

Minutes for the steering committee meeting of ESREA

When: September 13 at 9.30-16.30 and September 14 at 9.00-13.25

Where: Linköping University, Campus Valla

Attending: Michal Bron Jr. (Sweden), Wolfgang Jütte (Austria), Barbara Merrill (United Kingdom), Anja Heikkinen (Finland), Henning Salling Olesen (Denmark), Emilio Lucio-Villegas (Spain), Bernhard Schmidt-Hertha (Germany), Paula Guimares (Portugal) Secretary: Andreas Fejes (Sweden)

1. Election of the chair for the meeting
Henning was elected to chair the meeting.

2. Election of the secretary for the meeting
Andreas was elected as the secretary for the meeting.

3. Election of someone to check the minutes
Barbara was elected to check the minutes.

4. Approval of the agenda
There where the addition of two issues added to item 13 – proposal for a new network on policy issues in adult education and a proposal on re-defining the cross-cultural network.

5. Approval of the minutes from the last meeting
The minutes from the last meeting were approved.

6. Absence from the meeting
Laura, Larissa, Georgios and Ewa send their regards that they cannot participate in the meeting. The SC sends their best regards to Georgios and hope that he will recover soon from his injuries.

7. Provisional financial account
Andreas presented the provisional account. Henning mentioned that we need to discuss how to be responsible in how to use the money which ESREA has accumulated.

Andreas asked the SC to contact people who haven't paid the membership fees.

8. Annual meeting of the general assembly of ESREA
Andreas informed the SC about the procedures and the items which need to be decided upon according to the statutes

The report from the auditor concerning the financial records for year 2007 was presented.

Andreas described that he will send an e-mail to the members the in coming week announcing the meeting of the general assembly to take place November 15-29.

9. ESREA journal
David Lawrence and Peter Berkesand from Linköping University Press presented their experiences about publishing open access online journals. They also illustrated the services they can provide as a publisher.

A discussion was conducted about how to launch the journal. A key issue is to find approximately three persons who are committed to launch this kind of journal.

Decision was made about the following frames for the journal:

- European dimension –We can publish articles from other parts of the world which would be interesting from a European perspective.
- Language – The main publication language is English. We also accept texts submitted in different languages for assessment – but accepted papers need to be translated. All articles need to be in high quality English.
- The journal should be an open access journal.
- Costs – who should pay? The readers shouldn't pay. The authors should pay for making their own manuscripts into a good English, and camera ready copy according to journal guidelines and templates. Further, we need to find someone who finances the journal – the actual administrative work.
- We will need to find a hosting institution with the most favourable offer for ESREA.
- Objectives of the journal - Make explicit that the journal wants to publish contributions from all over Europe - The journal is owned/sponsored by ESREA - This is a research journal.
- Title – European journal of research in adult education and learning
- Andreas, Barbara and Bernhard will make a draft of an announcement about the journal which will be circulated to the Steering committee before being circulated to the members of ESREA. The announcement will include a call of interest to work with this kind of journal (editorial work). Members will be asked if they are, or know of anyone who would be interested to commit themselves to work with this journal for five years.

10. Peter Lang books

- Henning described that there has been little progress on the work and learning book since the last meeting.
- Barbara informed that the book on learning careers is in progress. She is still waiting for a few chapters. Etienne has withdrawn as co-editor.
- The cross-cultural book should be ready for print within the coming weeks.
- Paula and Michal informed about the book on active democratic citizenship. They have a contract with Peter Lang. They plan to have the book ready at the end of 2008. At the moment they are working on editing the English in several of the contributions.
- Joanna has informed through e-mail that the gender book is ready for print. It should be printed in October.

The issue of the role of the series editors of the book series was raised. Michal asked if the series editors should review all books and provide feedback to the book editors. It was decided that the series editors will review book proposals and write a suggestion to the SC.

Henning will discuss the new role of the series editors with Rudi and Barry, and Bernhard will also discuss this issue with Rudi.

For the next meeting Andreas will discuss the price setting and the printing subsidies with Peter Lang. He will also ask how many books of each volume are sold.

Emilio informed about the idea for a new book on “Between global and local: Adult Learning and Development”. He will present a synopsis at the next SC meeting.

11. Decision on where to locate the 2010 ESREA triennial conference

The steering committee was positive in relation to all three written proposals which had been presented to the SC. After a careful review of the proposals it was decided to locate the conference in Linköping, Sweden.

12. Reports from outreach work

- Report from visit to Israel – Andreas and Michal informed about their visit to Israel. Written report attached in appendix to the minutes.
- Report from visit to Cyprus – Henning and Wolfgang informed about their visit to Cyprus. They were there to make an assessment of a post and combined it with information about ESREA activities.

13. New ESREA networks

- The SC discussed the proposal to re-define the cross-cultural network into a network on history of adult education and training in Europe. There was a positive response towards the proposal. The proposers will be asked to refine the proposal, and the convenor will be asked if there is sustainability in the network.
- It was decided to launch a new network titled: “Adult Educator, Trainer and Professional Development”. There was also the suggestion to organize the first network meeting as soon as possible.
- The proposal for the new network on migration, ethnicity, racism and xenophobia was discussed. There was a positive response to the proposal but the SC wanted the proposers to elaborate a bit more on how adult education is related to the issues raised in the proposal. With amendments, the proposal of the network was accepted.
- The proposal of a network on research on adult education policy was discussed. There was a positive response. But the SC wants the proposal to be somewhat redefined with more clear focus on research on policies and the politics of adult education. Andreas will work with the proposers to reformulate the proposal.
- Bernhard informed that he has been in contact with Tarja Tikkanen concerning a re-launch of the older learners network. Henning will supply Bernhard with further contacts in the Nordic research community in this area.

14. ESREA action Plan 2008-2010

The draft of the plan was discussed. It was decided that Henning will elaborate on an action plan for the next meeting.

15. Yes, I can do it. University Network (Emilio)

Emilio presented the project Yes I can do it. The SC decided that it seems to be an interesting project, but ESREA is not the organization to be involved in the validation within such a project. However, an important issue for ESREA is for encouraging research on literacy.

Andreas will circulate a letter concerning the project through the e-mail list.

16. Information from the different networks

There was no time for presenting the status of the different networks. However, there are four network meeting planned at the moment, on at the end of 2008 and three during the first half of 2009.

17. Any other business

There was no other business.

18. Next meeting

Next meeting will take place in Milan, Italy, noon March 15 to evening March 16.

19. End of meeting

The SC ended by thanking the department of behavioural sciences and learning for hosting the meeting. The meeting ended at 13.25 on Sunday September 14.

Henning Salling Olesen
Chair

Andreas Fejes
Secretary

Barbara Merrill
Check the minutes