

Outdoor Play and Learning Special Interest Group

European Early Childhood Education Research Association (EECERA)

SIG Convenors

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SIG website: <https://sites.google.com/site/outdoorplaylearning/>

Report on SIG Activities 2015-16.

1. Symposia at EECERA 2016

At the EECERA conference in Dublin, Ireland 6 self-organised symposia from the Outdoor play and Learning SIG, including 18 presentations are going to take place.

2. International Handbook of Outdoor Play and Learning

Most of the SIG's activity during 2015/16 has been to follow up the work on the SAGE Handbook of Outdoor Play and Learning that will be published in 2017. The Handbook is edited by SIG members Ellen Beate Sandseter, Eva Ärlemalm-Hagsér, Libby Lee, Kristi Lekies, Shirley Wyver and Tim Waller and will include over 40 chapters, including a number written by SIG members. The Handbook will contain chapters from authors representing countries from across the world, including Europe, North and South America, Africa, Australasia and Asia-Pacific countries. The book is clearly structured in six separate sections each supported by their own editorial team, as follows:

- Six discrete, but complementary sections
 - i. Theoretical frameworks and conceptual approaches for understanding outdoor play and learning
 - ii. Critical reflections on policy and regulation in outdoor play and learning
 - iii. Children's engagement with nature, sustainability and children's geographies
 - iv. Diverse contexts and inclusion in children's outdoor play environments
 - v. Methodologies for researching outdoor play and learning
 - vi. Links between research and practice

3. Special issue in the International Journal of Play

The SIG is offered to organize a special issue of Outdoor play & learning in the International Journal of Play to be published during 2019. The SIG will start to prepare for the work on this issue during the SIG meeting in Dublin 2016.

4. Professorship

SIG member and convener, Ellen Beate Hansen Sandseter, received in April 2016 a professorship in Educational Science with Focus on Early Childhood Education Research.

5. Membership of the SIG

This year the Outdoor Play and Learning Special Interest Group's total number of members is 111 (24/6/16).

4. July 2016