

European Society *for* Research *on the* Education of Adults

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Dear ESREA associates,

With this newsletter I'd like to call your attention to two major events:

The first one and in short term is *the ESREA Triennial Conference* taking place in Belgrade from September 19 to 22. The local organisers of the Conference, the Department of Andragogy in the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Belgrade, are looking forward to welcoming you on their site. Conference programme as well as all related information can be found at:

<http://www.aes.rs/esrea2019/>

The second one has to do with *the election of a new Presidium* (former Steering Committee) of ESREA. As already announced in the July newsletter the three-year term of the current 12 members of the Presidium will end on December 31 2019. The position of the Secretary is not affected by the elections, this mandate ends on December 31 2021. And whereas the attendance of ESREA conferences and network meeting is open to all members and friends, participation in the election procedure and therefore, the right to engage in the governance of the Society and influence its future policy is given only to members. You still have the chance to apply for or renew your membership at:

<http://www.esrea.org/about-us/membership/>

A few words on the election procedure:

Every (paid-up) member of the Society has the right to stand for election and vote for the Presidium members; institutional members have only one vote. The Presidium consists of 12 members elected by the Society's members in a written ballot during the General Assembly. The Chair of the Society, Prof. Laura Formenti, will announce in due time the dates for the annual meeting of the General Assembly.

The final list of candidates, including candidate presentations, will be circulated by e-mail *only to members* eligible for election in the form of a ballot paper a couple of weeks before the General Assembly takes place. This e-mail will include instructions as to voting procedures. You may vote for up to twelve members, i.e. to compose your dream Presidium!

At this point, let me take the opportunity to thank all members of the current Presidium who worked hard and dedicated during the previous years to make ESREA what it is today: a well-known and vibrant community of researchers on the education of adults!

We asked from the candidates for the new Presidium to present themselves in a few words: who they are, what ESREA means to them, and why they candidate. In the current newsletter you will find their answers.

So stay tuned and see you in Belgrade!

Alexandra Ioannidou
Secretary

Election of a new ESREA presidium for the period 2020-2022

Presentation of the Candidates

Cristina Maria Coimbra Vieira



Institution:
University of Coimbra

Academic Position:
Associate Professor

Who am I?

My name is Cristina C. Vieira and I am an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Psychology and Sciences of Education, University of Coimbra, Portugal. My teaching areas are the methodologies of scientific research in education, both quantitative and qualitative approaches, and issues of gender and learning in adult life. I have been actively involved since 2000 in the *Portuguese Association of Women Studies*, which is an NGO working on the promotion of the rights of women and gender equality, through the dissemination of scientific knowledge. Since 2017 I am member of the Direction of the *Portuguese Society of Sciences of Education*.

What ESREA means to me

I am a member since 2011. For me ESREA is a community of researchers deeply and honestly involved in researching and disseminating knowledge about adults and their learning contexts, in order to positively influence practices and policies. The theoretical and methodological diversity of adult education field are very welcome in ESREA community.

Why I candidate?

Following the heritage of my Portuguese colleagues, I decided to accept the challenge to apply for the 2017-2019 mandate. This was my first experience in ESREA board and I had the possibility to learn about the importance of ESREA to consolidate the scientific identity of researchers that work on adult education, respecting European diversity. I am renewing my application for a second mandate of a three-year period because I would like to have the opportunity to continue the task of attracting Portuguese senior and junior researchers to ESREA and also to have more opportunities to enlarge the networks of research between Portugal and other countries.

Why you should vote for me

I believe that I am able to represent properly my country and with my experience in ESREA I am able to continue to attract other researchers. Portugal is a small country that suffered recently austerity policies that almost destroyed the public investment in adult education. Gradually the field is recovering, but it is crucial to have the support, the networks, and the potential of development that ESREA is able to offer to its members and countries.

Andreas Fejes



Institution:
Linköping University

Academic Position:
**Professor in General and
Social Pedagogy**

Who am I?

I'm professor and chair of adult education research at Linköping University in Sweden where I since 2012 direct a research group today consisting of 29 people who conduct research, teaching and outreach work within the area of adult education and vocational education.

What ESREA means to me

I have a long term commitment to ESREA, first serving as the secretary between 2007-2012, and later on as member of the Steering committee 2013-2018. Since 2009 I have acted as one of the editors of the European Journal for Research on the Education and Learning of Adults (RELA) and I have also partaken in conferences of several of the ESREA research networks.

For me ESREA represents an important actor in the promotion and support of high quality research as well as support of early career researchers in the area of adult education and learning, in Europe as well as beyond. As basis for the operation of ESREA is the voluntarily engagement of scholars who, on behalf of the society, engage as conveners, participants, editors, reviewers etc. For me, such decentralized operation as well as engagement is crucial for the further success of the society.

Why I candidate and why you should vote for me

A vote for me would mean a further support for a decentralized organization of ESREA, as well as further work in order to promote high quality research in the area of adult education and learning. Of essence here is among other things a well-functioning peer-reviewed journal (RELA) and a well-functioning publication process of a peer-reviewed dedicated book series with a focus on supporting the publication of research conducted in different geographical and linguistic locations.

Fergal Finnegan



Institution:
Maynooth University

Academic Position:
Lecture

Who am I?

Fergal Finnegan is Associate Professor at the Department of Adult and Community Education, Maynooth, National University of Ireland and is a co-director of the Doctorate in Higher and Adult Education and the PhD in Adult and Community Education programmes.

Before becoming an academic I was a community adult educator and literacy worker for a decade and these experiences have strongly shaped me. My research interests include biographical methods, social class, access and equality in higher education, popular education and social movements as well as critical realism and Pierre Bourdieu. I recently co-authored a book *Access and Widening Participation in Irish Higher Education* for Palgrave Macmillan as well as edited a book for Policy Press *Funding, Power and Community Development* and for Routledge based on a comparative study of non-traditional students across Europe entitled *Student Voices on Inequalities: Challenges for Theory, Policy and Practice in a Time of Change*. I have a longstanding interest in critical pedagogy and transformative education and I am one of the editors of the *Journal of Transformative Education* and a co-edited volume entitled *European perspectives on Transformation Theory*, has just been published.

What ESREA means to me

I have been an active member of the European Society Research on Education of Adults (ESREA) for almost a decade. I first attended an ESREA conference as a doctoral student and the ethos, atmosphere and the quality of the dialogue at these events impressed me a great deal. I participated in various network conferences after this and ESREA became a vital space for me as a researcher. As a result I lead the organization of the 2016 ESREA Triennial held in Maynooth University. I am currently a co-convenor of the network on *Active Democratic Citizenship and Adult Learning*. In this network we have begun experimenting with the standard conference format to ensure that there is time and space for meaningful exchange. I became a member of the steering committee and vice-chair three years ago. Besides this I have edited two books for the ESREA book series (both are in press) and have recently been appointed as one of the editors of the RELA.

Why I candidate and why you should vote for me

I would like the opportunity to continue working on the steering committee because I think ESREA is a crucial organization in the field of adult education in terms of creating space for critical research and supporting early career and doctoral students. We are in challenging times for critical adult education research and I want to give my energy and time to ensuring such research can flourish. Thank you for your consideration.

Laura Formenti



**Institution:
University of
Milano Bicocca**

**Academic Position:
Professor in General and
Social Pedagogy**

Who am I?

Presently I am the Chair of ESREA. I served for 9 years in the Steering Committee and I am still eager to give my contribution, if I will be re-elected.

I am a Full Professor in General and Social Pedagogy at the University of Milano Bicocca, Department of Human Sciences for Education and the coordinator of a PhD program Education in Contemporary Society. I speak English and French, since I worked in Switzerland and shortly in the US in the past.

As President of RUIAP, the Italian Network of Universities for Lifelong Learning, I am presently engaged with all sorts of stakeholders' networks. After many years doing research, I am re-discovering the relevance of my work and the role of universities in public engagement and social justice.

What ESREA means to me

To me, ESREA is "home": I started in 1993 with the Life History and Biography Network, as a PhD student. The colleagues I met there taught me everything I know about adult education and learning, and searching lives. The field has changed a lot, ESREA became important to many people, not least because our values are strong, and the atmosphere of our events is special. It is not only about making good enough, meaningful research: it is about building our identities as scholars and a community of learners.

Why I candidate?

We are always struggling, the conditions of early researchers are especially very bad: ESREA can be a place for authentic relationships, and critical friendly feedback. I candidate to keep it going. We need committed people, not only enthusiastic but aware that the task is difficult but worthwhile.

Why you should vote for me

I cannot say why you should vote for me. Maybe because I am honest and I care for people.

Maria N. Gravani



Institution:
Open University of Cyprus

Academic Position:
Assistant Professor

Who am I?

Dr Maria N. Gravani. I am currently an Assistant Professor in Adult/Continuing Education at the Open University of Cyprus (OUC), School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and Academic Coordinator at the OUC of the “International Masters’ in Adult Education for Social Change” (Erasmus Mundus) (2016-present) and the MA in “Continuing Education and Lifelong Learning” (2014-present). I completed my graduate studies in continuing education at the GSE, University of Bristol, UK (2003) and, since then, I have worked as an assistant professor, lecturer, researcher and postdoctoral fellow in four countries (UK, Republic of Ireland, Greece, Cyprus), researching, in particular, adult learning and teaching in different contexts (second chance, higher and distance education). I have participated in more than 15 research projects in adult/continuing education with different roles (coordinator, principal investigator, researcher) and I’ve also been involved in adult education research through doctoral and masters’ theses supervision, my role as a reviewer and occasional reviewer in international journals (including: Journal of Adult and Continuing Education, International Journal of Lifelong Education, Adult Education Quarterly), PhD external examiner, etc. My research has been published in more than 50 papers (including peer reviewed journals, books, book chapters, edited volumes, conference proceedings) and has received more than 480 citations. Details about my research can be found here: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=pj4JE48AAAAJ&hl=en> & <https://ouc.academia.edu/MariaNGravani>

What ESREA means to me

I am an active member of the ESREA community over the last 10 years, and, in particular, of the Network for Adult Educators, Trainers and their Professionalization (ReNAdET). Since 2017 I have been an elected Member of the ESREA Steering Committee (Presidium). I sit on the Advisory Editorial Board of the European Journal of Research on the Education and Learning of Adults (RELA). In 2015 I have organized in Cyprus the 4th Biennial conference of the ReNAdET network and prepared (along with networks’ convenors) an edited volume titled: “The role of higher education in the professionalization of adult educators” which will be published by Cambridge Scholars Publishing in 2019.

Why I candidate and why you should vote for me

I consider ESREA as my family and as the most important organization, network of active researchers and vehicle to promote high quality adult education research in Europe and Southern Europe, therefore I express my interest to stand for election for the ESREA Presidium (2020-2022).

Bernd Käpplinger



Institution:
**Justus-Liebig University
of Giessen**

Academic Position:
**Full Professor for Continuing
Education**

Who am I?

Institutional affiliation: Justus-Liebig-University Giessen, Germany

Academic Position: Full Professor for Continuing Education, Institute for Educational Science

Research interests: Program Planning and Research, Participation in Adult Education, Guidance & Counselling related to Adult Learning, History of Adult Education

What ESREA means to me

Engagement in ESREA activities:

- Member of the Steering committee of ESREA (2016-2019)
- Member of the Scientific committee of the 9th Triennial Research Conference of ESREA in Belgrade in 2019
- Reviewer and author for RELA - European Journal for Research on the Education and Learning of Adults (RELA) that is published on behalf of ESREA.
- Various participations in the ESREA Research Network on Adult Educators, Trainers and their Professional Development (ReNADET)
- Co-Editor of the Series Studies in Pedagogy, Andragogy, and Gerontagogy at LANG, in which ESREA members are publishing
- Lecturer in Roskilde summer schools for young researchers from 2015 to 2018
- Head of the organizing committee for the host (HU Berlin) of the 7th Triennial Research Conference of ESREA in Berlin in 2013. Co-editor of conference proceedings for ESREA 2013

Why I candidate and why you should vote for me

Especially three aspects would have my attention within the future Presidium - Steering Committee:

- Supporting young researchers and helping them to develop an identification with Adult Education Research and ESREA
- Bridging various gaps and balancing interests within ESREA and Adult Education Research generally: Qualitative and quantitative research, scientific standards and social responsibility/activism, Anglophone International and mother tongues, securing achievements and encouraging innovations
- Reaching out or revitalizing relatively underrepresented areas of ESREAs uneven research map. Strengthening global relations and exchange beyond Europe.

Emilio Lucio-Villegas



Institution:
University of Seville

Academic Position:
Associate Professor

Who am I?

I am Professor on Adult Education at the University of Seville, Spain. I hold a PhD in Pedagogy with a Thesis on Participatory Research in Adult Education. Since this my works is focused on Adult Education. I am author or coauthor of articles, chapters and books in Spanish, English and Portuguese. I was Head of the *Instituto de Ciencias de la Educación* at the University of Seville (1992-1995). From 2008 to 2013 I was Head of *The Paulo Freire Chair at the University of Seville*. I hold the *Phyllis M. Cunningham Award for Social Justice* presented in 2010. I participated in research at national and international level.. Latest publication includes the book: *Adult education and communities. Approaches from a participatory perspectives* published by Sense Publishers in 2015.

What ESREA means to me

I am member of ESREA since 2001.

I am member of the Steering Committee of ESREA since 2008.

I am Convenor of the Network: 'Between Global and Local: Adult Learning and Communities', since 2005.

I was member of the Organizing Committee of the 5th Triennial Conference of ESREA that took place in Seville in September 2007. Proceedings of the Conference were published in 3 volumes.

I was member of the Organizing Committee of the Seminar of the ESREA Network: 'Between Global and Local: Adult Learning and Development', celebrated in Seville in May 2010. Proceedings of the Seminar were published in a single volume.

I am Consulting Editor of RELA.

I am one of the Editors of the Book Series: 'Research on the Education and Learning of Adults'.

Why I candidate and why you should vote for me

I consider that ESREA is a very important space that join researchers from different parts of Europe, with different sensibilities, different approaches to research either in methodologies, or interests. In this sense, I think that guarantee and promote the diversity of Europe is very important in the current situation.

In the past years I worked as one of the editors of the book series published by Brill/Sense in open access. I would like to work in this matter in the future. Sharing research and knowledge is a very significant element to create and maintain a community of researchers.

Jyri Manninen



Institution:
University of Eastern Finland

Academic Position:
**Professor (Adult and
Continuing Education)**

Who am I?

Academic Position:

Professor (Adult & Continuing Education)

Research interests:

Wider benefits of adult learning; non-formal, non-vocational adult education; educational policy; virtual and face-to-face learning environments; university pedagogy; blended learning;

What ESREA means to me

I have been a member of ESREA since the beginning and have participated six Triennial conferences starting from the conference held in Strobl, Austria. In addition, I have attended several network seminars. In 1990's I was a member of the ESREA Network on Active Democratic Citizenship and Adult Learning and have re-joined that network in 2016. In 2016 I was elected in ESREA steering committee, and have participated actively in meetings and discussions. I was also one of the three organizers of the ESREA spring school in Como in April 2019.

In addition, I have been involved actively since 1992 in 14 European research projects (funded by ESF, Leonardo, Socrates, IST, Erasmus, Nordplus, EU), in five of these in leading research role. I have also been working in several countries as expert for Twinning programme, OECD, World Bank, Helsinki Consulting Group HCG and NVL.

Why I candidate and why you should vote for me

For me ESREA have been an excellent forum to keep up with different European research themes and perspectives, follow interesting research and researchers, and develop research networks and cooperation. As a member of ESREA steering committee over the past 3 years I have been able to bring the Finnish and Nordic perspective in the discussions and decision making. I am happy to continue as a member of ESREA Presidium for the next three years, if elected.

Barbara Merrill



Institution:
University of Warwick

Academic Position:
Associate Professor

Who am I?

I have been working in the field of European adult education for a long time. I have co-ordinated several EU funded projects involving ESREA members as partners. My research interests include access and experiences of adult students in HE; learning identities; class and gender inequalities; biographical research and comparative European research. In my department I have been Director of Research and Director of Graduate Studies. I have supervised several adult PhD students and mentored early career researchers. I have developed research in relation to class, gender and adult students in HE. I have promoted biographical research using feminist approaches in understanding learning experiences.

What ESREA means to me

I have been actively involved in ESREA since the late 1990s in several ways. I am a member of the current ESREA Steering Committee and a member of previous Steering Committees. I founded and now co-ordinate with two other colleagues the Access, Learning Careers and Identities Network. With Agnieszka Bron and Edmee Ollagnier I was a co-founder of the Gender and Adult Learning Network. I attend the Life History and Biographical Research Network conferences and the ESREA Triennial conferences. I have edited two of the ESREA/Peter Lang book series and one of the ESREA/Sense Brill book series. I am one of the editors for the ESREA Sense/ Brill publications series and a member of the RELA Journal Editorial Board. I am the ESREA representative for the Adult Education in Global Times conference at UBC, Vancouver, 2020.

Why I candidate and why you should vote for me

I will continue to promote ESREA in Europe and beyond and contribute to its activities. I have participated in the work of ESREA as I believe it provides an important research forum and network for adult educators. It is also important for me and the UK to be involved in a European network following BREXIT. Without an involvement in ESREA UK adult education will become insular and isolated. It is important to keep a dialogue with Europe going and work together in such times. I have a long and strong commitment to ESREA.

Marcella Milana



Institution:
University of Verona

Academic Position:
Associate Professor

Who am I?

I am Associate Professor at the University of Verona, Italy, where I direct the International Research Centre for Global and Comparative Policy Studies on the Education and Learning of Adults, and research the politics, policy and governance of adult education.

What ESREA means to me

I joined ESREA as a postgraduate fellow. My first impression (confirmed over the years) was of a lively community of scholars that acknowledge the plurality of cultural traditions and languages Europe entails, who are passionate to research and critically debate adult education matters, and strongly committed to make this field of research grow. Over the years, I came to serve ESREA: as co-Convenor of the Research Network on Policy Studies on Adult Education (since 2011), as member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the ESREA Book Series (2012-2013), then as co-Editor (since 2014); as member of the ESREA Steering Committee (since 2014), and as Consulting Editor of the RELA journal (since 2018).

Why I candidate?

I still have the will, passion and energy to do my outmost best to further support the Society's many activities.

Why you should vote for me

In serving the Society, I have gained a deeper understanding of its actual strengths and its potentials. May I have the opportunity to continue my service in the ESREA Presidium, I can make an important contribution, chiefly, to:

1. Make ESREA and its activity better known among scholarly communities that are still under-represented;
2. Make ESREA and its members to improve the quality of ESREA sponsored publications;
3. Make ESREA, its members, and the research they produce more visible among policy makers, especially international organizations;
4. Improve the dialogue and links between ESREA research and policy in the education and learning of adults.

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**.

See here the [Conference programme](#) and the [Conference detailed programme](#)

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

October 16-18, 2019

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

Theme of the Conference is **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 next **Access, learning Careers and Identities** Network conference will be held at the University of Coimbra, Portugal, 5-7 November 2019. The title of the conference is **Adult education as a Resource for Resistance and Transformation: Voices, learning experiences of students and adult educators**.

For further information go to: <https://esreafpceuc2019.wixsite.com/esrea2019>

April 22-24, 2020

The 5th ESREA Conference of the Network **Migration, Transnationalism and Racisms** takes place on 22-24 April 2020 in Glasgow, Scotland.

Further information will be published on the ESREA webpage soon.

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/aeqt2020/>

Calls and Conference Proceedings

Call for abstracts: 2019 eucen Autumn Seminar | Learning for Entrepreneurship: A Global Citizen perspective

University Lifelong Learning and Adult Education can play an important role in reaching the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. You can submit your abstracts here before Monday 30 September 2019.

For further information go to: <https://eucenstudies.eucen.eu/current-call/>

ESREA Network **Access, Learning careers and Identity**

We are very pleased to present you the new proceedings of the last meeting of the Network **Access, Learning careers and Identity**. The Conference took place in Rennes, France and was titled **Exploring Learning Contexts: Implications for Access, Learning Careers and Identity**.

RELA



We are very pleased to inform you about the new RELA Call for Papers concerning sustainability and adult education.

Further information about RELA – European Journal for Research on the Education and Learning of Adults, can be found at: <http://www.esrea.org/publications/rela/>

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.
3. Within two weeks you will be notified by e-mail whether your membership application has been accepted.
4. Together with the membership confirmation mail you will receive 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 is the last deadline for 2019:

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

Editorial Office

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Susanne Lattke

Lena Sindermann

ESREAsecretary@die-bonn.de

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