

## Minutes from network 08 meeting at ECER 2021,

Monica Carlsson, 9. September 2021

The agenda for the meeting was as follows:

1. Welcome, introduction to the network as well as reflections on ECER 2021
2. Network collaborations
3. Appointment of new link-convener
4. ECER 2022 conference

In the introduction we noted that we this year mark the 10 year anniversary of the network, as ECER 2011 was the first year we accepted submissions. The change in the network title from Research on Health Education, and to Health and Wellbeing Education (2019) was also underlined. In relation to reflections on ECER 2021, we have had 28 accepted submissions; we usually have 40-45, so this is mirroring the decline in the general submission pattern for ECER 2021 of 25%. We noted that attendance to sessions has not been that different from attendance in physical ECER conferences (from 12-20 in the different sessions). In relation to reflections on ECER 2021 as a virtual conference, the participants had an overall positive feedback; the platform worked well, and it was good to have Kuoni as social space for after sessions. Some were pointing to that the virtual conference made possible participation by people who would not be able to travel. In relation to this, there was a discussion of a possible hybrid model for future conferences. A nice attendance, interesting discussions in the sessions, and the welcoming atmosphere was also underlined. However, people also missed the interaction and small chats in between sessions; the Kuoni space couldn't quite make up for what takes place in a physical conference. Furthermore, many people had to alter between taking part in sessions and teaching/meetings/other obligations at the workplace or obligations in the family.

A part of the reflections on the 10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of nw08 was that we have been and still are successful in building support for developing research publications together. Examples of this include Schools for Health and Sustainability from 2015 (Springer, edited by Venka Simovska and Patricia Mannix-McNamara). As well as the two ongoing collaborations planned for publication in 2021-22: Critical perspectives on Wellbeing and Schooling (Springer, edited by Ros McLellan, Carole Faucher and Venka Simovska) and School Food, Equity and Social Justice (Routledge, edited by Dorte Ruge, Irene Torres and Darren Powell). Network 08's agreement with Emerald on suggesting special issues in Health Education has furthermore resulted in a range of special issues, hereunder School Health Education and Promotion: Current approaches and critical perspectives (published in 2 parts in 2017/2018, edited by Deana Leahy and Venka Simovska). Two special issues are planned for publication in 2021 and already available as E-publications: Leadership in School Health Promotion (edited by Kevin Dadaczynski, Qing Gu and Monica Carlsson) and Health Education Futures and COVID 19 (edited by Deana Leahy).

In relation to network collaborations, we talked about the foundation for the network in the Schools for Health in Europe (SHE) research group. Teresa Vilaça who is a part of the SHE research core group gave a review of the history, as well as perspectives on the links with this group today and the mutual benefits in continuing the collaboration. The collaboration with sustainability education researchers on joint ECER sessions and publications since the establishment of nw08 was also mentioned. The agreement with Emerald in relation to suggesting special issues in Health Education was furthermore highlighted as an opportunity for collaboration, and there was a reminder to

contact the link convener of nw08 with ideas for special issues in 2022-23 (it's a long process from ideas to publications). Venka Simovska as well suggested collaboration on special issues in other journals, especially for the EERA journal EERJ. In relation to new collaborations, Matthias Huber from University of Vienna mentioned they just started up a new research project and the potential for developing collaboration and exchange with network 08 researchers (an invitation for cooperation or exchange will be circulated through the nw08 mail list).

Network 08 have had only two link conveners in this 10 year period (both from Aarhus University): Venka Simovska from ECER 2011-2017, with Monica Carlsson taking over at ECER 2017 and up to ECER 2021. The appointment of a new link-convener was one of the main topics at the meeting. The current link-convener gave a brief outline of the main tasks, hereunder coordination and collaboration with the EERA office and other network link-conveners, program planning and discussions with the co-conveners of nw08 on how to support joint network activities such as publications. The co-conveners (since ECER 2019) are Deana Leahy; Venka Simovska; Emily Darlington; Carole Faucher; Kevin Dadaczynski; Marjorita Sormunen; Ros McLellan; Teresa Vilaça, and Catriona O'Toole. The procedure for appointing a new link-convener was as follows: the link-convener initiated a round of nominations in the co-convener group half a year before the 2021 conference. Here Catriona O'Toole from Maynooth University indicated an interest in taking over as a link-convener. The group supported this and thus nominated Catriona. The decision of appointing Catriona as the new link-convener was taken at the network meeting through a formal voting process, using the reaction buttons in zoom. After the nomination, Catriona presented her research background within educational psychology, and her interest in research topics such as mental health and trauma-informed approaches in education. She also shared some thoughts about the development of the network, building on the support from the co-convener group.

The last part of the meeting was concerning the ECER 2022 conference. Carole Faucher from University of Edinburgh, who is invited as a keynote speaker at ECER 2022, shared some thoughts on some vital points she is considering as her input to the conference. Hereunder: the importance of co-production of knowledge, of bearing in mind the different ways of thinking of wellbeing, building on education policy, and of an inclusive agenda in EERA, integrating also the eastern part of Europe. When it comes to ideas for network developments up to ECER 2022 there was a reminder of that we haven't yet contributed with EERA blogs, and a commitment to do so. We briefly discussed potential topics for ECER 2022 and a potential special NW08 call, or ideas for symposiums. ECER 2021 included quite a few papers and posters with a COVID-19 perspective on childrens' wellbeing, as well as a symposium on school lockdowns and the rendering inequalities in the impact of COVID-19. There was a general agreement on the importance of keeping the attention on the 'long time effect' of COVID-19 on schooling and schools work with school wellbeing in the network. In a reflection on submissions to the network over the last 3 years, the link-convener pointed out that there has been much focus on school wellbeing in the network (most submissions in the ECER 2021 nw08 programme specifically addressed this) and less focus on health education.