ESREA newsletter No. 1 February 2010

Dear ESREA member

Here is the first newsletter for 2010. This year there are several ESREA activities planned and you will find more information about these further on in this newsletter. Hope to meet you at any of these activities.

Best wishes
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Secretary of ESREA
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This newsletter contains the following sections:
- Forthcoming ESREA activities
- New ESREA Journal
- New ESREA books
- Forthcoming conferences/seminars on adult education/adult learning
- New books on adult education/adult learning
- Ongoing research projects
- How to become a member of ESREA
- Forthcoming newsletters

Forthcoming ESREA activities

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March 4-7 2010
The 2010 Life History and Biographical Research network conference
Växjö and Kalmar, Sweden
More information at: www.esrea.org
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May 20-22 2010
The 2010 Between Local and Global: Adult Learning and Development conference
Seville, Spain
More information at: www.esrea.org
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September 23-26 2010
The 6th ESREA triennial European Research Conference – Adult Learning in Europe: Understanding diverse meanings and contexts
Linköping University, Linköping, Sweden
Deadline for early bird registration is April 1st.
More information at: www.liu.se/esrea2010
7-9 October, 2010
More Demographic Change and the Education of Older Adults
First conference of the ESREA network on Education and Learning of Older Adults
Munich, Germany
Deadline for submission of abstract is April 5, 2010.

One of the most important challenges facing industrial nations is how to deal with the effects of demographic change and an ever increasing older population. Birth rates are sinking permanently and the parallel steady increase in life-expectancy are leading toward a society with a rising proportion of older people and an ever decreasing proportion of younger people. These demographic trends actually stimulate adult education in two ways: the first is the potential for innovation in reception and support for the increasing number of older workers; and the second is that educational training programs can and have to contribute to staying healthy and independent up until very old age in order to prevent the over-burdening of the system. How this can be realized with the help of educational programming will be the main topic of the network conference. In order to achieve this, it is important to keep in mind the needs older people have as learners, go along with their educational interests and behaviour.

We kindly request all interested researchers to participate in the conference and in the international debate on the education and learning of older adults.

All abstracts for paper presentations must be submitted by Monday 5th April 2010 to Bernhard Schmidt-Hertha (b.schmidt@lmu.de). Final versions of papers (no more than 5000 words including references) must be submitted by Monday 30th August 2010.

For more detailed information please visit the conference website: http://www.edu.lmu.de/apb/aktuelles/ela/index.html

NEW ESREA JOURNAL

ESREA have launched a new open access journal titled: The European journal for Research on the Education and Learning of Adults (RELA)

**Aim/Scope of RELA**
The European journal for Research on the Education and Learning of Adults (RELA) is a refereed academic journal creating a forum for the publication of critical research on adult education and learning. It has a particular focus on issues at stake for adult education and learning in Europe, as these emerge in connection with wider international and transnational dynamics and trends. Such a forum is important at a time when local and regional explorations of issues are often difficult to foreground across language barriers. As academic and policy debate is increasingly carried out in the English language, this masks the richness of
research knowledge, responses and trends from diverse traditions and foci. The journal thus attempts to be linguistically ‘open access’. Whilst creating a forum for international and transnational debate, contributions are particularly welcome from authors in Europe and other locations where English is not the first language.

RELA invites original, scholarly articles that discuss the education and learning of adults from different academic disciplines, perspectives and traditions. It encourages diversity in theoretical and methodological approach and submissions from non-English speakers. Contributions will be subject to a rigorous peer review process. Clarity and conciseness of thought are crucial requirements for publication.

RELA is published on behalf of the European Society for Research on the Education of Adults (ESREA).

Number of publications
Two issues are published each year, each including:
1. Articles related to an issue theme
2. Open papers (unrelated to the theme)
3. Book reviews

Editorial group
Associate Professor Andreas Fejes, Linköping University, Sweden
Professor Wolfgang Jütte, University of Bielefeld, Germany
Professor Ewa Kurantowicz, University of Lower Silesia, Poland
Dr. Katherine Nicoll, University of Stirling, Scotland, UK
Professor Henning Salling Olesen, Roskilde University, Denmark
Professor Danny Wildemeersch, Leuven University, Belgium

For more information about the journal and on how to submit a paper see www.rela.ep.liu.se

New ESREA books


Forthcoming conferences/seminars
17-19 February 2010
Biennial conference of the Finnish Adult Education Research
Joensuu, Finland
More information available at: www.joensuu.fi/aitu

22 February, 2010
International seminar of study self-narrative: Theoretical and methodological paradigms of research and intervention in psychology and pedagogy.
Naples, Italy
More information at: narrative@unina.it

1 March, 2010
Workshop on The effects of globalization on lifelong learning and adult education
University of Duisburg-Essen in cooperation with DIE
More information available at: www.uni-due.de/eb-wb/globalisation

19-20 March, 2010
Third National Conference on Adult Education
Timisoara, Romania

30 May – 1 June, 2010
29th Annual conference of the Canadian association for the study of adult education
Concordia University, Montreal, Canada
More information available at: www.oise.utoronto.ca/CASAE/maineng.html

14-18 June, 2010
XIV WORLD CONGRESS WORLD COUNCIL OF COMPARATIVE EDUCATION SOCIETIES (WCCES)
BORDERING, RE-BORDERING AND NEW POSSIBILITIES IN EDUCATION AND SOCIETY”
İSTANBUL, Turkey

22-24 June, 2010
8th International PASCAL conference, Heritage, Regional Development and Social Cohesion
Östersund, Sweden
More information available at: pascal@jamtli.com

24-26 June, 2010
The first international theorizing education conference
The laboratory for educational theory at The Stirling institute of Education, University of Stirling, UK
More information available at: www.ioe.stir.ac.uk/research/letconference.php

6-8 July, 2010
40th Annual conference of SCRUTEA: Looking back, looking forward: Learning, teaching and research in adult education past, present and future
University of Warwick, UK
More information available at: www.scrutea.ac.uk

21-24 July 2010
2nd PARIS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION, ECONOMY & SOCIETY
Paris (France), Hotel Concorde La Fayette
More information at: http://www.education-conferences.org/

10-12 September, 2010
The 2010 conference of the British Association for International and Comparative Education
University of East Anglia, Norwich, UK
More information available at: www.baice.ac.uk

8-9 October, 2010
4th International Conference EDU WORLD 2010, with the main theme “Education Facing Contemporary World Issues”
Organizers: University of Bucharest
More information available at: www.eduworld.ro

10-11 February, 2011
CURATING THE EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY (European exposition and public debate)
Leuven University, Belgium

11-13 April, 2011
The fourth Nordic Conference on Adult Learning
Trondheim, Norway

New books on adult education/adult learning
Number 5 of Rizhome Freire at www.rizoma-freireano.org


Ongoing research projects

Community building in a changing city
An analysis of practices and discourses within the public space

Ledeberg lives!
Ledeberg, a formerly independent municipality that was added to the city of Ghent in 1977, is the central case of this study. We focus more specifically on the urban renewal processes in it. There is the public urban renewal project ‘Ledeberg lives!’ that wants to create progress at three levels: spatial, economical and socio-cultural. Physical interventions should enable investments on the economical and socio-cultural level. Beside this public project, there are also a number of private real estate projects being initiated or executed (often in cooperation with public agents).

Processes of community building as research focus
The starting point of this study is the planned interventions within processes of urban renewal. The objectives of these interventions are reflected against 2 interrelating perspectives: the perspective of residents and the perspective of professional community workers. This results in 3 research questions:
1. Which social and spatial changes do urban policies put forward? How do they realise these changes? And based on what perspective on urbanism and community?
2. Which social and spatial practices do residents develop within their neighbourhood? How do they appropriate the (changing) public spaces? How do they identify with their neighbourhood, the (planned) changes and community practices within it?
3. What are the functions and meanings of community practices in this context? Which interactions are enabled or disabled within them? How do these practices support residents in their identification with public space and in dealing with the social and spatial changes within their neighbourhood?

Participatory action research: professional partners
The research is strongly embedded within the local professional field of community practices. It is a shared learning process between researchers and social workers aimed at changing social reality. As a consequence, the control over the research process is not only a matter of the researchers, but is always a matter of “shared control”.

Research team: Sven De Visscher, Griet Verschelden en Greet De Brauwere
A new online network: Implexus – education, critique & complexity / éducation, critique et complexité

*Implexus* is an international network created in 2009. It aims to explore the possible benefits of an online social network constituted by individuals and groups interested in the critical dimension potentially associated with any educational approach. *Implexus* is designed to provide a space for everyone to introduce, share, and discuss practical and theoretical stakes inherent in the development of a critical capacity, at any age and in any context of life. More specifically, *implexus* aims to bring together communities of practices and/or research separated from each other because of cultural, linguistic, institutional, disciplinary or theoretical compartmentalizations. Doing so, *implexus* aims to contribute to the development of both a reflection on the complexity of critical learning and a critique of the conditions framing any kind of learning opportunity.

The audience targeted by *implexus* is constituted by researchers and scholars, students, teachers, professionals of adult education, leaders and administrators whose work involves reflecting on formal, informal education or lifelong learning. *Implexus* targets in particular those who challenge both the critical value of their work and their commitment among various communities, as well as the way such a critical value can be interpreted. At this time, *implexus* groups over 130 members from 20 countries (Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Greece, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Nigeria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States).

*Implexus* aims to transcend the compartmentalizations which limit today's reflections developed on critique and education. *Implexus* aims to help build bridges between cultural, linguistic, institutional or disciplinary territories which remain too often separated from each other. It also aims to privilege exchanges based on the constructive confrontation between heterogeneous theoretical and practical positions, whose contributions may be complementary or antagonistic with each other.

More information at: [http://implexus.ning.com](http://implexus.ning.com)

Contact: Dr. Michel Alhadeff-Jones (Teachers College, Columbia University / Laboratoire EXPERICE, Université de Paris 8) Email: ma2252@columbia.edu

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**HOW to become a member of ESREA**
Membership in ESREA is open to either individual members and to institutional members. As a member you have a reduced fee at ESREA activities and you receive information in the field of research on the education of adults through the ESREA e-mail list and through the ESREA newsletter. As an individual member you have the right to vote at the general assembly which takes place each year (virtually through postal ballot). As an institutional member, all employees at the institution have the right to participate in ESREA activities to a reduced fee. However, the institutional membership allows only one vote at the general assembly.

If you want to become a member the process is the following:
1. Download the document at www.esrea.org
2. Fill out the form and e-mail to andreas.fejes@liu.se
3. Within one-two weeks you will receive a confirmation of your membership by e-mail
4. At the same time as membership is confirmed you will be invoiced the membership fee which for 2009 is 50 Euros for individual members (25 Euros for phd or Edd students) and 150 Euros for institutional members. Payment of membership fees can only be made through an international or EU bank transfer. Cheques are not accepted.

Forthcoming Newsletters

If you want to have some information included in forthcoming newsletters, here are the deadlines for the forthcoming newsletters 2010.

Number 2 2010 – deadline for submission April 15
Number 3 2010 – deadline for submission June 15
Number 4 2010 – deadline for submission September 15
Number 5 2010 – deadline for submission November 15