ydesen (Denmark), Ketil Knutsen (Norway), Gry Paulgaard (Norway), Michael Dal (Iceland), Robert Thornberg (Sweden), Eva Hultin (Sweden), Maike Luimes (treasurer)

AGENDA

1. Opening

John opened the meeting

2. Election of secretary

Christian was unanimously elected

3. Election of two controllers

Eva and Monica were unanimously elected

4. Acceptance of agenda for the meeting

The agenda was accepted

5. Minutes from the Board meeting August 20-21, 2019.

The minutes were accepted

6. Economy (Maike Luimes).

a. Balance 2019

Maike presented the budget 2019. There is a gap between incoming balance from 2018 (145.079 NOK) and outgoing balance 2019 (132.559 NOK). The Ahlström award account has an outgoing balance 2019 of 23.878 NOK.

b. Budget proposal for 2020

Maike presented the budget proposal for 2020, which also predicted a further decrease from incoming balance to outgoing balance (29.175 NOK). It was decided that the Ahlström award account can be used in case of an emergency.

c. Membership fees for 2021

This issue will be discussed under item 7 on the agenda.

d. Other issues

The Brønnøysund registration was discussed and agreed

7. NERA's economy (John & Maike)

a. Presentation of status and challenges, 2020 and afterwards (John & Maike)

John extended a special thanks to Maike, Michael and Herner for their work in sorting out the new conditions for NERA and NSE. John presented the situation. Cappelen has been very flexible in helping NERA/NSE achieving a viable and sustainable platform for the NERA/NSE and Cappeln collaboration. EERA has accepted to exempt NERA for a financial contribution in 2020. The number of NERA members is the lowest ever. There have been some problems and confusion with the payment link on the conference website. Members have been confused about the conditions of different membership categories (especially the institutional membership).

The situation will be resolved next year when conference attendance is conditioned on NERA membership and the lessons learnt concerning the payment link can be implemented.

The new situation means new tasks for the board:

- 1. Handling membership and refund from conference (treasurer)*
- 2. Communication to members about NERA, the conferences and the Nordic vision*
- 3. The agreements and transparency between the organising institution and NERA*

It was decided to

- Keep a simple registration system of membership and conference participation*
- The refund from the organising university per participant must be made part of the membership fee (to avoid VAT)*
- The conference organising committees must adhere to NERA guidelines (the total price of membership and conference participation must not increase)*
- Have an evaluation after the Denmark conference in 2021 concerning payment procedures and systems*
- Establish a working group for consolidating the new economic model, system and procedures (John, Monica, Michael, Eva and Maike)*

b. Presentation of NERA-website on-line payment function (Michael)

Michael presented the website online payment function. There are two payment options: private individual membership at 875 NOK and student/emeritus at 569 NOK.

c. Discussion of 2020 challenges in light of deficit

The fees for 2021 will be no different from previous years:

265 + 88 = 353 Euro (private individual – early bird)

165 + 55 = 220 Euro (student and emeritus – early bird)

365 + 88 = 473 Euro (private individual)

285 + 55 = 340 Euro (student and emeritus)

The change is that NERA will get member fees from all conference participants. The conference attracts a great number of participants and the board expects the new economic model will alleviate the deficit already from 2021.

8. Website issues (Michael)

The website will have to be adjusted to accommodate the changes and reflect the new situation in terms of membership and the journal being open access. The website will be simpler in the future.

Maike points out that the website is based on old code and it is easily hackable. The working group established under item 7.a. will take this issue into account.

Michael will serve as website coordinator.

9. Nordic Studies in Education: Agreement with Cappelen (John, Michael, Maike)

a. Presentation of agreement with Cappelen

John presented the agreement. The agreement reflects a sustainable solution in an open access environment. The licence is CC BY 4.0 and NSE does not require article processing charge (APC).

10. Network issues (Gry)

a. Procedures for choice of network conveners

Gry presented the situation with the networks including a list of networks and conveners. There are problems with finding conveners for some – even very popular - networks. Some conveners will step down without any replacement.

If there are no conveners a network cannot exist.

There are also problems with some networks not handing in their annual reports. It is a requirement for receiving support from NERA that an annual report has been submitted.

The network meeting is the right forum for dealing with convenue issues.

11. International collaborations (Eva, Satu)

a. EERA

Eva presented the situation with EERA including the upcoming ECER conferences: Glasgow 2020

Geneva 2021

Yerevan, Armenia 2022

Cyprus 2023?

Belgrade 2024?

The EERA meetings consists of some 35 participants.

Satu presented the plans for the 2021/2022 EERA summer school.

b. AERA-slot (FYI); SERA-collaboration and other issues?

John presented the panel proposal from network 15 "Literacy Research Network" to be presented at AERA.

Eva presented the agreement draft between NERA and SERA.

The board is positive towards the collaboration.

Eva and John will meet with the SERA representative during the conference to discuss details.

12. Board report 2019. Discussion of draft.

The report draft was discussed and revised. The report was approved.

13. The Board plans for 2020

The board plan draft was discussed and approved.

a. Candidates for new board members and discussion about special duties for board members

The board will continue except for Satu and Robert who will step down.

Special duties are distributed as follows:

EERA liaison: Eva

Secretary: Christian (Eva while Christian is on leave from the board)

Network coordinator: Gry

Treasurer: Maike

Vice-president and website coordinator: Michael

b. NERA in Facebook (Christian & Eva) & Twitter (Christian & Maike)?

Eva is running the NERA Facebook account (there are currently 434 members)

Twitter is handled by the local organising committee

c. Working group on NERA language policy (Herner, Satu, Eva, Robert, Christian & Gry)?

The issue will be addressed at the Odense board meeting. An idea was presented about a board panel about language policy for the Iceland conference. A pro-

posal for discussion will be prepared by Eva, Herner, Gry, and Michael.

d. Other issues?

No other issues

14. NERA Conferences

a. Turku, meeting with conveners (13.30 – 14.15)

There are 646 participants registered for the conference (both paying and non-paying participants). There have been few cancellations due to the Corona virus. The Finnish minister of education and the university rector will be present at the conference opening.

b. Denmark 2021

The contract was presented and discussed. The payment intervals in item 7 of the contract needs to be discussed at the Odense meeting.

c. Iceland 2022

15. NERA annual general assembly 2020. Checking of agenda and appendixes. ‘

Agenda and appendixes are OK

16. Next meeting

a. Friday 6.3. at 15.15 – 16.00 (Educarium: room 340)

b. August 18-19 (from noon-noon) CONFIRMED

17. Other issues.

18. Closing of the meeting.

Controllers:

Eva Hultin



Monica Londen