

## **EERA Network 1:**

**Continuing Professional Development: *Learning for Individuals, Leaders, and Organisations***

**Minutes of the meeting held in Bolzano, Italy  
12:00 – 13:30 Thursday 6 September 2018**

**Present:** Network 1 convenors - Hannu Heikkinen, Ken Jones, Sara Bubb, Heinz Günter Holtappels, David Morris, Giorgio Ostinelli, Stefan Zehetmeier

41 other participants also attended the meeting

**Apologies:** Rosemarie Mulholland

### **1.a. *Welcome and introduction of the convener team***

Hannu Heikkinen introduced the team of convenors and indicated that changes would be forthcoming this year due to retirements from the team. He emphasised the interactive nature of this network, inviting all participants to contact the Link Convenors with suggestions, ideas and opinions regarding aspects of CPD.

### **1.b. *Network history and practice***

Sara Bubb gave an overview of the history of the network and its activities in recent years. The dynamic nature of CPD in education has led to a number of changes over the years. Originally called *Continuing Professional Development of Teachers*, the name of the network was changed to:

- *Continuing Professional Development in Schools* in 2002;
- *Continuing Profession Development for Teachers and Leaders in Schools* (2005)
- *Continuing Professional Development for Teachers and Leaders in School Systems* (2008) and to
- *Continuing Professional Development: Learning for Individuals, Leaders, and Organisations* in 2010.

Known convenors to date include Christopher Day, Maureen Killeavy, Karin Ronnerman, Vivienne Collinson, and Ene-Silvia Sarv.

### **1.c. *Changing the name of Network 1***

There has been some discussion over the last 18 months regarding the name of the network. It had been agreed that the name was too long and needed shortening. Ken Jones had proposed at the 2017 network meeting that the name should reflect distinctions that have emerged between *Professional Learning* and *Professional Development*, with the term 'continuing' increasingly being seen as unnecessary. During the year, the convener team had corresponded by email regarding the nature of a change of name and, at a convener meeting held earlier in Bolzano, it had been agreed to propose a change of name to "*Professional Learning and Development*".

EERA regulations for changing the name and scope of networks were shown on a Powerpoint slide and it was made clear that all formal steps were being followed. A list of the names of other networks was shown to identify potential overlaps, but it was emphasized that Network 1 would be the only one to have Professional Learning and Development as its central focus.

Discussion was invited on the change of name and one participant suggested the term “Professional Development and Learning” which is used in some instances, but it was agreed to propose the more common term *Professional Learning and Development*. This was accepted in the meeting by general consent and will next be taken through the EERA process for changing network names with a view to finalizing the change after the meeting of Link Convenors in Berlin in 2019.

#### **1.d. Election of new convenors and reviewers**

##### *i. Reviewers:*

Hannu Heikkinen explained the review process for ECER 2019

- Election of reviewers would take place in the NW meeting in the ECER 2018 conference
- Reviewers will be assigned in January 2019
- Papers will need to be reviewed by 1.3.2019
- 4-7 papers will be allocated to each reviewer

Participants who were existing reviewers were asked to check the list for their names and notify convenors if their name was missing. They were also asked to indicate if they wanted to step down from reviewing. New reviewers were invited to offer to undertake the role.

##### *ii. Convenors*

- Hannu Heikkinen announced that Sara Bubb (after 6 years), Heinz Günter Holtappels (after 4 years), David Morris (after 2 years) and Rosie Mulholland (after 1 year) had indicated an intention to step down from the convenor team. There were therefore four vacancies and new candidates are required. An email inviting nominations for the role of convenor had been sent to authors participating in the 2018 conference. Tasks, workload and different roles within the convenor team were outlined, emphasizing that the group of convenors should reflect EERA's diversity in terms of linguistic and geographical representation as well as gender balance.

. Candidates who had indicated a wish to be elected were:

- Mihaela Mitescu Manea (Romania)
- Sally Windsor (Sweden)

Both were duly elected. Given that there were more convenors willing to step down (4) than volunteering to join the convenor team (2), the retiring convenors were asked if any of them would still consider staying in the convenor team, and Sara Bubb volunteered to continue for another year. The convenor team will decide later if it is reasonable to invite more convenors next year, or to continue as a smaller but maybe more effective group.

#### **2. Discussion in small groups about shared research interests**

The second part of the meeting was led by Sara Bubb and David Morris and was designed to be interactive, drawing on the specific interests of participants. Evaluations of this activity at the 2017 meeting had been very positive and at least one group had organised a symposium at the 2018

conference as a result of this. Participants of the network meeting were asked to join one of eight special interest groups:

1. Induction of new teachers
2. Leadership development
3. Mentoring & Mentor training
4. Models of professional learning & development
5. Professional development policies
6. School development strategies
7. Research use
8. Teachers' Professional Development

Notes taken by each group show wide ranging and interesting discussions. These will be circulated to Network 1 participants shortly.

The meeting closed at 13.30

Hannu Heikkinen and Ken Jones

Network 1 Link Convenors