Activities of SIG Transition between 24th and 25th EECERA conferences

SIG convenors

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Current members of the SIG

Ackesjö, Helena/Bethke, Cathleen/Boyle, Tess/Brooker, Elizabeth/Broström, Stig/Büker, Petra/Carrière, Raphaela/Davies, Jessamy/Debrauwere, Greet/De Gioia, Katey/Dunlop, Aline-Wendy/Dunphy, Elizabeth/Einarsdóttir, Jóhanna/Ekström, Kenneth/Garpelin, Anders/Glaser, Vibeke/Goff, Wendy/Hansen, Ole Henrik/Harrison, Linda/Hartley, Carol/Höke, Julia/Hognsnes, Hilde Dehnes/Jensen, Anders Skriver/Johansson, Inge/Kallberg, Pernilla/Kapluns, Cathy/Kienig, Anna/Kopisto, Kaisa/Lehrer, Joanne/Lillvist, Anne/Margetts, Kay/Marwick, Helen/Merry, Rosina/Mifsud, Seana/Nebe, Gesine/Niesel, Renate/O’Kane, Mary/Olivier, Maritza/Paavola, Heini/Paki, Vanessa/Papatheodorou, Theodora/Paradis, Pascale/Parsons, Margaret/Perry, Bob/Peters, Sally/Petriwskyj, Anne/Radtke, Madlen/Rantavuori, Laura/Reichmann, Elke/Rogers, Susanne/Sandberg, Anette/Sandberg, Gunilla/Schulz, Marc/Schwartz, Persille/Seifert, Anja/Semundseth, Marit/Söderman Lago, Lina/Stephenson, Margaret/Turunen, Tuija/Wettendorff, Rikke/Wickett, Karen/Wilder, Jenny/Wildgruber, Andreas/Wolffowitz Sanchez, Norma

Exchange of work in the field of transitions

In the SIG meeting in Hersonissos, we shared an introduction of members and discussed current activities and projects.

Concordantly the members expressed that they would like a more current exchange about activities and publications of colleagues working in the field of transitions. There was also the wish to learn more about related activities of researchers from outside the group. This was especially true for new members of the SIG who are in the midst of their academic careers.

On the market place, we showed interested delegates some of our work in the field of transitions.
Some of our members also met in the SIG “Working with Parents and Families”, respectively, some members of that SIG also met in ours.

Facebook page

The “EECERA SIG on Transitions” open group facebook page has been existing since Sept. 19th, 2013. By July, 2015, the page has 38 participants. Some spammers who wanted to advertise sunglasses etc. got deleted. The facebook page is being used to inform about conferences and publications on educational transitions.

“Transition to school - Position statement” - translations

Translations into Chinese by Michelle Mei Seung Lam and Finnish by Tuija Turunen are available (http://www.csu.edu.au/faculty/educat/edu/transitions/publications). A German translation is being prepared by Wilfried Griebel and a French one by Joanne Lehrer is in prospect. The group will discuss if short reports about the situation of transition to school in countries where the translations are national languages, might be useful.

Book project

As a common activity of the SIG that has started on the last conference in Crete, Bob, Sue and I distributed to the members an invitation to send as an expression of interest chapter abstracts for a book on families and the transition to school. Grateful enough for the fruitful responses, a book proposal was sent to Springer Science+Media. The publisher has released three positive reviews of the proposal, so that the book is on the way to be put into effect.

Publications

This is a selection of recent publications with details provided by the SIG members.

Journal articles:


This paper introduces the work Tess has been doing with teachers in ECEC and the early years of school, using critical participatory action research. A methodology paper is now in progress, and we will present a theoretical integrative review of transitions literature at AARE in Perth, Australia later in the year.


Hogsnes, H. D. (2014). *Barns muligheter for å erfare sammenhenger i overgang fra barneahage til skolefritidsordning* [Children's opportunities to experience continuity in the transition from kindergarten to after school]. Barn, 3, 45-60.


**Books:**


First volume in a series of seven about ressourceful education in early childhood and educational transitions in childhood.


Comment: This book is the result of a 2010 conference of 14 researchers, six higher degree students, 35 policy makers and about 100 practitioners in Albury, New South Wales, Australia, and is related to the “Transition to School Position Statement”. Urgently expected to be launched before the last year conference – it was there a short time after. The chapters will be reported in “book chapters”.

Book chapters:


Dunlop, A.-W. (2014). Design and organisation of the transition from kindergarten to elementary school and the integration of this theme in (university degree) training in


This chapter is in the first Australian textbook on inclusion in early childhood.


SIG’s activities in respect to aims and ethos of EECERA

The SIG Transition provides a very vivid and productive academic forum to promote high quality research in early childhood education. This is especially true for connecting different educational systems and families in the perspective of research and makes this research useful for practice and policy. Numerous publications reflect the cooperation between European and worldwide – namely Australian – researchers in this field. They also reflect the cognitive interest and commitment of teaching and learning in different phases of academic careers in the interdisciplinary and international field of transition research. The eminent meaning of opportunities, aspirations, expectations, entitlements and recommendations of educational transitions for quality of early childhood education is made more visible throughout the world.

Wilfried Griebel and Sue Dockett