

**Minutes of the VETNET general assembly and Network report  
EERA-ECER 2019  
05 September, Hamburg**

More than 60 people were present during the general assembly. The list of participants is with the link convenors, Christof Nägele and Barbara E. Stalder.

The general assembly was informed and discussed the following:

**VETNET opening session**

The keynote presentation was given by

[Matthias Havekost](#), head of training at AIRBUS Germany, talking about topical developments in VET at AIRBUS: Dual students at Airbus.

The presentation was very well-received and referenced in many sessions afterwards.

We thank [Matthias Havekost](#) and AIRBUS Germany for their readiness to participate in the VETNET opening session without any costs for VETNET.

**Open Science**

VETNET co-organised four joint sessions with NW 06 “Open Learning: Media, Environments and Cultures”, NW 12 “LISnet — Library and Information Science Network” and NW 30 “Environmental and Sustainability Education Research, ESER”. Many thanks to the colleagues of the other networks and the ERA office for their great work in making these joint sessions possible.

**VETNET board**

Chair of the board / Link Convenors: Christof Nägele & Barbara E. Stalder

The VETNET board has up to 12 board members. Currently, they are Harm Biemans, M’Hamed Dif, Ludger Deitmer, Karen Evans, Michael Gessler, Natasha Kersh, Lorenz Lassnigg, Marg Malloch, Lázaro Moreno Herrera, Petri Nokelainen and the link convenors Christof Nägele and Barbara Stalder

The VETNET board will be re-elected in 2020 during the general assembly of VETNET 2020. In 2020, Ludger Deitmer, Karen Evans and M’Hamed Dif will step back from the board. New nominations need to be communicated to the link convenors through [convenor@vetnetsite.org](mailto:convenor@vetnetsite.org) by end of June 2020 latest. Current board members will be propositioned to be re-elected. The term of election is four years.

Please keep in mind that only people with a substantial appointment at a university can be elected into the board.

The board has several co-opted members: Pekka Kämäräinen, VETNET history<sup>1</sup>, ongoing; Sabine Manning, L&W Newsletter, ongoing; Franz Kaiser, Crossing Boundaries 2017 – 2019; Fernando Marhuenda, Crossing Boundaries 2019 – 2021; Per Andersson, Nordic Journal of Vocational Education and Training, ongoing.

Paolo Nardi will join the VETNET board as co-opted member. He will be in charge to maintain the link of VETNET to training organizations, training providers and training organizations.

### **VETNET Regulations**

After several years of work, the new VETNET regulations are ready, which replace the VETNET regulations from 2002. The voting on the new regulations was open from 04 to 14 September 2019 for all participants of the General Assembly of VETNET during ECER 2018 in Bozen and 2019 in Hamburg. The result of the vote is... (still open).

VETNET is a network of researchers interested in exploring societal, policy, governance, organisational, institutional and individual factors that shape and explain both vocational education and training (VET) and learning across the lifespan. VETNET is an open network, which welcomes members and contributions from all over the world as long as they are in line with the goals of VETNET. VETNET is a network of the European Educational Research Association (EERA) and committed to the goals of EERA.

VETNET as a network of the EERA lives through the activities and commitment of its members. The ECER conference is attractive for senior researchers and people in a leading position in their universities and organizations as well as for post doc students. Given the broad participation of researchers with diverse backgrounds and interests, it is sometimes hard to determine who belongs to the core of VETNET. This becomes important, as VETNET is involved in many activities like the IJRNET, cooperating with other organizations etc. Therefore, it is important to have an answer to the question: Who belongs to VETNET? Defining the “core members” of VETNET could be by pointing to the list of participants of the annual ECER. But as mentioned above: This is a rather unstable list as not all people committed to VETNET can participate on a yearly basis. Alternatively, the “members of VETNET” could be defined informally, or by saying that the participants at the VETNET dinner, or those who attend the general assembly are “members”. However, all these processes would not be satisfactory, and they are not transparent and prone to hurt and exclude people.

Therefore, we set up a self-nomination procedure by establishing an open list of people committed to VETNET. We call them “members of VETNET” in recognition of their participation in ECER. The list includes the names, position and affiliation, the email address.

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<sup>1</sup> Have a look at: <http://www.pontydysgu.org/2019/09/wrapping-up-the-ecer-2019-experience-part-one-the-opening-session-of-the-vetnet-network/>

The list is maintained on [vetnetsite.org](http://vetnetsite.org), the official platform of VETNET. This way, we respect the General Data Protection Regulation of the European Union (EU), which is important even as a European organization.

As researchers can only be “members of VETNET” by attending e.g., the ECER more than once, or by contributing to the VETNET proceedings at the ECER, the link convenors will check the nominations to ensure that only people who regularly contribute to ECER and VETNET activities will be listed. The decisions are taken on regulations which need to be established by the board.

### ECER and Proceedings

The programme chair of VETNET at the ECER 2019, Matthias Pilz and the link convenors were very happy with the number and the quality of the proposals. VETNET received more than 110 proposals.

The editors of the VETNET proceedings, Barbara E. Stalder and Christof Nägele, were overwhelmed by the very active participation in writing papers for the proceedings. The proceedings cover more than 50 papers. Keeping in mind that the resources to produce the proceeding are limited, they pointed to the necessity to further develop the process and to enhance the quality of the papers.

The book of proceedings is published online:

Stalder, B. E., & Nägele, C. (Eds.) (2019). *Trends in vocational education and training research, Vol II. Proceedings of the European Conference on Educational Research (ECER), Vocational Education and Training Network (VETNET)*. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3358906>

For the ECER 2020 the programme committee is ready with Natasha Kersh, Oscar Valiente and the link convenors. We are looking forward to receiving at least as many high-quality proposals as this year.

### vetnetsite.org

Please tune in to the newsletter on [vetnetsite.org](http://vetnetsite.org). This site constantly develops to become a central hub for all activities of VETNET.



And please do not forget to subscribe to the indispensable and superb L&W Newsletter curated by Sabine Manning, by sending an email to [sabine-manning@t-online.de](mailto:sabine-manning@t-online.de)

### IJRJET (information by Michael Gessler)

The VETNET Journal IJRJET is running very well and gets an increasing reception in the VETNET community and beyond.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the International Journal for Research in Vocational Education and Training (IJRJET). The page features a red header with the journal's name and navigation links. The main content area displays the current issue (Vol 6 No 2, August 2019) and a list of articles. On the right side, there are logos for Scopus, ERIC, VOCEDplus, and NKI SCHOLAR, indicating the journal's indexing and registration status.

### VETNET conferences

Besides of the ECER VETNET organizes also the...

(1) **Stockholm International Conference** 7 - 8 May 2020 as an important space for international networking and cooperation in VET research. The conference is organized by Lázaro Moreno Herrera and his team since 2012. For details see <https://stockholminternationalvet.com/>. Call for papers open until 31 October 2019.

The proceedings of Stockholm International 2018:

Moreno Herrera, L., Teräs, M., & Gougoulakis, P. (Hrsg.). (2018). *Emergent issues in vocational education & training. Voices from cross-national research*. Stockholm, SE: Prepress frirlag.

(2) **Crossing Boundaries**, 2021 in Basel, more information to follow.

### EVSW

VETNET is again cooperating with the European Commission during the **European Vocational Skills Week**, running a meeting and a workshop on evidence-based policy relevant VET research.

VETNET is also responsible for the nomination process of the VET research award of the European Commission

**VETNET community**

Beside the scientific programme, the VETNET dinner in Wednesday evening stays an important event during ECER. This year, 87 colleagues enjoyed a relaxed evening with good food in a Pakistani style restaurant.

Bern, 8 September 2019

Christof Nägele & Barbara Stalder  
Link Convenors