Minutes of the Steering Committee meeting of ESREA

When: March 23, 2012 (09:00 – 19:00 hrs)
Where: Pavilion of Mexico, (Paseo de las Delicias & Avda. de Eritaña), Seville

The meeting started at 09:22. People present to the meeting were: Henning, Barbara, Emilio, Wolfgang, Laura, Paula, Georgios.

1. Election of the chair for the meeting
Henning chaired the meeting.

2. Election of the secretary for the meeting
In ESREA secretary’s absence, it was decided that Georgios would act as the secretary of this meeting.

3. Election of someone to check the minutes
It was agreed Paula to check the minutes of this meeting.

4. Approval of the agenda
No amendments were made to the agenda previously proposed.

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

6. Absence from the meeting
Kristiina, Larissa, Andreas, Ewa and Jean-Michel were not present at this meeting. They apologised for not taking part in this meeting.

7. Financial account of ESREA 2011
The financial account was approved.

8. Provisional financial account of ESREA for 2012
The provisional financial account for 2012 was not received yet.
It was proposed that the expenses made and the types of expenses made during 2011 were to be understood as the provisional financial account for 2012.
It was also suggested that this provisional financial account should include the expense concerning a “building-kit” to be proposed by the existing server of the University of Linkoping for network conveners to design and develop their websites. A short action-plan for the issue concerning a more flexible ESREA website for the next meeting in September 2012 will be prepared by Wolfgang.

The action plan was discussed.
Changes in the text of the action plan concerning this issue were suggested concerning the clarification of the mission and context of ESREA; outreach and recruitment activities; the main operational modi of ESREA, such as research networks and conferences; publishing activities; engaging in the training of young researchers and research capacity building; participation in policy formation, lobbying, and liaising with other organisations. A new version will be prepared and sent to SC members as soon as possible.
Due to several issues included in the action plan that need to be discussed widely among members of ESREA, namely among network convenors, the next SC meeting will take place and the network convenors will be invited to join part of the meeting. Alternatively an on-line meeting for those conveners who will not be able to physically attend this meeting will be accomplished.

10. Host for the triennial conference 2013
Three tenders of interest were discussed, namely the bids of the University of Tubingen, of the University of Leuven, and of the Humboldt University in Berlin. All bids had good quality but it was decided that the next triennial conference will be organized by Humboldt University.

11. Organizing a special event
Georgios briefed contacts with CEDEFOP and developments concerning this event. Georgios and Kristiina will explore possibilities and research possible options with the purpose of trying to approach and involve policy makers and officials in this event.

12. The ESREA journal
Discussion on the extension of the editorial board took place. A south-western Europe member was proposed. The new member appointed was António Fragoso.

The next issue of RELA will appear in April. This will be a non-thematic issue. The articles have some affiliation biographical and life history approaches.

The autumn issue 2012 will be on policy and it is a thematic issue. After that, there will be an issue on research methodology. A call for papers has already been announced on this thematic issue.

13. Book series with Sense
The contract with SENSE has been signed. Report was made on the format, the scope and the way the books will be disseminated but also elaborated on the design of the cover.

It was suggested that the editorial board should include people from all the ESREA networks, as long as members belong to a larger number of European Union countries.

14. Decision on the ESREA research grant
One proposal was submitted for this tender. The SC decided that the proposal will be blind reviewed by two experts. The Chair and the secretary will ask those nominated to conduct this review.

15. ESREA repository
Henning reported on the repository which should secure a collection of the ESREA papers by transferring the material to a public access digital archive that could be hosted by the Roskilde University Digital Archive (RUDAR). The material needs to be coded and perhaps access protected with a password. Assistance by a librarian might be needed for cataloguing the material. The issue will be followed up by Henning and discussed again at the next meeting.
16. Information from the different networks
The status and forthcoming seminars/conferences of ESREA networks were not discussed due to a lack of time.

17. Any other business
Paula announced that the University of Lisbon will become an institutional member of ESREA soon and that on the 17th and 18th of January next year a seminar will taking place in Lisbon on adult education and the support of ESREA was required.

18. Next meetings
The next meeting will take place 28 September 15.00 to 29 September 18.00 in Roskilde.

The first meeting in 2013 will take place in Wroclaw, from the 15th March 2013 (starting at 15:00) to 16th March 2013 (finishing early evening) in Wroclaw

19. End of meeting
The meeting was completed at 19:00 hrs.

Note: After lunch break, the meeting started for an online meeting with Andreas on Skype on issues such as the ESREA 2013 triennial conference locating, RELA next issue, ESREA repositiorium, ESREA website, and the next secretary.

Henning Salling Olesen
Georgios Zarifis
Paula Guimãraes
Chair of the meeting
Secretary of the meeting
Check the minutes