

Young Children's Perspectives SIG Report for BOT: May 2017

To: EECERA Board of Trustees

From: Colette Gray and Jane Murray

Re: Special Interest Group – Young Children's Perspectives

Report on membership, activities undertaken and planned 2016-17

Date: 7th May 2017

Names and Emails of convenors and current members of the SIG:

SIG Convenors:

Dr Colette Gray – c.gray@stran.ac.uk

Dr Jane Murray - jane.murray@northampton.ac.uk

(i) EECERA Young Children's Perspectives 2016-17 Member List

Angeliki Bitou	Greece
Alison Clark	UK
Alma Fleet	Australia
Anette Boye Koch	Denmark
Anne B. Smith	New Zealand
Annick Biesmans	Belgium
Beverley Nightingale	UK
Bob Perry	Australia
Carmen Huser	Germany
Cathleen Bethke	Germany
Petra Bueker	Germany
Cath Gripton	UK
Catherine Meehan	UK
Clare Britt	Australia
Clodie Tal	Israel
Colette Gray	UK
Deborah Harcourt	Australia
Elizabeth Dunphy	Ireland
Eva Johansson	Sweden
Gesine Nebe	Germany
Hanna Palmer	Israel
Haitmut Kupfer	Germany
Ingrid Pramling Samuelsson	Sweden
Ioanna Palaiologou	UK
Jacqueline Hayden	Australia
Jane Payler	UK
Johanna Einarsdottir	Israel
Jennifer Sumsion	Australia
Julia Hoeke	Germany
Jane Murray	UK
Kelly Baird	Australia

Kristina Konstantoni	UK
Liz Chesworth	UK
Lesley Ones	Australia
Linda Harrison	Australia
Luca Ghirotto	Italy
Luigina Mortari	Italy
Mari kaisa	Finland
Marja-Leena Laakso	Finland
Raija Raittila	Finland
Penny Lawrence	UK
Persille Schwartz	Denmark
Riikka Hohti	Finland
Rosie Flewitt	UK
Sarah Te One	New Zealand
Sue Dockett	Australia
Solveig Nordtomme	Norway
Sue Gascoyne	UK
Sue Robson	UK
Susanne Klaar	Sweden
Susanne Westman	Sweden
Tim Waller	UK
Valentina Mazzoni	Italy
Valentina Montu	Italy
Wendy Lee	New Zealand
Tanya Richardson	UK

(ii) Activities undertaken by the SIG in past year:

Meeting held at EECERA Conference, Dublin, September 2016.

See Appendix 1 for Minutes.

EECERJ Special Issue published April 2017

In March 2016, Jane Murray and Colette Gray received nine full proposals for the forthcoming EECERJ Special Issue *'Perspectives from Young Children on the Margins'*, due for publication in March 2017 (Eds. Colette Gray and Jane Murray). Full papers were due for submission on 31.8.16. eight full papers were received and went out for double blind peer review, with revisions required by 1.12.16 to allow for production and publication by March 2017. The Special Issue was published in April 2017 and brought together a rich collection of papers based on empirical research in the field of early childhood (0-8 years), with focus on *'Perspectives from Young Children on the Margins'*. The featured research is truly international, although European research is prominent in the papers. Varied disciplines are represented, including social policy, early education and play therapy. This Special Issue has provided an international set of fresh critical insights into the lives of young children who experience exclusion, and the papers are grounded in authentic data and sound ethical protocols.

Special Issue progressing for IJEYE

Colette Gray and Jane Murray sent out a call for papers in the International Journal of Early Years Education, focused on *'Hearing young children's voices through innovative research approaches'*. 36 initial proposals were received from 20 countries and eleven were invited for development into full papers. These have been reviewed and at the time of writing, final papers are in development. This SI is due for publication in July 2017.

'Young Children's Perspectives' chapter progressing

Contributing authors to the 'Young Children's Perspectives' chapter in the '*International Handbook on Early Childhood Education and Development*', (Eds. Marilyn Fleer, Bert van Oers, and Feiyan Chen with Alma Fleet and Deborah Harcourt) received a communication from Alma Fleet in April 2015:

'You will be pleased to know that the chapter we were invited to submit mid-November 2014 is now officially 'in press'. The editors have apologised for the delay which was beyond their control.

While details are to follow, for the moment, you can cite it as follows:

Fleet, A. and Harcourt, D. with A.B. Koch, S. Gascoyne, J. Einarsdóttir, C. Gray, P. Lawrence, J. Merewether, S. Mitchelmore, J. Murray, A. Salamon (in press). (Co)-researching with children. Chapter in M. Fleer and B. van Oers, (Eds.). International Handbook of Early Childhood Education and Development. Vol 1: Methodologies. New York: Springer.

Further information will arrive in due course. Thanks again for your prompt response to the original request and initial edits.'

(iii) SIG activity planned for the future

- Further development of the YCP SIG online space within the EECERA website
- Publication of the *International Handbook on Early Childhood Education and Development*, (Eds. Marilyn Fleer, Bert van Oers, and Feiyan Chen with Alma Fleet and Deborah Harcourt) - 2017
- Publication of SI '*Hearing young children's voices through innovative research approaches*' in IJEYE - 2017
- Mid-year YCP SIG meeting – before EECERA conference 2017
- Explore the development of two new YCP SIG books:
 1. different modalities young children use to express their views to serve as a tool for researchers and practitioners.
 2. YCP Book to mark the 30th anniversary in 2019 of the United Nations CRC (OHCHR, 1989)
- YCP SIG members to create new proactive links to their networks, institutions and organisations (volunteers required)

(iv) Links and networks established with other institutions and organisations

- Links to OMEP and TACTYC (UK) established through YCP membership.

(iv) How the YCP SIG's activities fit with the aims and ethos of EECERA:

YCP SIG activities focus on...

- Generating critical reflection on children's perspectives and children's rights
- Supporting and encouraging cross-national perspectives on seeking children's perspectives
- Supporting SIG members' research in a collaborative and cooperative manner
- Sharing innovative and reflexive research on children's perspectives and children's rights.

In this way, the YCP SIG...

- Promotes and disseminates multi-disciplinary research on early childhood and its applications to policy and practice
- Seeks to sustain and develop the rich tradition of European early childhood thought in a context of appreciation for other equally rich early childhood traditions and concepts across the World
- Encourages the exploration of new paradigms, methodologies, concepts and applications in the ever-changing context of early childhood studies.

Appendix 1:

Minutes of the EECERA 2016 Young Children's Perspectives SIG Meeting Dublin, Ireland

1.0 Welcome, apologies and contact list

1.1 The meeting was held on Wednesday 31st August 2016 at 16.00-17.00 in Room HG08, School of Nursing, Dublin City University.

1.2 Apologies were received from Colette Gray (convenor), Catherine Meehan and Luca Ghirotto.

1.3 Those who attended were:

Jane Murray (convenor)	UK
Ioanna Palaologou	UK
Kristina Westlund	Sweden
Cath Gripton	UK
Alison Clark	UK
Alison Moore	UK
Liz Rouse	UK
Linda Harrison	Australia
Christina Pernsteiner	Austria
Colette Murray	Ireland
Rebekah Grace	Australia
Triona Cummins	Germany
Kelly Baird	Australia
Julia Hoeke	Germany
Britta Schäfer	Germany
Petra Bueker	Germany
Persille Schwartz	Denmark

2.0 Minutes from last meeting

Minutes from the last meeting had been circulated prior to the meeting and were shared during the meeting and agreed.

3.0 New EECERA regulations for SIGs

3.1 Jane Murray (JM) shared new proposals for requirements for EECERA SIGs with the group.

3.2 One requirement is to hold at least one additional meeting between EECERA conferences each year. Members suggested a range of ways this might be done, including

- An open online discussion over a week
- Padlet
- An online medium similar to Skype that can accommodate all YCP SIG members. Ioanna Palaologou (IP) offered to find out more about this and let JM know so it could be shared with the group.

ACTION: Ahead of the first interim meeting, JM will communicate with YCP members to ask their views so that a decision can be made regarding how we will communicate.

3.3 It was proposed that we should focus on a key point relevant to YCP for each YCP SIG meeting. Proposals included:

- Methodologies for working with YCP
- Techniques to listen to children, especially babies
- Uses of technology to capture YCP
- Ethics in research capturing YCP

- Research on, with, about, by young children, including pre-reading of two relevant papers to begin with (Linda Harrison) – this was the favourite option for the first interim meeting.

ACTION: Linda Harrison kindly offered to provide the papers so that the first interim YCP SIG meeting would be about research on, with, about and by young children

3.4 JM noted that a second new requirement is that each SIG must have at least 15 paid up members of EECERA. Colleagues who have attended the YCP SIG meetings previously may now wish to consider joining EECERA so that they can have full YCP SIG membership.

4.0 YCP Publication news

4.1 JM noted that full papers for review were now due for the YCP EECERJ Special Issue '*Perspectives from Young Children on the Margins*', to be edited by JM and Colette Gray. The publication date will be March 2017. A good range of papers had been received and nine full proposals selected for the SI.

4.2 YCP members had received a message from Alma Fleet to say that the Springer handbook (Eds. Marilyn Flear and Bert van Oers) was now in production, including a chapter written by YCP SIG members:

Fleet, A. and Harcourt, D. with A.B. Koch, S. Gascoyne, J. Einarsdóttir, C. Gray, P. Lawrence, J. Merewether, S. Mitchelmore, J. Murray, A. Salamon (in press). (Co)-researching with children. Chapter in M. Flear and B. van Oers, (Eds.). *International Handbook of Early Childhood Education and Development*. Vol 1: Methodologies. New York: Springer.

4.3 JM provided an update on the Special Issue for the *International Journal of Early Years Education*, which will be edited by Colette Gray and JM, focused on '*Hearing young children's voices through innovative research approaches*'. JM reported that this SI was currently in development but had been delayed by Colette's illness. Proposals that have been received will be retained and their authors contacted, a new call for papers will go out and December 2017 is the proposed new date for publication.

5.0 New proposal for YCP publication

5.1 Colleagues discussed the possibility of a new YCP book, either as a second edition of *Researching Young Children's Perspectives* (Harcourt, Perry and Waller, 2011) or a completely new book. If a second edition of *Researching Young Children's Perspectives* is the decision, the SIG will need to ask the authors of the first edition if they would like to write and edit the second edition (Routledge). If a completely new book is the preferred option, this could come from a proposal for an EECERA series book (Routledge).

ACTION: JM to e-mail all SIG members to seek their views on which of these should be pursued.

5.2 Colleagues made suggestions for chapters that they could contribute to a YCP team book:

- Babies and Belonging
- Rebekah Grace: Indigenous children and transitions
- Alison Moore: Young Children's voices in children's centres / Sparkles
- Julia Hoeke: How children's voices can be used in professionalisation processes
- Triona Cummins: Supporting refugee children in four children's centres in Germany
- Persille Schwartz and Alison Clark: Children's Mosaics – an app development of the Mosaic Approach in a Danish context
- Ioanna Palaiologou: Participatory research with under 3s

ACTION: JM to e-mail all SIG members to begin to identify which chapters can be included.

6.0 Proposed YCP SIG online space

Following the 2015 YCP SIG meeting, JM looked into developing an online space for the SIG to communicate and share discussion and ideas. However, EECERA has now developed a SIG online space

for each SIG, including the YCP SIG. Members will be able to explore this in the coming weeks as it is released.

7.0 2015-16 YCP SIG Report

JM apologised that the 2015-16 YCP SIG report had only just been written due to Colette Gray's illness. This has now been forwarded to Johanna Einarsdottir for inclusion on the EECERA website. The report was circulated to the meeting.

8.0 AOB, next two meetings

The next meeting will be an online meeting in February. Meanwhile, Jane said she would contact SIG members with the minutes from this meeting and to address its actions. A further YCP SIG meeting was planned to take place at EECERA 27th conference in Bologna, Italy.