

Network 8 Meeting

ECER Plus, Sept 10th 2022, 11.00 CEST and 13.00 (Yerevan)

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Overview of this year's network submissions - Yerevan & ECER Plus
3. Impressions of ECER Yerevan (Carole)
4. Impressions of ECER Plus
5. Network Activities over the past year (Ros)
6. Network activities for coming year
 - a. Renewing 3-year partnership between Network 8 and *Health Education*
 - b. EERA Blog, Funding, book series
 - c. Members sharing projects/ developments
7. ECER 2023 in Glasgow (format, dates, theme, Special Call ideas)
8. Communication within the network – suggestions/feedback

Minutes of meeting

Overview of Network submissions:

Submissions were down on pre-covid years, which is similar to what other networks experienced. We had 44 submissions; 30 accepted (11 redirected; 4 rejected).

In-person conference Yerevan: 7 submissions organised into 2 joint sessions, 3 symposia, & poster session

ECER Plus: 23 submissions organised into 6 symposia, 2 workshops (1 joint workshop withdrew), panel discussion

Experiences of ECER 2022

In-person Yerevan

- Huge congrats to our Network co-convenor, Carole Faucher, on her inspiring keynote and contributions during the panel discussion
- Overall there was a positive experience of Yerevan, very warm and welcoming reception. Small attendances at sessions were somewhat disappointing to presenters.

ECER Plus

- There were very positive experiences of ECER Plus; good attendance in session (roughly 15 per session), although it was noted the pool of attendees was not huge – i.e., it tended to be the same people attending multiple sessions.
- Huge credit to the tech staff who were very helpful and supportive

Overall, there was a sense that the two conferences were well integrated; the streaming of keynotes and the keynote panel helped with this.

There was recognition that the conference model is changing, travel funding being cut in many universities, cost of travel, climate concerns)

There were mixed feelings about the Whova app, some found it intuitive, others felt it was difficult to navigate. A key concern was the corporate/commercial messages, which were widely felt to be inappropriate.

Network activities over the past year

Notable Network 8 publications include:

The publication of '[Wellbeing and Schooling: Cross cultural and cross disciplinary perspectives](https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-030-95205-1)'. This book is part of the EERA book series and features contributions from a numerous Network members. <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-030-95205-1>

(the editors noted some frustration with the publisher, including poor communication and delays, which meant that some authors withdrew their contributions).

We published a Special Issue in our Partner Journal 'Health Education, on the topic of *Leadership in school health promotion* [Special Issue of Health Education -](#)

[Health Education: Vol. 122 Iss. 3 | Emerald Insight](#)

Network members also published a critical text on school food:

Dorte Ruge, Irene Torres & Darren Powell, *School Food, Equity and Social Justice: Critical Reflections and Perspectives* (Routledge) is available with **open access** here: <https://library.oapen.org/handle/20.500.12657/54242>

The longstanding partnership between the journal, *Health Education* and our Network has been renewed until December 2025.

Future Plans

For our next Conference, ECER 2023, Glasgow, we have submitted a Special Call aimed at strengthening the Network's positioning around social justice issues: 'Envisioning the role of health and wellbeing education in advancing social justice and health equity'.

We anticipate a book proposal on this theme and that good quality submissions will be invited to contribute.

We are currently drafting a proposal for a Special Issue for publication in our partner journal (Health Education). The theme will focus on advancing conceptualisations on wellbeing in schools, and exploring the conceptual underpinnings of wellbeing interventions in schools. It is anticipated that the Call will be released in Nov/Dec 2022, with abstracts submitted by March 2023 and full papers invited by September 2023. Dr Catriona O'Toole and Prof Venka Simovska to guest edit the issue.

A second Special Issue is anticipated shortly thereafter on the theme of Health, Wellbeing and Sustainability.