

Multilingual Childhoods SIG Report 2017/2018

SIG Convenors:

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Current SIG members:

We still have no clear idea of how many EECERA members the SIG has. Many colleagues are covered by institutional membership of the association.

Our JISCmail discussion list:

- Our JISCmail discussion list continues to grow and is now subscribed to by over 100 researchers interested in multilingual contexts. We post regularly about different activities e.g. conferences, publications and discoveries. It is a really useful list and feedback has been very positive.
- Not all the JISCmail list subscribers are EECERA members, but we are hoping that it alerts colleagues to EECERA and the existence of the Multilingual Childhoods SIG.

Links and networks established with other institutions and organisations:

We continue to be actively involved with the 'International Association of Applied Linguistics - Early Language Learning Research Network' (AILA ELL ReN) and represent their 'Very Early language Learning' strand. <http://www.ell-ren.org/>

SIG activity for 2017-2018

- Participation of SIG members in:
 - ✓ Publication: Schwartz, M. (Ed.) (2018). *Preschool Bilingual Education: Agency in Interactions between Children, Teachers, and Parents*. Multilingual Education Series. Dordrecht, Netherlands: Springer
 - ✓ Conference: AILA ELL ReN conference 'Early Language Learning: Multiple Perspectives – Diverse Voices', University of Iceland, Reykjavík, 13 – 15 June, 2018
- EECERA Pre-conference in Budapest, 28 August, 2018: 'Approaches to research with multilingual children' (afternoon meeting)
- Preparation of four thematic symposia for the 2018 annual conference

Planned SIG activity for 2018-2019:

- Continued use of JISCmail discussion list and SIG website
- Organisation of third Multilingual Childhoods SIG conference, 'Multilingual Childhoods: Education, policy and practice' Hamar University, Norway. 15 - 16 May, 2019
Conference chair is Gunhild Alstad
Conference website: <https://eng.inn.no/project-sites/multilingual-childhoods-2019>
- Proposal preparation for collaboration with EECERA for a SIG publication based on selected conference presentations.

How SIG's activities fit with aims and ethos of EECERA

We continue:

- To bridge the areas of multilingualism and early years education;
- To promote and disseminate research in early years multilingualism and its implementation in policy and practice;
- To create opportunities for informed and constructive discussion and debate;
- To foster possibilities for cross-national collaboration and interaction.

Website: <https://multilingualchildhoods.wordpress.com/>

JISCmail discussion list: <https://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/webadmin?A0=EARLY-YEARS-LANGUAGE-LEARNING>