Network 33 meeting minutes

Gender and Education

Tampere, 20 August 2026. Time: 12.15–13.15

Attendance: see separate attendance list.

Agenda : The 2026 meeting followed up the Belgrade 2025 minutes and considered network leadership, conference feedback, activities and the proposed network name.

1. Network leadership

Andrea Abbas announced that she was stepping down as NW33 Convenor. **Victoria Showunmi**, Professor at UCL and Vice Dean, was proposed as her successor. Her work addresses leadership, gender identities and the experiences of young women in school, higher education and employment. Victoria left the room for the vote. **Members elected her unanimously as the new NW33 Link Convenor.**

Deputy roles, including representation by country and for emerging researchers, were discussed but not settled at this meeting. Victoria will take this forward. For France, Sigolène Couchot-Schiex is stepping down, and Anne-Sophie Godfroy will replace her. Victoria proposed that Anne-Sophie become Deputy Link Convenor. Members interested in acting as deputies, national contacts, reviewers, or other contributors may contact Victoria at v.showunmi@ucl.ac.uk.

2. Follow-up to Belgrade and conference safety

The Belgrade 2025 minutes recorded two reported incidents of racial harassment outside the conference venue. Following discussions in Berlin in May 2026, a code of conduct has been adopted as a starting point. Members stressed the need to prevent harassment across the conference and its surrounding social context. Victoria expressed her commitment to this work.

3. ECER 2026 conference and member feedback

Network 33 received 55 submissions. Members thanked the 16 reviewers and the session chairs for their work. Participants valued the accessibility of the conference and the opportunity to meet peers working on similar questions, particularly where such work is difficult in their home contexts.

Members reported technical difficulties and requested more reliable support in session rooms. A computer in each room and the use of USB sticks were suggested. Given the size of the conference, members also proposed more informal meeting opportunities, such as a network lunch or dinner or a walk. Co-hosted panels and social events with other networks, including those concerned with social justice and citizenship education, could help members meet across groups and address programme overlaps.

4. Network activities and publications

Members were encouraged to develop collaborations, publications and grant applications, with particular attention to the voices of emerging researchers.

Network project funding of up to €6,000 was mentioned; proposals require network approval. Every member is welcome to submit an application.

Victoria outlined the project “Empowering racialised women in European academia: Collaboration across borders” with Dr. Anne-Sophie Godfroy, Dr. Edna Costa, and Dr. Marian Blanco-Ruiz, an exploratory research focused on racialised women early career researchers in the United Kingdom, France, Spain, and Portugal, funded in 2025 by the NW33. See the EERA blog for additional details: https://blog.eera-ecer.de/racialised-women-in-academia/

The special issue on intersectionality for the *European Educational Research Journal* is led by Victoria Showunmi and co-edited by Andrea Abbas and Branislava Baranovic, as identified in the Belgrade minutes. Members were also encouraged to propose further publication projects.

A co-editor of ***Gender and Education Journal*** invited members to get in touch about publication projects; the contact address is Emily.Gray2@monash.edu.

5. Proposed network name

Members discussed changing the name from "Gender and Education" to **"Genders, Sexualities and Intersectionalities"**. They noted the possible overlap with other networks. The proposal requires EERA approval. If approved, the Link Convenor and deputies will update the network description.

Summary of Actions and Open Points

Action or point	Responsibility	Status
Develop the deputy and national contact arrangements, including emerging researcher representation	Victoria Showunmi	Open
Continue work on harassment prevention and the code of conduct	Network leadership / EERA	Ongoing
Consider technical support, social activities and cross-network panels for future conferences	Network leadership / organisers	Suggestions
Seek EERA approval for the proposed name and then update the description	Link Convenor and deputies	Pending approval
Develop project and publication proposals, including emerging researcher contributions	Interested members	Open