

Holistic Well-being SIG

Report 2016/2017

Names and emails of convenors and current members of the SIG

Co-convenors:

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The Holistic Well-being SIG is growing every year and at the moment has 35 members from different countries.

SIG activities 2016/2017

- **31/08/16: Annual SIG meeting**

Questions we explored were:

- What do we mean by well-being?
- How can we support the well-being of children and families in a holistic and inclusive manner?
- Do practitioners, researchers and policy makers understand children's physical, mental, social, emotional, cognitive, spiritual and cultural well-being in the same way?
- What experiences influence children's well-being?
- How can we advocate for the well-being of the children and their families?
- Are there universal measures of well-being?

- **EECERA 2016 Conference**

There were 3 self-organised symposia organised in EECERA 2016

A35: Holistic Wellbeing SIG Symposium 3,

B32: Research innovations in exploring well-being,

C21: Apart from Progress: Preservation, Variability and Change in Childhood

Emerging research topics were: Inclusion, refugee families, ESD, research methodologies, empathy, spirituality, dis/ability, home education.

- **January 2017**

Newsletter including the updated information regarding the revised requirements for SIG groups was disseminated and followed up by discussions.

- **February 2017**

Planning and organising of symposia for the EECERA 2017 Conference. Proposals for 3 self-organised symposia were submitted.

Main future plans

29/08/2017: SIG annual meeting

A key area for discussion we would like to explore is:

The [International Early Learning and Child Well-being Study \(IELS\)](#) running under the OECD aims to study globally 'children's social, emotional skills and cognitive skills' as part of mapping 'children's early capabilities to education performance at age 15, through PISA'. How might this reflect a view of children's well-being as something measurable? How would this establish children's well-being as an accountable area?

Possible SIG Conference themed: 'Exploring Holistic Well-being'

We are thinking to organise and host at Liverpool Hope University, UK a Conference possibly in spring-summer 2018. The theme for the Conference will be: 'Exploring Holistic well-being'. The expectation is that this Conference will be an opportunity to find space and collaborate on a themed-special issue for EECERJ.

SIG activities and EECERA ethos

The Holistic Well-being SIG continues its development and aims to critically reflect on the concept of children's well-being. This is a timely matter due to the increased awareness and interest of practitioners, researchers, advocates, and policy makers at a cross-national and global level in understanding children's physical, mental, social, emotional, cognitive, spiritual and cultural well-being. The SIG aims to foster cross-national collaborations and research in a range of aspects including ESD in early childhood, child development, cross-cultural elements, policy, empowerment and agency and their synergy in examining children's holistic well-being.