

**EERA Network 23 Online Annual Business Meeting**  
**1230-1330 CEST, Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

**Welcome**

The network convenors welcomed the thirty attendees and wished them well.

Peter Kelly thanked Anna Tsatsaroni who will be stepping down as a NW23 convenor this autumn. As NW23 Link Convenor from 2013-2017 and a convenor before and since, Anna has done so much for NW23, and has always been generous with her time, help, advice and feedback.

Anna responded by thanking Palle Rasmussen for his support, and agreed to stay on through autumn and after that as a reviewer.

**Conference 2021**

Submissions, rejections and withdrawals

	<b>Total Submitted</b>	<b>Accepted</b>	<b>Rejected</b>
<b>Symposia &amp; Panels</b>	16 symposia 1 panel	16 symposia	0
<b>Papers &amp; Ignite</b>	76 papers 1 ignite talk	71 (including 3 redirected)	5

About one third of papers were resubmissions from last year. There were no poster submissions this year. 1 panel presentation, 1 ignite talk and 10 papers were accepted but later withdrawn.

We have continued to encourage participation of the least represented countries, and saw an increase in French and Central European participation this year. As with last year, we now receive far fewer redirections from other networks.

Reviewers

Altogether, we have 30 reviewers for the network, and were 27 active this year as 3 rested because of other commitments. With 210 reviews (compared with 290 last year) conducted (two for each submission including 34 four paper symposia), this is an average of about 8 reviews each. Many of these reviewers also acted as chairs for paper sessions.

The success of the conference is down, in large part, to the quality of the reviewers and the chairs. We have a strong group of conscientious reviewers who give their time freely and provide clear, helpful and considered feedback on the many submissions. In normal years, a good number also regularly act as chairs. Many thanks to all.

### **Developments for ECER 2021**

Reviewers are now asked to inform the conveners about proposals that are poorly expressed because of English language difficulties, but otherwise acceptable, so that we can explore the possibility of further support for their authors. We have also increased the number of network reviewers and session chairs.

### **Conference Review 2021**

One reviewer commented on the quality of submissions which, she said, had increased over the years and is now of a very high standard. Another discussed the importance of the European dimension, and was pleased that the NW23 programme demonstrated strong links to this. Anne Larson and Anna Tsatsaroni both replied by suggesting that a European dimension is possible with papers from outside of Europe. An important point is having a forum where speakers whose first language is not English can participate comfortably and are not drowned out by first language English speakers.

Otherwise, feedback was positive although two participants pointed out the importance of meeting together and how they were missing the face to face contact. A number of speakers said that we must preserve the face to face nature of ECER, even though the online format has been useful in allowing us to meet this year. Others suggested that we will have to consider arguments relating to increased inclusion and a reduced environmental impact, but the importance of contact, informal discussion and spontaneous conversations should not be overlooked.

### **Online Spring Seminar Series 2021**

The network's online seminar series was one of the academic highlights of spring 2021. This series brought together leading academics in the field of education policy studies, all of whom have a close relationship with Network 23. Over 200 friends and associates of the network registered to attend the four seminars, reflecting the huge contribution made by each of our speakers to education policy research.

Date	Central European Time	Title	Speaker
Thursday 25 February	10:00 - 11:15	Navigating Crisis: A reflection on 2020, entangled space-times of education, revisionist work and learning, and making histories	Professor Terri Seddon La Trobe University, Melbourne
Thursday 04 March	10:00 - 11:15	Multiple Temporalities in Critical Policy Sociology in Education	Professor Bob Lingard Australian Catholic University
Tuesday 16 March	15:00 - 16:15	Elites and Experts in Education Policy	Professor Jenny Ozga University of Oxford
Tuesday 23 March	15:00-16:15	Sedimentation and/or re-politicization of a highly marketized education system	Professor Lisbeth Lundahl and Professor Linda Rönnerberg University of Umea

This series provided an opportunity for those within the wider education policy research community to connect with each other. For many, these seminars provided some relief from the enforced isolation of

the global pandemic, and were well received by all who attended. A post about the series is available on the EERA Blog: <https://blog.eera-ecer.de/policy-research/>.

We intend to repeat the online seminar series in early 2022, annually thereafter, restricting the series to 2 or 3 seminars each year. We are also aiming for at least one EERA Blog posting from the network each year.

### **Changes in the convenors team**

We are seeking a new member of the network convenors team this autumn. We are looking for someone who is committed to the work of EERA and has a record of supporting and contributing to Network 23. An email inviting expressions of interest will be circulated via the network mailing list later in September or early October.

### **Plans for ECER 2022**

Our ongoing developments for face-to-face conferences include:

- providing clear communications, including a welcome email will be sent to all whose papers have been accepted by Network 23 with advice on how the conference works together with conference and network information
- arranging informal breakfast & lunchtime gatherings and a social event for all
- providing support for those new to Network 23 and/or ECER including emerging researchers
- encouraging network members to contact the convenors to share ideas on activities and/or initiatives that will further promote inclusiveness and development of the network

We are pleased with our ongoing work to widen participation, and will continue to prioritise attracting participants from underrepresented countries. We will invite queries from potential authors before submission, and continue to develop support including linking with and contributing to the Emerging Researchers Group (ERG). Xavier Rambla is the network link with the ERG.

### **Final remarks**

No other issues were raised at the meeting. We look forward to seeing you in Yerevan in 2022.

The Convenors of EERA NW23: Peter Kelly (link-convenor), Anna Tsatsaroni, Anne Larson, Linda Rönnerberg and Xavier Rambla, 8th September 2021