

**European Conference on Educational Research, 22-25 August 2017, Copenhagen
Network 2, Vocational Education and Training**

General Assembly Meeting of VETNET (network meeting)

24 August 2017, 12-13h

Minutes

Present

Link convenors, board members and co-opted board members: Christof Nägele (link convenor), Barbara Stalder (link convenor), Michael Gessler, Ludger Deitmer, Petri Nokelainen, Lázaro Moreno Pekka Kamarainen, Lorenz Lassnigg, Harm Biemans, Johanna Lasonen.

Network members: Vibe Aarkrog, Andrea Laczik, Jeroen Onstenk, Lewis Hughes, Karl-Heinz Gerholz, Cuiditta Alesandrini, Anna Annerberg, Åse Streitlinen, Hæge Nøre, Hedvig Svinthoft Johannesen, Ellen Beate Hellve-Halvorsen, Anne Graham Gagney, Leslie Ann Cordie, Nora Cechovsky, Marianne Teräs, Heta Rintala, Franz Kaiser, Per Andersson, Marlise Kammermann, Jakob Kost, Brigitte Helbæk Marcussen, Fabienne Lüthi, Yael Shalem, Stephanie Allais, Henriette Duch, Marion vande Sande, Paolo Nardi, Alessandro Mele, Birgit Schaffar-Kronqvist, Anna Mazonod, Fernando Marhuenda, Mónica Moso, Mariana Orozco.

Apologies

Karen Evans, Natasha Kersh, M'hamed Dif, Marg Malloch, Lars Heinemann, Martin Mulder, Nadia Lamamra

Welcome

Christof Nägele welcomed everyone to the VETNET General Assembly.

VETNET programme 2017

Christof Nägele reported on the development of the 2017 programme, for ECER and VETNET.

Overall, ECER received 2'520 submissions (including 245 from the Emergent Researcher Conference).

VETNET received 70 proposals with an 90% acceptance rate. There were several late withdrawals. The programme was put together by Barbara Stalder and Christof Nägele, trying to allocate similar papers to the same session and to avoid to many sessions running in parallel.

Presenters are encouraged to send the PDFs of their presentation from the ECER in Copenhagen to christof.naegele@fhnw.ch. PDFs will be published on <https://vetnetsite.org/conferences/presentations/2017-copenhagen-presentations/>

Lazaro Moreno informed about the Emergent Research Conference (ERC), where VETNET contributed with a workshop on *Unifying the Worlds of Work and Education. Reflecting Complex Theoretical and Methodological Practices - or, on how to do research in Vocational Education and Training (VET)* (Nägele, Gessler, Moreno) and chaired several paper sessions. Active participation of all VETNET members at the ERC is welcome!

EERA activities

Christof Nägele presented main activities and issues discussed by EERA.

EERA wants to motivate emergent researchers to participate at the conference, offering an attractive ERC program as well as summer schools. EERA strives to support researchers in publishing their work (e.g., by organizing “meet the editors”-events, and publications such as the EERA research methods book, or the EERA book series). The general regulations of EERA will be restructured to include recent developments in EERA and the networks. The quality of the reviewing process and the review has to be ensured and further developed.

VETNET activities

VETNET has been active in networks and at conferences over the last year. Michael Gessler informed about IRNVET (Internationalisation of Research in Vocational Education and Training), under the umbrella of the World Education Research Association ([WERA](#)). VETNET is actively participating at INAP, which will take place this year in Washington, DC, US.

Franz Kaiser informed about the conference “Crossing boundaries”, which took place this August in Rostock, DE. The next crossing boundaries conferences will take place in Spain (2019) and Switzerland (2021). Lazaro Moreno informed about the Stockholm International conference (spring 2017). Both the crossing boundaries and the Stockholm international conference are invited conferences without fee and full paper submissions before the conference.

VETNET has been engaged in the EU skills weeks in Brussels 2016 and will contribute to the upcoming skills week in November 2017. VETNET has been invited to organize a workshop with the aim to develop a research agenda for VET research in Europe. It has been mandated to organize the process and to propose a person or project for the EU VET research award. VETNET members are encouraged to hand in proposals on <https://ww2.unipark.de/uc/VET2017AWARD/>. The deadline for submissions is 15 September 2017, questions can be addressed to barbara.stalder@phbern.ch

Vetnetsite.org is positioned as the online platform to get access to the latest information on VETNET, as well as important further information.

Journals

Michael Gessler informed about recent developments of IJRNET www.ijrnet.org. IJRNET, which is the open access journal of VETNET, has been accepted by ERIC, and is listed in the Chinese and Taiwan academic database. The number of downloads has increased considerably, the journal is established in the VET community. There are several special issues in preparation or planned.

Per Andersson informed about the Nordic Journal of Vocational Education and Training (NJNET) <http://www.njvet.ep.liu.se/index.asp>. He encouraged VETNET members to submit an article. Articles can be written in English or any of the Nordic languages.

Election of VETNET Board

Christof Nägele outlined the present VETNET regulations concerning the election of VETNET board members. The board consists of 6 to 12 members, elected by the VETNET assembly for a period of three years. The board can co-opt members (not elected by the VETNET assembly), who will take over specific tasks, and can be elected as board members at a later stage.

Of the current board members, Martin Mulder did not stand for re-election. All others had signalled interest to continue their work as board members. New to be elected was Harm Biemans/NL, at present co-opted board member in VETNET.

Future board members proposed to be (re)elected presented themselves to the assembly and outlined how they shall contribute to the VETNET activities.

The assembly elected the following persons as board members (2017-2020).

Harm Biemans	The Netherlands
M'hamed Dif	France
Ludger Deitmer	Germany
Karen Evans	United Kingdom
Michael Gessler	Germany
Natasha Kersh	United Kingdom
Lorenz Lassnigg	Austria
Marg Malloch	Australia
Lázaro Moreno	Sweden
Petri Nokelainen	Finland

To further improve the regional balance of the board, the board will consider co-opting additional members.

Regulations

Christof Nägele and Barbara Stalder informed about the revision of the VETNET regulations, which is in progress. The updated regulations will be presented in 2018.

Awards

Ludger Deitmer has been awarded the EERA honorary membership in 2016.

VETNET awarded Johanna Lasonen as VETNET honorary fellow, to be proposed for Honorary Members of EERA. A laudatio was given by Ludger Deitmer.

Johanna Lasonen has contributed to the founding process of VETNET. Since the beginning she worked as an active member in the VETNET Board and as a permanent reviewer of VETNET proposals since ECER 1997. She was the first VETNET programme chair for ECER 1999 in Lahti. She has been the pioneer in developing contacts between VETNET and UNESCO. During her work as a coordinator of EU-funded projects she has involved them in ECER symposia. Recently, she has supported the founding process of the International Journal for Research in Vocational Education and Training (IJRVET) and she is an active member of the Editorial Board of the IJRVET.

Next ECERs

ECER 2018 will take place in Bolzano/IT, ECER 2019 in Hamburg/DE.

We thank all participants for their contribution to VETNET and are looking forward to seeing you in Bolzano next year.

Copenhagen, 26 August 2017, link convenors bst & cna