

Network 9: Assessment, Evaluation, Testing and Measurement

Minutes of the network meeting held on August 24, 2023

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Introduction

The network meeting was held at the University of Glasgow. The network meeting was chaired by Monica Rosén, the Link Convenor of Network 9, in cooperation with her fellow co-convenors Sarah Howie, Trude Nilsen, Elena Papanastasiou, and Jana Straková, as well as her assistant, Erika Majoros. The meeting was attended by 34 colleagues. The agenda for the meeting comprised seven main topics.

Agenda of the meeting

1. Network 9: Convenors and participation

The chair, Monica Rosén, Link convenor of Network 9, opened the meeting and introduced the co-convenors of the network. Monica Rosén then pointed out the modes of participation and communications in Network 9. She explained that the EERA constitution prevents a formal individual network membership (membership in EERA is through the national organizations of educational research). In Network 9, therefore, a mailing list has been used as a central means of keeping in touch with those participating in the conference programme of the network, to distribute Calls and Announcements of relevance for the network programme and activities at ECER as well as for the network themes of Assessment, Evaluation, Testing and Measurement. Currently, 314 colleagues have signed up for the Network mailing list that was established in December 2019 as part of the EERA mailing list system. Monica Rosén invited those not yet on the list to join and to spread the word to further interested colleagues. Monica Rosén then pointed out that the second means of communication in Network 9 is the network website, which is mainly used for documentation purposes (e.g., for the Aims and Scope of the network, the contact information of convenors, reports, acknowledgements, etc.). The network website

is part of the EERA website, see <https://eera-ecer.de/networks/9-assessment-evaluation-testing-and-measurement>.

2. ECER 2023: Network 9 submissions overview

Monica Rosén gave an overview of the submissions to Network 9 for ECER 2023. The conference programme consisted of 62 individual papers in 20 sessions, 2 joint paper sessions with NW24 and NW27, 1 symposium session (4 papers), 1 joint symposium session (3 papers) with NW12, and 1 research workshop. In addition, the programme also comprises the annual Network 9 Keynote as an invited contribution. Of the submitted proposals, the reviewers for Network 9 rejected 10.7% in 2022, which is a similar rate to the general ECER 2023 submissions across all networks (11.1%). The submissions to Network 9 for ECER 2023 (84) were lower than for the last ECER (95), possibly due to the collision with EARLI 2023. Monica Rosén then highlighted the countries of origin of the authors of the Network 9 submissions accepted for ECER 2023, which amounted to 23 countries, reflecting the international composition of conference presentations. Monica Rosén presented the topics of the symposium, the joint symposium with NW12, and the joint paper sessions with NW24 and NW27.

Monica Rosén expressed her delight on behalf of the network when announcing that professor Samuel Greiff from the University of Luxembourg (Luxembourg) gave a keynote on the theme of “International Large-Scale Assessments and Education in the 21st Century” and engaged with the network members in a discussion on August 23.

3. Acknowledgement of reviewers, chairpersons and discussants

Network 9 is indebted to the colleagues who support the network by participating in the review process for the ECER conferences. On behalf of the convenors of Network 9, Monica Rosén cordially thanked all reviewers, chairpersons, and discussants for volunteering their time and expertise, and for contributing to the quality of the research presented and discussed in Network 9. The names of chairpersons and discussants are listed in the conference programme. To make the contribution of the reviewers visible as well, the names of the reviewers will be published after the conference with an acknowledgement on the website of Network 9 (see also the Appendix of these minutes). This list serves furthermore as a transparent account of the review procedure.

4. Network activities

Monica Rosén presented the capacity-building activities of Network 9. Network 9 members continuously support the Emerging Researchers’ Group (ERG) of EERA as reviewers of submissions and mentors of sessions at the Emerging Researchers’ Conference. The ERG is looking for further colleagues from Network 9 to join their reviewer group. Monica Rosén shared the contact details of the ERG incoming Link Convenor, Lisa Bugno (University of Padova, lisa.bugno@phd.unipd.it). Colleagues from Network 9 who are interested in lending the ERG their expertise as reviewers are invited to write to Lisa Bugno to indicate their willingness to participate in the review for the Emerging Researchers’ Conference 2024. As a further contribution of Network 9 to capacity building, Monica Rosén pointed out that a research workshop was organized in the context of ECER 2023: “Getting Started with R in RStudio” held on August 22 by Erika Majoros and Monica Rosén in the organization of the research school “School of Quantitative Research Methods in Education” (QRM), which offers advanced method courses free of charge. A major part of the courses has been held online even

before the pandemic with one meeting in person (www.gu.se/en/qrm) to promote network building. QRM also organizes an annual conference in June.

5. Preview on ECER 2024

Monica Rosén gave a short preview of ECER 2024, which is planned to be held in Nicosia in August 2024 (submission starts: December 1, 2023; ends: January 31, 2024). Monica Rosén showed the planned conference dates, pointing out that in 2024, the Emerging Researchers' Conference is scheduled for August 26–27, Monday and Tuesday. ECER is planned for Tuesday through Friday (August 27–30). The theme of ECER 2024 is “Education in an Age of Uncertainty: Memory and Hope for the Future”. Elena Papanastasiou informed present colleagues to start booking their accommodation well in advance because of a shortage of hotel rooms in Nicosia.

6. Succession and election of co-convenors

Monica Rosén announced that Jana Strakova is leaving his role as co-convenor. Monica Rosén cordially thanked her on behalf of the convenors of Network 9 for his work over almost 10 years from 2014.

Monica Rosén announced the convenors group has nominated Erika Majoros from Sweden to be appointed as a co-convenor of Network 9. The proposal was unanimously supported by all the convenors and network colleagues in attendance. Monica Rosén thanked them for their vote.

Then she invited Trude Nilsen to pay tribute to Sigrid Blömeke who passed away this summer, at the age of 58. Trude Nilsen shared that Sigrid was one of the most excellent researchers in the field of education. She came to the University of Oslo from a position as a professor at Humboldt University to establish CEMO. She was awarded the prize for excellent research by UiO in 2019. She was elected a member of the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters in 2021. She was awarded funding for a Centre of Excellence (CREATE) in 2022. She established a foundation to support disadvantaged children in 2014. She was fond of nature and sports, she ran, hiked, and skied. She died this summer and will be deeply missed as a wonderful person and genius researcher.

7. Any other business

Stephan Huber, chair of Excellence Leadership, Quality Management and Innovation invited proposals to the “International Handbook of Evaluation and Assessment in Education by Springer.

Falk Brese thanked convenors specifically Jana Strakova for their work. He then pointed out that the pre-conference workshop held by him organized by the IEA was well attended and encouraged present colleagues to organize workshops in future ECER conferences.

8. End of meeting

The meeting ended by thanking everybody for participating in the 2023 network meeting. The co-convenors of NW9 are looking forward to seeing everybody at ECER 2024 in Nicosia.

Appendix: List of reviewers in Network 9 for ECER 2023

The network is indebted to a growing number of scholars who support the network by participating in the review process for the ECER conferences. The Convenors of Network 9 would like to thank all reviewers listed below for volunteering their valuable time and expertise, and for contributing to the scientific quality of the research presented in Network 9.

- Radovan Antonijević, University of Belgrade
- Frank Bach, University of Gothenburg
- Julius Kristjan Björnsson, University of Oslo
- Linda Borger, University of Gothenburg
- Johan Braeken, University of Oslo
- Charalambos Charalambous, University of Cyprus
- Gudrun Erickson, University of Gothenburg
- Andrejs Geske, University of Latvia
- Leah Glassow, University of Gothenburg
- Eugenio Gonzalez, Educational Testing Service
- Martin Goy, TU Dortmund University
- Jan-Eric Gustafsson, University of Gothenburg, Sweden
- Heidi Harju-Luukkainen, University of Jyväskylä
- Sabine Hoidn, University of St. Gallen
- Silvia Irimiea, University Babes-Bolyai
- Stefan Johansson, University of Gothenburg
- Daniel Kasper, UHH Hamburg
- Alli Klapp, University of Gothenburg
- Pekka Antero, Kupari University of Jyväskylä
- Sirkku Kupiainen, University of Helsinki
- Leonidas Kyriakides, University of Cyprus
- Ramona Lorenz, TU Dortmund University
- Erika Majoros, University of Gothenburg
- Michael Martin, Boston College
- Patricia Martinkova, Institute of Computer Science, AS CR
- Plamen Mirazchiyski, Educational Research Institute
- Trude Nilsen, University of Oslo
- Kari Nissinen, University of Jyväskylä
- Ramona Palos, West University of Timisoara
- Elena Papanastasiou, University of Nicosia
- Maria Rasmusson, Uppsala university
- Victoria Rolfe, University of Gothenburg
- Monica Rosén, University of Gothenburg
- Ronny Scherer, University of Oslo
- Anabela Serrão, CIES-IUL
- Rolf Strietholt, IEA Hamburg
- Tobias C. Stubbe, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen
- Sari Sulkunen, University of Jyväskylä
- Leslie Rutkowski, Indiana University, School of Education
- Ariane S. Willems, University of Goettingen
- Kajsa Yang Hansen, Gothenburg University
- Paulína Koršňáková, IEA
- Julia Gerick, TU Braunschweig