Dear ESREA member,

This is my first newsletter as the new secretary of ESREA. These first months as a secretary have been a learning period in order to understand how ESREA is organised and my role. In March we had a steering committee meeting in Wroclaw, Poland. My meeting with the steering committee was very warm and positive and I’m amazed how many publications, activities and conferences that are going on in ESREA. In this newsletter you can read about some of them.

I hope that I, during my time as a secretary, can continue Andreas Fejes great work and that I can contribute, together with the steering committee and the network conveners, to continue to promote a high quality research in the area of adult education and learning.

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

Forthcoming ESREA activities
More information on the conferences and call for papers see www.esrea.org

The ESREA triennial conference, September 4-7, 2013, Humboldt University Berlin, Germany.

The 2013 conference of the ESREA research network on Gender and Adult learning, October 10-12, University of Coimbra, Portugal.

The 2013 conference of the ESREA research network on the Education and learning of older adults, October 23-25, Vilnius, Lithuania.
The 2013 conference at the ESREA research network on Adult educators, trainers and their professional development (ReNAdNT), November 1-3, Bonn, Germany.

The 2013 conference of the ESREA research network on Access, learning careers and identities, November 28-30, Linköping, Sweden.

The 2014 conference of the ESREA research network on "Life History and Biography Research", March 6-9, University of Magdeburg, Germany.

The 2014 conference of the ESREA research network on "Work life and Learning", 31 March - 2 April, University of Osnabrück, Germany.

The 2014 conference of the ESREA research network on "Migration, ethnicity, racism and xenophobia", May 14-16, Wroclaw, Poland.

The 2014 conference of the ESREA research network on Policy studies on adult education, June 18-20, Aalborg University, Denmark.

The 2014 conference of the ESREA research network Between Global and Local: Adult Learning and Development, June 26-28, Institute of Education, University of Lisbon, Portugal.

RELA has just released a new issue available at www.rela.ep.liu.se. There is also an open call for non-thematic related papers (continuously open for submissions).

**Forthcoming conferences/seminars**

20-23 May, 2013
15th annual international conference education
Athens institute for Education
For more information: [http://www.atiner.gr/education.htm](http://www.atiner.gr/education.htm)

5-7 June, 2013
HRD conference: HRD in turbulent seas
Brighton business school, Brighton, UK
More information at: [http://www.brighton.ac.uk/bbs/ufhrd2013/callforpapers.html](http://www.brighton.ac.uk/bbs/ufhrd2013/callforpapers.html)

12-14 June, 2013
Linköping University, Linköping, Sweden
More information available at: www.helixconference2013.com

14-18 June, 2013
The 20th Anniversary Conference for Vocational and Education and Culture-research network and the 2nd Conference for History of Vocational Education in Europe
Tampere, Finland
More information: www.peda.net/veraja/uta/vetculture/

17 June, 2013
Literacies in numbers: Researching the politics and practices of literacy assessment regimes
Institute of London, UK
More information: c.addey@uea.ac.uk

19-22 June, 2013
8th international conference: Researching work and learning
University of Stirling, Scotland
For more information: http://www.stir.ac.uk/education/researching-work-and-learning/

25-27 June, 2013
SCUTREA/CRLL joint conference
Glasgow Caledonian university, Scotland, UK
More information: www.crll.org.uk/conference/

10-12 July, 2013
The 8th international conference in critical management studies
University of Manchester, UK
More information: www.meeting.co.uk/confercare/cms2013/proposals.html

5th September 2013
The Educational Centres Association (ECA) and the Association for Education and Ageing (AEA) will be holding a joint one-day conference Celebrating Informal Learning and Well-Being in Later Life.
More information: http://www.associationforeducationandageing.org/

18-20 November 2013
The 11th Pascal conference, Cities Learning Together - Local Communities in the Sustainable and Healthy Learning City
Hong Kong, Kina
More information: http://conference.pascalobservatory.org/

New books in adult education/adult learning


**Ongoing research projects and announcements**

**OBSERVAL-Net Validation Prize 2013**

*Second announcement – EXTENDED DEAD LINE*

Barcelona, 05-04-2013 // EUCEN invites all organisations and individuals in Europe working in *Validation of Non-formal and Informal Learning* (VNIL) to send Case Studies. The received documents will compete for the OBSERVAL-Net Validation Prize 2013, which will be awarded in three categories: ‘Bottom Up Approach’, ‘New Profession’ and ‘Work-based Competence Development and Recognition’.

The *Validation Prize* is an award given in three categories to the most innovative and promising initiatives in the area of the Validation of Non-formal and Informal Learning (VNIL) across all sectors and levels of education in Europe. The prize will consist of an invitation to attend the Final Dissemination Event and Award Ceremony in Brussels, 15 October 2013 and a commemorative prize. All finalists will be invited to the event and their travel and accommodation will be covered on confirmation of attendance. The prizes will be awarded as part of the OBSERVAL-Net project and will showcase best VNIL practices in order to highlight the excellence of existing projects and to spread the awareness about VNIL initiatives among professionals in this area, as well as among citizens eager to have their learning outcomes and skills recognised and validated.

The Validation Prize 2013 edition focuses on **three distinct categories**:

- **The Bottom Up Approach**: The role of grassroots initiatives in supporting VNIL, and strategies towards their mainstreaming
- **The New Profession**: The competence profile required for VNIL professionals
- **Work-based Competence Development and Recognition**: The implementation of VNIL in the work place

The deadline for submitting case studies is 15 May 2013. New or updated case studies written in English language can be sent to EUCEN by using the case study template available at [http://www.observal-net.eu/validation-prize](http://www.observal-net.eu/validation-prize). For further information, please contact the EUCEN office via email at observal-net@eucen.eu.
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 sofia.nystrom@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 2010 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 2013.

Number 2 2013 – deadline for submission June 15
Number 3 2013 – deadline for submission September 14
Number 4 2013 – deadline for submission November 15