AN ILLUSTRATIVE CASE STUDY OF A POSSIBLE EECERA SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG)

A cross-national group of delegates meet at Conference and decided they have a common interest and they'd like to turn into a SIG.

They search the Conf. programme to see if there are others they can email or involve in their putative SIG and contact them with their idea.

During the subsequent year they remain in contact by email, agree on shared meanings, who will be convenors & a focus/title of their group.

They register their SIG with the EECERA Board of Trustees using the 'How to form a SIG outline' and get formally accepted. NB. BoT meets twice yearly, at Conference and in the Spring.

They decide they'd like their group to put together one or more self-organised symposia at the next EECERA Conferences. They realise that even within their focus theme there are sub-specialisms that they can usefully cluster together.

Using their conference papers as a starting point, the SIG convenor has talks with EECERA Coordinating Editor, and submits a detailed proposal for a themed edition of the Journal to the Editorial Board. Once publication has been agreed, the papers are collated, submitted, formally refereed and published as a 9-paper Themed Special Issue Journal.

The SIG continues to have successful conferences and they decide to have additional meetings & contacts outside Conference. Routledge Pub. show interest in a book publication. Members continue to submit individual or joint papers to the Journal. EECERA is always acknowledged in their activities.

SIGs may make contact with other SIGs to explore possible cross-theme collaborations or permeation issues (e.g. 'Diversity' in 'Leadership' or 'Diversity' in 'Birth to Three'). After 3 years of activity and annual reports to the BoT, SIG convenors become eligible to sit on the Electoral College and may submit themselves for election to the BoT.

EUROPEAN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION RESEARCH ASSOCIATION