

## ESREA e.V. Newsletter Number 2, Summer 2019



### In this newsletter:

1. Election of the new ESREA Presidium 2020
2. Forthcoming Events – ESREA Conferences and Network Meetings
3. Reports on recent ESREA Network Meetings
4. Opportunities for students and early career researchers
5. Publications
6. RELA
7. How to become a member
8. Forthcoming newsletters

Dear ESREA Associates,

With our second newsletter this year we would like to draw your attention on a major event: the upcoming election of a new Presidium (former Steering Committee) for ESREA. The Presidium consists of 12 members elected by you, the Society's members, in a written ballot during the General Assembly in intervals of three years. Further, we report on conferences that have taken place in the previous months to keep you in track with our activities and networks. You will also find conference announcements, information for PhD students and early career researchers and notes on ESREA publications. Please also check our website <http://www.esrea.org/> for news.

The editorial team wishes you a very nice summer and relaxing holidays!

# ELECTION OF THE NEW ESREA PRESIDIUM

## FOR THE PERIOD 2020-2022

Dear ESREA members,

We are glad to announce the upcoming election - due in autumn - for a new ESREA Presidium. The three-year term of the current 12 members of the Presidium will end on 31 December 2019 and the newly elected members will commence their work on January the 1<sup>st</sup> 2020.

The Presidium together with the General Assembly and the Secretary constitute the Bodies of the Society. The Presidium (Steering Committee) comprises elected members who are appointed for a period of three years by means of a postal ballot of all members during an annual meeting. The elected members of the Presidium will then appoint the Chairperson and the Treasurer of the Society among them. The Chairperson constitutes the Board as required in Section 26 of the German Civil Code (*BGB*).

The members of the Presidium actively participate in at least two meetings each year, they engage in ESREA activities such as conferences and network meetings, the ESREA journal RELA and ESREA publications, and they represent ESREA within the national and international community.

Every member of the Society has the right to vote for the Presidium members; institutional members have only one vote (see our statutes).

We would like to encourage you, our members, to exercise your right and to vote or to stand as a candidate for the next Presidium. We wish that the list of candidates will represent the diversity of our Society in terms of geography, gender, cultural background, language, and research paradigm.

Candidates should announce their intention to stand for election per e-mail to the Secretary of ESREA ([ESREAsecretary@die-bonn.de](mailto:ESREAsecretary@die-bonn.de)) **no later than August 31**. Please note that all persons holding offices in the Society serve in an honorary capacity. ESREA does not contribute to the costs of travel or accommodation incurred by members of the Presidium.

We will be delighted to give potential candidates the opportunity to present themselves in the next ESREA newsletter, in which detailed information on the election procedure and a time plan will also be delivered.

Alexandra Ioannidou

Secretary

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

### **ESREA CONFERENCES AND NETWORK MEETINGS**

#### **September 19-22, 2019**

This year's major ESREA event is the 9th **Triennial European Research Conference**. It takes place on 19-22 September 2019 in Belgrade, Serbia.

Theme of the Conference is **Adult Education Research and Practice between the Welfare State and Neoliberalism**.

For further information go to: <http://www.aes.rs/esrea2019/>

#### **October 16-18, 2019**

The ESREA 6th Conference on the Network **Adult Educators, Trainers and their Professional Development** takes place on 16-18 October 2019 in Thessaloniki, Greece.

Theme of the Conference: „**Adult educators in times of changing cultures: embracing diversity for empowerment and inspiration.**”

For further information go to:

<https://renadet.weebly.com/6th-renadet-meeting.html>

#### **November 7-9, 2019**

The ESREA Conference on the Network **ESREA Access, Learning Careers and Identities Network Conference, Faculty of Psychology and Sciences of Education** takes place on 7-9 November 2019 in Coimbra, Portugal.

Theme of the Conference: "**Adult education as a resource for resistance and transformation: Voices, learning experiences and identities of student and adult educators.**"

For further information go to:

<https://esreafpceuc2019.wixsite.com/esrea2019>

The following **international research conference** is organized by the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, and ESREA - among other associations – supports it:

#### **June 4-7, 2020**

Theme of the Conference is **Adult Education in Global Times**. It takes place on 4-7 June 2020 in Vancouver, Canada.

For further information and Call for Proposal go to: <https://edst.educ.ubc.ca/aegt2020/>

## REPORTS ON RECENT ESREA NETWORK CONFERENCES

### ESREA Conference of the Network Life History and Biography

The 27<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Life History and Biography Network was held at the beginning of March in Bergen, at the Western Norway University of Applied Sciences. The title – *Artful languages and narratives of adult learning* - was meant to address the role of language in researching adult learning and education. Language is a living thing that helps create families, societies, disciplines, and popular movements. It can identify us by our ethnicity, gender, class, sexuality, or political leanings. Language can also fall short and fail to embrace the complexity and illusive quality of lived experience, including its spiritual dimensions. There is also language beyond words: in music, dance, image and artfulness. There is violence as well as possibility inherent in our use of language. In the context of the LHBN network, language, and whose language is used, has been a constant issue, including what is lost in translation, or the inadequacy of our language to do justice to others' experience. And when we use language in life history and biographic research, who are we? Poets, scientists, novelists or whatever; and what language or discursive regimes shape our encounters with the humanity of the other as well as ourselves?

The conference gathered around 50 participants from different parts of Europe and the larger world. Many artful events accompanied three days of interesting presentations, deep discussions, and amazing workshops: music, literature, theatre, images, walkabouts, and a great “soup and story” dinner in private houses scattered around Bergen, were the perfect complement to a thoughtful and remarkable conference. I am amazed how the community of Life Histories and Biographies is evolving. I am especially thankful to the organizers: Jan Kåre Breivik, Mette Bøe Lyngstad, Vibeke Solbue, Berit Bareksten, Hilde Haaland-Kramer and Yvonne Wang, and to my co-convenors, Linden West and Alan Bainbridge. See you all next year in Canterbury!

Laura Formenti,  
ESREA Chair and Convenor

### ESREA Conference of the Network Policy Studies on Adult Education

On May 16–18, 2019, the Faculty of Arts at Charles University (Prague) hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> conference of the ESREA Network Policy Studies on Adult Education titled “Adult Education and Learning Policy in a World Risk Society”. The conference was attended by 58 experts from 20 countries in Europe and beyond, particularly: Australia, Canada and the USA. In their presentations, the participants dealt with issues of social, political, economic and environmental risks related to adult learning policies formulated at different levels, from local to transnational. A total of 39 presentations were given in 13 sections, with five of them comprising a symposium on public policies addressing the labour market position of young adults in EU countries.

Plenary lectures were given by Anke Grotlüschen (Universität Hamburg) and Sotiria Grek (Nottingham University). Anke Grotlüschen analysed studies of literacy and at-risk groups, while Sotiria Grek dealt with problems of expertise and policy making by international organisations such as the OECD or the UNESCO. The plenary agenda also included two roundtables, one on learning civic competences in the context of post-communist Europe and the other on possibilities of education policy's social responsibility in the era of populism.

Marcella Milana,  
Convenor

## ESREA Conference of the Network Between Global and Local - Adult Learning and Communities

From the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> of June the ESREA research network Between Global and Local: Adult Learning and Communities came together to debate the question of "Living and learning in diverse communities". After the last conferences of the network in Wroclaw (2017) and Opatija (2018), the call sought to focus on the effects of contradictory global and national policy discourses (the UN's educational SDGs, the EU and LLL, national drives towards employability and individualised 'up-skilling', for example) and the real state of adult learning in the context of populism, 'fortress Europe' and the decline of welcoming cultures.

The hosts of the conference, the Institute for Human Development and Cultural Studies at the Faculty of Humanities, University of Pécs together with the House of Civic Communities of the Educators' Centre Association in Pécs, Hungary, offered – aside from a rich local cultural programme – a marvellously inspiring venue for the work of the conference. A modest-sized conference such as this network recently has become allows an enviably high level of interpersonal contact and permits bonds between 'historical' and 'recent' network members to be forged in deep conversation and shared experience. This was particularly important in Pécs, and the network is grateful to the hosts for providing us with such an intimate meeting-place, as views, wholly foreign to the network's publicly communicated values – solidarity, social justice, anti-sexism and active promotion of diversity and inclusion – were awarded space during the work of the conference and the participants and convenors were faced with the dilemma of responding to blatant chauvinism and tired, ignorant versions of racism and elitism. The convenors are conscious of the fact that they were not nearly as decisive in their response as was called for and offer this experience to convenors of ESREA's networks as encouragement to maintain the high levels of academic integrity our networks have always achieved.

The conference found its way to a very productive reassessment of its current position and was drawn to reconsider the theoretical and practical traditions of our research practices. It is to this and to a cool assessment of where we are and what we can do in the local conditions of our global world that we will return to consider our origins and our future next year at the next annual meeting of the network.

Rob Evans,  
Convenor

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS AND EARLY CAREER RESEARCHERS

The Goethe University Frankfurt and the Eberhard-Karls-University Tübingen are inviting applications for 12 doctoral student positions in the DFG Research Training Group “Doing Transitions” starting on 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2020 for a fixed term of 3 years, located in Frankfurt and in Tübingen respectively.

For a detailed description of the research programme and guidelines for applications go to: <http://www.doingtransitions.org/>

## PUBLICATIONS

### **New Publications:**

Fejes, Andreas/ Nylander, Erik. (Eds) (2019) Mapping out the Research Field of Adult Education and Learning. Switzerland: Springer International Publishing.

The publication can be found at: <https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783030109455>

Anja Heikkinen, Jenni Pätäri & Gabriele Molzberger (Eds) (2019) Disciplinary Struggles in Education. Tampere University Press.

The publication is available online free of charge at: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-359-002-1>.

## RELA



We are pleased to inform you that the new issue of RELA – *European Journal for Research on the Education and Learning of Adults*, have just been published.

The issue can be found at RELAs homepage: <https://www.rela.ep.liu.se/contents.asp?doi=10.3384/rela.2000-7426.19102>

The theme of this issue is: Adult Education and the Aesthetic Experience.

## HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER OF ESREA e.V.

Membership in ESREA is open to individual and institutional members. As a member you will get a reduced fee at ESREA activities, information in the field of research on the education of adults through the ESREA mailing list and newsletter. As an individual member you have the right to vote at the general assembly that takes place each year (online through postal ballot). As an institutional member, all employees of your institution are entitled to participate in ESREA activities at a reduced fee. However, institutional members have only one vote in the general assembly.

If you want to become a member the process is the following:

1. Download the document at: <http://www.esrea.org/about-us/membership/>
2. Fill in the membership application form and e-mail it to: [ESREAsecretary@die-bonn.de](mailto:ESREAsecretary@die-bonn.de).
3. Within two weeks at the latest you will receive a confirmation of your membership by e-mail
4. Together with the membership confirmation mail you will received an invoice for your membership fee which for 2019 is 50 Euros for individual members (25 Euros for students and PhD students) and 150 Euros for institutional members. **Payment of membership fees can only be made through an international or EU bank transfer.**

ESREA Bank details for membership fee:

**Bank:** Sparkasse KölnBonn

**Account holder:** European Society for Research on the Education of Adults (ESREA) e.V.

**Account number:** 1934820174

**IBAN:** DE73 3705 0198 1934 8201 74

**BIC:** COLSDE33XXX

**VAT Number:** DE324070933

## **FORTHCOMING NEWSLETTERS**

If you would like some information from you to be included in forthcoming newsletters, here are the deadlines for 2019:

**Number 3 2019:** deadline for inclusion **1 September**

**Number 4 2019:** deadline for inclusion **1 December**

### **Editorial Office**

Alexandra Ioannidou

Susanne Lattke

Lena Sindermann

[ESREAsecretary@die-bonn.de](mailto:ESREAsecretary@die-bonn.de)

Date of Publication: 10 July 2019

### **European Society for Research on the Education of Adults e.V. (ESREA)**

Heinemannstr. 12-14, 53175 Bonn, Germany

[www.esrea.org](http://www.esrea.org)

Sitz des Vereins ist Bonn eingetragen beim Amtsgericht Bonn, VR 11467

Vorstand i.S.v. § 26 BGB: Prof. Laura Formenti

Geschäftsführerin: Dr. Alexandra Ioannidou

Schatzmeister: Prof. Bernd Käpplinger

VAT Number: DE324070933