



Minutes of the EERA Council Meeting in Berlin

17 September 2011

Gesellschaft für Erdkunde, Arno-Holz-Straße 14, 12165 Berlin

Participants:

Herbert Altrichter, Österreichische Gesellschaft für Forschung und Entwicklung (OEFEB); **David Bridges**, British Educational Research Association (BERA), **Ana Paula Cabral**, Centro de Investigação, Difusão e Intervenção Educacional (CIDInE); **Ross Deuchar**, Scottish Educational Research Association (SERA); **Mustafa Yunus Eryaman**, Turkish Educational Research Association (EAB); **Maria Pacheco Figueiredo**, Networks' Representative on Council; **Francesca Gobbo**, Società Italiana di Pedagogia (SIPED), **Ian Grosvenor**, EERA Secretary General; **Tina Hascher**, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Erziehungswissenschaft (DGfE); **Gunilla Holm**, Finnish Educational Research Association (FERA); **Marit Honerod Hoveid**, EERA Secretary General Elect; **Gonzalo Jover Olmeda**, Sociedad Espanola de Pedagogia (SEP); **Edwin Keiner**, EERJ; **Paulina Korsnakova**, Slovak Educational (research) Society (SERS), **John Krejsler**, Nordic Educational Research Association (NERA); **Harm Kuper**, Local Organising Committee; **Sofia Marques da Silva**, Sociedade Portuguesa de Ciências da Educação (SPCE); **Katharina Maag Merki**, Swiss Society for Research in Education (SSRE); **Raquel-Amaya Martínez González**, Asociación Interuniversitaria de Investigación Pedagógica (AIDIPE); **Joanna Michalak**, Polskie Towarzystwo Pedagogiczne (PTP); **Lejf Moos**, EERA President; **Joe O'Hara**, Educational Studies Association of Ireland (ESAI); **Gyöngyvér Pataki**, Hungarian Educational Research Association (HERA); **Daniela Preis**, EERA Administrative Assistant; **Victoria Quesada**, LOC 2012; **Huseyin Uzunboylu**, Cyprus Educational Sciences Association (KEB-DER); **Angelika Wegscheider**, EERA Office Manager; **Theo Wubbels**, EERA Treasurer, Vereniging voor Onderwijs Research (VOR); **Pavel Zgaga**, Slovenian Educational Research Association (SLODRE)

Minutes: Daniela Preis

1 Apologies for Absence and Welcome to New Members

Apologies: Inger Kraav, Brigitte Gruson, Iouri Zagoumenov, Konstantinos Malafantis, Petr Novotny and Sakri Cincir

Representative of new Slovenian association welcomed: Pavel Zgaga

2 Confirmation of Minutes

Raquel Almayra Martinez Gonzales had asked via email to all council members to amend the minutes regarding Spanish Keynote speakers for ECER 2012. Her suggestions were accepted. Theo Wubbels asked to amend the sentence "Funding is no problem in the Netherlands" to ... "not a big problem." Council confirmed the Minutes with this amendment.

3 Matters Arising from Minutes

Lejf Moos suggested in the name of the executive board to appoint James Calderhead, the first EERA President, as a life member.

Council approved.



4 ECER-Reports

4.1 Berlin 2011

LOC was very satisfied with the conference. It all worked out well, and Harm Kuper thanked the volunteers, Gernot Goldenbaum and the EERA Office for their good work and cooperation. Harm Kuper just recommended that Council should perhaps join the fund raising in future, as this may help to get contacts more easily, and it could be interesting to come to know the funding structures in the different countries.

4.2 Cadiz 2012

Victoria Quesada reported that the Local Organising Committee is made up of 14 persons, of which 8 are actively involved in the organisation of ECER. A new Rector has just taken over, and there will be a meeting with him in October, to invite him to support ECER as well. The rooms in the university as well as 2500 hotel rooms are reserved. Some people have already asked for information on how to get there and where to stay. Therefore this information should be available online as soon as possible.

4.3 Istanbul 2013

The conference will take place in the second week of September, i.e. from Monday – Friday, 9 to 13 September 2013. There are already contacts with the Turkish Ministry of Education and with the Turkish EU Representative, who showed interest in coming.

4.4 London 2014

Danny Durant, the main organiser in London already organised several BERA conferences. It was agreed that contract discussion would only start in 2012.

4.5 2015 and onwards

Gyöngyvér Pataki said that her association thinks about organising an ECER in Budapest, but that it might be difficult to find funding in Hungary.

Francesca Gobbo reported that there will be a meeting in October, where it will be decided if an ECER could be organised in Italy.

The two representatives from Portugal, Ana Paula Cabral and Sofia Marques da Silva informed Council that the Rector of the University of Porto supports the idea of organising ECER there, and that there would be students' hostels on the campus and enough hotels in the city centre, and that the Underground from the Campus to the city centre would only take 2 to 3 minutes. Council welcomed the luxurious situation of having 3 candidates and asked that applications should be sent well before the next council meeting and also include information if candidates consider 2016 or 2017 as well. EERA Office will forward the handouts on applications to the candidates.

Gunilla Holm pointed out that funding in Helsinki did not mean financial support, but support with services, like the city cards or the organisation of a reception.

5 Reports 2010 - 11 and Strategies 2011 - 12 (exculpation of executives; discussions and decisions of strategies)

5.1 President and Secretary General

Leif Moos presented his report and specifically pointed out following items (full text of report: see agenda)



Visibility and External Relations

ISE now has a new structure and is looking very actively for a new president. There will be a meeting in Frankfurt next week. The challenge is now to find out if lobbying with hard scientists is interesting for EERA, or if the focus is too different. Lejf Moos suggested to give it another year. The member associations should be informed by their Council Representatives about this part of EERA's work. It can't be taken for granted that on a national basis, the members are aware of the importance of this work. The executive board will feed the council members with information they can then forward and discuss within their associations. One council member suggested that the letter that was sent to the EC should also be sent to the national Ministries of Education. And Council Members should report to council if there are national activities going on in this field. It was also suggested to include European Deputies in the communication strategies.

ECER / EERA Anniversary

The possibilities of how to celebrate the 20th anniversary of EERA in 2014 were discussed. A task group should be formed, which could then collect the different ideas. The focus should not be limited to research; although the idea of making a research on EERA (proposed by Edwin Keiner) was positively responded to, any kinds of celebration should be taken into consideration before taking a decision. The task group should start collecting ideas now and stop in December. A council member pointed out that many ECER presenters don't seem aware of the European dimension of EERA and ECER, therefore the anniversary could be taken as an opportunity to stress this, e.g. by selecting the Keynotes accordingly. In 2014, DGfE also celebrates its 50th anniversary, so that there could be a conjoint event. The centenary of the beginning of World War One could also be addressed.

Working Group: Ian, Marit, Maria, Joanna (PTP), Francesca (Italy) Edwin Keiner (EERJ) and Alice (BERA), Gyöngyvér P. (HERA), LOC 2014. Sec Gen to head the group.

New members

EERA received an application from a new association in Spain. The two current members will receive the application asap and will comment on it by the end of October. In January, Council will receive the application and the comments as well.

Promoting ECERs in the news

Angelika briefly reported on a conversation she had with a Research Journalist on how to better promote ECER in research related news. He reflected on his role as PR person for BERA conferences. The main idea is to go via important topics within the submissions and address research journalists and news agencies directly with these items instead of just telling them that there is a conference.

Council discussed that doing what had been done for BERA conference for an ECER would be much more complex due to many countries having different structures of press.

It was acknowledged that NW convenors as experts in their fields could be asked to highlight presentations which might be of broader and more general news interest and that this could be linked to the discussions about the state of the art of educational research that the president has asked for, which will be addressed at the upcoming convenor seminar.

Council agreed that EERA should strive to enhance the cooperation with national associations, as they know the press in their countries.

More ideas reflected on the EERA panel, which could be of interests for news agencies throughout Europe. They could get better information about the topics before, and about spreading information about multi-national developments.

A working group was established with Theo Wubbels, Lejf Moos, Yunus Eryaman and Antonio Morilla for LOC 2012 (tbc). Theo Wubbels to head the group.



Council unanimously accepted the report and exculpated the President.

Secretary General

Ian Grosvenor reported on his work during 2010 – 2011.

- Worked with the Executive, the Network's Representative on Council and the EERA office to develop protocols relating to the new EERA Constitution;
- Worked with the Executive, the Network's Representative on Council and the EERA Office to develop, monitor and disseminate EERA's strategic objectives;
- Worked with the Executive, the Network's Representative on Council and the EERA office to promote the profile of EERA as a significant research association in Europe;
- Continued to develop efficient and effective working practices of EERA and the ECER;
- Worked with the Network's Representative on Council and the EERA Office to monitor the work of the EERA Networks;
- Monitored the work of the EERA Office;
- Reported activities to the EERA Council on a regular basis and responded to questions and acted upon requests from EERA Council;
- Managed with the EERA Office the election process for the incoming Secretary General in accordance with the new Constitution.

No further questions or discussions arose and Council exculpated the Secretary General Ian Grosvenor unanimously for 2010.

5.2 Networks

Maria Pacheco Figueiredo reported on the outcomes of the Network Convenors meeting. The convenors were all very satisfied with this ECER, from point of view cooperation with ERG, organisation as well as discussions during the sessions (quality indicator). The Best Poster Award was seen as positive, but the internal processes need to be streamlined. It was decided that the interactive poster session should continue. The networks are interested in doing more cross-network cooperation and will engage in it in the March seminar.

The two new networks were both successful, NW 8 being a fully established part of the programme, and NW 18 having their introductory symposium.

The convenors supported the application for a new Sociology Network, Council accepted as well. And there are three more groups interested in establishing a new network, Tacit Dimension, Science Education, Literature and Language.

As some networks are interested in changing their names, the question arose if there is a formal way in which Council can be involved in the process. A possible procedure will be prepared for the January meeting.

Maria also reported that a network suggested some kind of Fellowship for resigned and retired link convenors, as often they continue to support the network but are no longer financially supported by their universities to attend conferences.

For the time being it was suggested to the networks that they could grant the free entry to these convenors.

The convenors have not yet given any specific comment on the cooperation with EARLI, it will be re-discussed in March.



In the near future, the structure of the networks should be re-considered. It should be made easier to find the appropriate network, e.g. by developing thematic fields in which the different networks could be grouped.

Different possibilities for new structures were discussed: Council can close down and re-structure networks, and also suggest a new network (which was done for the Didactics network).

5.3 Office Report

Angelika Wegscheider presented the Office report

ECER 2011

- ERG: registered: 310 / 290 arrived
- Main Conference: registered: 2315 / 2150 arrived – some might not have collected badges, others are last minute withdrawals, some maybe intentional no-shows.
- Withdrawals during conference: 25
- Missing Posters: 25 (out of 66!) as by Wednesday evening.
- Smooth processes during the conference days
- Only few on spot problems known so far
- The only thing to reflect for upcoming conferences: some rooms were PC Labs, this was not reflected on the planning list EERA received. If this is the case in future conference buildings, office needs to have this information for session planning, to plan smaller sessions into these rooms (eg Sessions C/D in larger networks)

Difficulties this year

- Technical problems: import/export of online programme, database mistakes
- Additional tasks during the conference: like preparing the Waxmann prize, preparing the individualised sessions return slips (with paper numbers included to monitor now-shows) created more work than expected.

Staffing:

Rachel is leaving and a substitute needs to be found
To bridge the gap until then, students will work more.

Finalised projects in the EERA office:

Relaunch of Website, Personal Programme Planner,

Work in progress:

- Visibility
 - Each RSS is automatically also sent out via twitter
 - Facebook site built up.
- Enhancing networking
 - Research Gate: tried to encourage discussion on ECER with ERG members, not too much activity, though.
 - Network Mailing lists are done for 3 NW, 7 or so will be done after conference
- Still some work to do: paper archives (2007 onwards)
- Pilot for Research Output of ECER conferences in the printed programme,
- The link convenors list should, in future, be right behind the list of Council and LOC, to signal the importance of networks.

It was mentioned that the name Council Invited Session was misleading as some delegates took this as a signal that you can only participate when invited! A new name should be considered.



5.4 ERG Report

Fiona Hallett welcomed Mustafa Yunus Eryaman as new Senior Mentor and thanked the former Senior Mentor, Ian Menter, for the great work he had done.

The Emerging Researchers' Conference was a great success, with 290 participants, 190 papers and posters and fewer no shows than in the last years. The EERA Bursary was well responded to, and an extra Publishers' Bursary could be offered. There were 4 papers per parallel session, 2 interactive poster sessions, 10 open network sessions as well as two workshops. 18 mentors from main networks could be recruited. Some ERC participants mentioned concern about the fact that ERC now overlaps with the Main Conference. As the 50 € fee seems to have helped reduce the number of no shows, this should be continued (with a partial refund in the form of lunch vouchers).

After an announcement at the ERG meeting, there were 9 expressions of interest on co-convening and 2 firm expressions of interest in Link-Convenor role. By November 2011, the new link convenor will be selected and should start shadowing upon selection. When the co-convenors are selected, each of them should get a specific role.

27 entries for the Best Paper award 2010 were received. The top 3 was submitted to EERJ for consideration. Fiona Hallett will get in touch with EERJ to develop a virtual edition of all shortlisted papers from the Best Paper Competition.

Fiona Hallett and the treasurer will discuss the budget for 2012. The possibility of publishing a book with ERC articles should be discussed with the EERJ editors.

Season Schools, both the one of EERA and those of the networks, could be used as a platform for making the Emerging Researchers' Group better known within the young researchers' community.

Fiona Hallett also reported on interests of some delegates to become convenors of the ERG and on the establishment of Working Group for making more use of Research Gate.

5.5 Treasurer

On the basis of the financial report for 2010 given by the Treasurer, Council exculpated Theo Wubbels unanimously.

For the budget of 2012, it had to be decided how to save on the one hand but also how to continue promoting young researchers. The streaming, podcast etc was one of the bigger expenses in 2010, therefore the question arose if there would be a way of saving money there, e.g. by having the streaming done by LOC. The Office pointed out that next years' budget would necessarily be lower as the network interviews have all been done and that made up a larger part of the budget for podcasting/streaming in 2010 and 2011. Council decided that the costs of podcasts etc should be lowered and that this money should be spent for Season Schools.

5.6 EERJ Report

Edwin Keiner reported on the development of EERJ in 2011. Two special issues have already been published, a third one is currently going through review. There was an increase in papers published (47 in 2010, expected 61 in 2011, although some will be published in shorter forms). New ways of managing the scale and quality have been developed. There will be an Essay Review Board for reviewing national research-related texts and the Executive Editors group. The Editorial board will continue to have full oversight of the Journal and guide its policy and work. The application to the ISI for inclusion in the Citations Index is still in progress, and the European



Reference Index of the Humanities still rates the Journal as having high visibility and scholarly significance internationally. The lead editor is nominated by the Editorial Board and he/she or a proxy should be member of Council. The call for papers for the first 2012 special edition "The European Curriculum: Restructuring and Renewal" will end on 31 January 2012.

The EERJ Roundtable 2012 could be on concepts and effects of doctoral programmes (to be discussed further). After 2012, there could be a change of format, have a more open space, a forum for structured discussion etc.

Full Report:

EERJ Report to the Council Edwin Keiner, September 17, 2011

1. Progress in 2011

1.1 set of issues with Special Issues:

Researching the Powerful: seeking knowledge about policy [10.2], based on an EU Framework Project on Knowledge and Policy in education and health [KNOW&POL], Philosophy of Education and the Transformation of Educational Systems [10.3], came from an EERA Network, and a specially funded EERA seminar.

Bottom-up Approaches to Agency in Education, going through review at the moment.

1.2 Increase in papers: In total, then the EERJ will have produced about 61 papers in 2011 [although some are in a shorter response form] compared to 47 papers in total in 2010. This is well over double what it produced 6 years ago. The work associated with the Journal has increased enormously and continues to grow.

1.3. New ways of managing the scale and quality of the work, and the Journal's engagement with the idea of the European Education Space.

a. Essay Review Board (to review national research-related texts).

b. Executive Editors group

Martin Lawn, University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom [Lead Editor]

Eric Mangez, Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium

Sotiria Grek, University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom

Maarten Simons, Katholic University of Leuven, Belgium

Kirsten Sivesind, University of Oslo, Norway

2. The Editorial Board continues to have full oversight of the Journal and guides its policy and work.

3. The application to the ISI for inclusion in the Citations Index continues. The European Reference Index of the Humanities still rates the Journal as having high visibility and scholarly significance internationally. (INT1 Sub-Category: international publications with high visibility and influence among researchers in the various research domains in different countries, regularly cited all over the world.)

4. Relationship between EERA and EERJ: Editorial Board secures scientific quality of the journal. It nominates a leading editor, who will be approved by the council. The leading editor or a proxy person from the editorial board should be member of the council. He/she should report on the history of the last year and future perspectives, reviews about the field and relation to the next themes.

Edwin Keiner is suggested to deputize the leading editor at the council for one year.



5. 2012 Call for papers (special issue):

The European Curriculum: Restructuring and Renewal

Editors:

Kirsten Sivesind, University of Oslo

Jan van den Akker, University of Twente and Director General, SLO (Netherlands Institute for Curriculum Development)

Moritz Rosenmund, Universities of Vienna and Zurich

The deadline for submission is January 31st 2012

6. Publisher Report for 2011

1.942 direct subscriptions (89 libraries)

6.535 newsletter subscriptions

115 different countries

16.957 downloaded articles (January – August)

Free-of-charge access for 180 institutions in developing countries

7. EERJ Roundtable 2012

The Roundtable has traditionally been the place where educational and policy issues in Europe have been discussed in the ECER. Roundtable 2012 suggestion: concepts and effects of doctoral programmes (to be discussed further). Possible changes after 2012: open space, forum for structured discussion on prospects, expectations, visions, future thematic strands and possible developments of EERA as an association of associations (to be discussed).

8. Future Special Issue Proposals

Rita Hofstetter and Bernard Schneuwly (University of Geneva)

Grammar of Schooling, *Forme scolaire, Modèle scolaire* // Concepts and Models Describing Mass Scolarization and the Teacher State – 19th-20th centuries

Sverker Lindblad (University of Gothenburg) - Europeanization of Higher Education: International Networking and Transnational Governance of Higher Education and Knowledge Production.

6 Member Reports (with small group discussions: Future of EERA in the new light?)

Three members briefly reported on their associations and the situation for educational report in their countries. Afterwards council split up in groups to discuss the reports.

6.1 SPCE, (Sofia) postponed to January meeting

As there will be a restructuring of the organisation this autumn, Sofia Marques da Silva asked to postpone her report to the January meeting.

6.2 CIDInE, (Ana Paula Cabral)

CIDInE has 94 members from both Portugal and Brazil, and is sub-structured in 5 research lines. Its aims are to develop research and promote reflection, dialogue, dissemination, training and educational intervention. The main activities are organising regular national and international scientific events, developing research projects together with other research centres and the publication of a book series.

Financial/funding situation:

- due to the crisis, Educational Research is trapped between scope, politics and European demand.



- more changes are expected, which should also result in new ways of funding, hopefully there will be a new approach of the Government
- lately, new cuts have been announced, and only a few projects will be funded, despite very good evaluation of other projects

Council welcomed the fact that thanks to CIDInE's members from Brazil, EERA could now also get an outside view on Europe. And a good co-operation with the Brazilians is expected.

6.3 ESAI, (Joe O'Hara)

Joe O'Hara introduced the association, membership numbers and presented current developments and challenges.

ESAI was founded with the aim to have an all Ireland (Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland) view on educational issues beyond politics. In Ireland, around 1000 people are educational researchers, about 25 % are organised in ESAI.

ESAI Activities:

Annual conference – Always held weekend prior to Easter

Theme conferences – normally organised in partnership with statutory bodies e.g. Equality Authority, Teaching Council, Department of Education etc.

Website – clearing house of educational events

A Journal - Irish Educational Studies - recently added to SSCI

Current Issues and Developments

- The Journal is very successful and risks getting bigger and more important than the association.
- Problems of being on the periphery: The Universities in Northern Ireland look more in the direction UK than to the Republic.
- Visibility of Educational Research and Researchers:
Education an increasingly contested area but most commentary dominated by politicians and journalists Education is seen as solution to economic trouble, but in this discussion, hardly any researcher is involved.
- Reduction of funding for education as part of overall financial restructuring: Significant reduction in research funding, Creeping privatisation of teacher education, Possible merger of HEI's

6.4 Next meeting:

Brigitte Gruson, AECSE

Gyöngyvér Pataki, HERA

Sofia Marques da Silva, SPCE

June meeting:

Katharina Maag Merki, SSRE

6.5 Small Group – Discussions outcomes

Group A:

- Awareness of different national representation of the associations: some are small and do not access all the research being developed in the country



- Council could have guidelines on how the EERA logo can/should be used in the associations' websites for visibility. Also, EERA news could be displayed in the Associations' website as RSS Feed.

Group B:

- It was noted that the size of associations could impact on their level of activity.
- The possibility of joint association publications was identified – either via EERA or special issue of EERJ
- Partnership relations between national associations could be build up (twinning of associations)
- National associations should promote the Season Schools
- National associations should be encouraged to invite keynote speakers from other countries

Group C:

- The three associations in the group discussed their speciality of being rather small associations and how a network like EERA could support them in their struggle of funding, communication with EU bodies etc.
- A rather new association confirmed how important it is to learn more from organisational structures and working fields of other associations.
- The work done by EERA in these fields was seen as extremely helpful.

Group D:

- When it comes to funding, the situation is very diverse in the different countries. In Germany and Switzerland, for example, the problem is not a lack of money, but a lack of quality of the proposals and of competence
- EERA could try to make an overview of the different situations and develop ideas for funding strategies

7 General Regulations (decision)

7.1 Member Representatives on Council and General Regulation for Council

New Title: “Member Representatives on Council: Functions and responsibilities” and General Regulation for Council

Council is the governing body of EERA and shall thus at least:

- elect and dismiss EXEC,
- accept the annual report from EXEC, including the financial report,
- annually exculpate (discharge) EXEC,
- decide on the EERA budget,
- decide on changes of statutes, of the purpose of the association and the dissolution of the association and
- appoint the auditor.

Council members are representatives of Member Associations and shall act as legal subjects in Council decisions because they are vested with the mandates to do so.

Council Members function as the link between members associations and EERA and as sounding board for the EXEC. They do not only respond to proposals of the EXEC but also initiate policies to be implemented by the EXEC.



As council members are the link between member associations and EERA, they can bring concerns, ideas, proposals, decisions etc. from their association to Council and vice versa from Council to their association, be it to their Council or to their members. Council members report pro-actively on EERA Council and on association Councils.

In order to make Council's work visible to members of associations and a wider public, Council members write reports, comments, reviews for publication through EERA channels, association channels or public media.

Council members collaborate with each other and the EXEC on all issues, both internally within EERA and externally, towards political and scientific agencies.

Council forms ad-hoc working groups where Council members are able to actively participate. Council members also collaborate with networks, ECER organizers etc.

Council members are responsible for adequate induction of their successors in Council by at least discussing with them the agenda and minutes of the last two meetings before the new member takes his/her seat on Council.

Council unanimously accepted this task description with the amendment in title ("function and responsibilities") and the clarification that also Exec should assist in the induction process of new members and it will be added to the General Regulations.

7.2 Structure of Annual Report

Council accepted the structure for the annual report and it will be added to the General Regulations.

7.3 Management of EERJ/ Relation EERA/EERJ election/nomination procedure for EERJ editor (report from meeting EERA/EERJ)

Leif Moos reported on a meeting with executives and EERJ representatives that aimed at retrieving lost information – such as publishing agreement and the roles and responsibilities of the linked parties in this. EERJ will draft a short text for Council in January.

7.4 Establishing a new Network (decision)

Before planning a new EERA network, please consult "Network Procedures" and inform yourself about the responsibilities of Network Convenors.

If you wish to establish a new network, please proceed as follows:

1. Any proposal for a new network must have the support of three future convenors (=researchers willing to act as convenors if the new network is accepted) from three different countries represented on EERA Council.
2. Proposers should initially contact the Networks' Representative on Council for advice about preparing an application.
3. If the Network' Representative on Council is in agreement [now new: after consultation with the Networks' Representative on Council] the proposers should prepare a paper for Council/ the group of Network Convenors consisting of:
 - the names and the contact details of the Convenors
 - a rationale for creating a new network (including how it would benefit EERA)
 - evidence that the proposed network's focus is not currently covered by existing networks



- indicative areas of research and network activities

The template for "Network Descriptors" should be used as a guideline when preparing this paper.

4. The Networks' Representative on Council will discuss the proposal with Link-Convenors during the annual Network Seminar in spring or during the Link Convenors Meetings at ECER, and then with Council during the June or September meeting. If both groups agree to welcome the proposal, the network will be able to begin its work. If the proposal is accepted in spring or June, it will start with an inaugural symposium in the ECER of that year. If the decision is taken in September, the network will be included in the Call for Proposals for the following years' conference.

5. Please note that applications will only be discussed in spring if they have been handed in to EERA by February 15 at the latest.

6. A description of the new network will be placed on the EERA website in time for the next ECER.

Council approved the above guidelines with one change (use: After consultation with the Networks' Representative on Council instead of If the Networks' Representative is in agreement) and they will go online and be a part of the General Regulations.

7.5 Network funding (decision)

Exec suggested to support the second Network 9 Spring School with 2650 €, and Council approved.

8 Last Council Minutes: Exec should prepare a strategy on how to assess WERA by September

Proposal: Following attendance at the next WERA Council in December an assessment strategy on EERA's relations to WERA is to be drafted for the January meeting.

9 Dates for Next Meetings

13/14 January 2012, Cadiz

22/23 June 2012, Berlin

10 Any Other Business

John Krejsler reported that NERA currently struggles to keep its members. It would help them to find out if those who claim being a member when registering for ECER really are. EERA Office explained that it would not be possible to give out a list of names, but that the exact numbers could of course be given to the member associations. And as last year, an email will be sent to those who come from a country represented in EERA but registered as non-members, inviting them to become members.