ECER/EERA Glasgow 2023 NW19 – network meeting minutes

Convenor group leading the network meeting 2023: Carl Bagley, Gisela Unterweger (link convenor), Begoña Vigo Arrazola, Clemens Wieser (link convenor).

Agenda

1. Welcoming, introducing the convenor group and meeting agenda
2. Network report: conferences, state of the network at ECER 2023, network procedures
3. New Honorary Network Member: Dennis Beach
4. Building our network: speed networking, publishing in E&E-journal
5. Outlook: Rethinking Ethnography & Education in Zaragoza, Spain, IEC Zurich
6. Ways to stay in touch

Minutes

Ad 1) Welcoming

Co-link convenor Clemens Wieser opened the network meeting with a warm welcome to a room filled with over 40 participants. The convenor group, in this composition active since ECER 2022, introduced itself with a few remarks about their interest in and experience with ethnographic research in education and their investment in the network. The agenda was presented.

Ad 2) Network report

The first item of the network report concerned the "Rethinking Educational Ethnography Conference 2023" on "Ethnography and Emotions", in Freiburg, Germany, in April 2023. The Rethinking Educational Ethnography (REE) Conference is a conference in between ECER conferences, organized by ethnography network members. This year, REE was organised by convenor Florian Weitkämper (Freiburg), together with local, national, and international colleagues doing ethnographic research: Bettina Fritzsche (Freiburg), Magnus Frank (Oldenburg), Nelly Alfandari (London/Barcelona), Lalitha Chamakalayil (Muttenz), and Ursina Jaeger (Tübingen). The conference revolved around the role of emotions in ethnography in relation to theoretical, ethical, social and methodological issues. REE 2023 received more submissions than could be accommodated, and a selection of 14 papers were

presented. We were fortunate to receive funding from EERA for several low-GDP participants joining the conference.

The convenors also reported on this year's numbers for the network activities at ECER Glasgow. There were 33 submissions in 3 symposia and 8 paper sessions as well as 1 panel. The numbers reached pre-pandemic heights as last seen in ECER 2019 in Hamburg. The convenors thanked the group of network reviewers for their dedicated and much appreciated work.

Finally, the convenor group informed network members about the newly established network procedures. The goal was to implement a transparent, democratic constitution for our network. The most significant changes were highlighted:

1. Reviewed network objectives: a broad, inclusive understanding of ethnography that reflects diversity in ethnographic research.
2. Convenor responsibilities: communicating with network members, arranging meetings, initiating contributions, and planning publications together. Group size: Up to 8 persons (2 per region).
3. Convenor elections: Transparent application and election process & deadlines. TBA in the network meeting agenda. Transparent application criteria: (1) Previous contributions, (2) academic record in ethnography, (3) regional representation, (4) gender balance, (5) academic age (PhD age <7y).
4. Mandate: 4 years, max. 2 terms.

After presenting the new procedures for EERA network 19, the procedures were discussed amongst network members. Several network members articulated a desire for aiming at a well-balanced European representation, especially regarding Southern and Eastern Europe. The convenor group will take this issue up to find a possible solution.

Ad 3) New Honorary Network Member

Dennis Beach was elected Honorary Network Member 2023. He was warmly thanked for his outstanding work and contribution to the network 19:

Professor Dennis Beach's outstanding body of academic work has shaped the establishment and growth of ethnography across Europe. On a European scale, Dennis has encouraged and promoted the development of ethnographic research in education, supporting ethnographic initiatives of young researchers, and highlighting the transformative potential of ethnography. In addition to his numerous books and journal articles, he has been on the editorial board of the journal Ethnography and Education since it was launched in 2006 and became editor in chief in 2013. In EERA, his ethnographic engagement has been equally prolific: Dennis is one of the founding convenors of network 19 and has significantly shaped the profile and course of the network for more than 23 years. We are profoundly thankful for Dennis' engagement, and hope that he will remain active in the ethnographic community for a long time.

Ad 4) Building our network
The participants and convenors of the meeting engaged in a convenor-organized 10-minute exchange speed-networking. Participants were asked to find another person in the room who they did not yet know, and exchange interests in ethnographic research. This resulted in intense and joyful conversations that took place in the room. Participants articulated an interest in continuing this kind of networking with a larger timeslot at next years' ECER conferences. Convenor Carl Bagley, member of the editorial board of the journal Ethnography and Education, then presented the possibility of publishing ethnographic work in the journal, be it based on a conference paper or other. The following Q&A was used to clarify specific questions in relation to the process of publishing in the journal.

Ad 5) Outlook
For the outlook, the convener group presented two planned ethnographic conferences with ties to the network 19.

The traditional **REE Conference** will be continued in 2024 in Spain:
11th Rethinking Ethnography Conference, Zaragoza. Interconnections between doing ethnography and transformation in educational contexts. The conference is co-organised by Begoña Vigo, Carl Bagley, Dennis Beach, and Juana Sancho, takes place at the University of Zaragoza, 6-7 June 2024.

Another – biannual – **Educational Ethnography Conference** is rooted in the German-speaking research community but became more international and is now held in German and English. It will take place in Switzerland in 2024:

8th International Ethnography Conference: "Re-Writing (against) Culture: Ethnographic writing in educational research: practices, approaches, innovations and positionings", co-organised by Gisela Unterweger and Anja Sieber and takes place at the University of Education Zürich, 27-29 June 2024.

Ad 6) Ways to stay in touch

The meeting was closed with reference to two ways for staying in touch: Firstly, the EERA network mailing list, and secondly the Facebook group. Both channels provide a possibility to stay updated on ethnography network activities, and to stay in touch within the community until the next ECER.