

SIG Report

Special Interest Group

Gender Balance

SIG Convenors

Tim Rohrmann, Germany; Kari Emilsen, Norway, together with SIG organizing team: The convenors and David Brody, Israel; Birgitte Ljunggren, Norway; Victoria Sullivan, Australia; Jo Warin, UK; Yuwei Xu, UK/China

Number of SIG members

20

Activities undertaken by the SIG since establishment

The international network on the issue of men, women, gender balance and diversity in the ECEC work force has continuously supported research and networking in its field since 2012. Please see former SIG reports about activities from 2012-2020.

Report on SIG Activities this past year

The Covid-19 pandemic has slowed down the SIG activities during the past year. However, an online SIG meeting was held in September 2020, and the SIG team has met several times online during the past year to continue its work and prepare symposia and activities for the 2021 online event.

The SIG team decided to launch a regularly SIG newsletter from August 2021 on.

1. Publications

SIG members have been publishing quite actively in National and International journals. The "Men's Career Trajectories" final report was published as a book in the T&F EECERA series in autumn 2020, with David Brody as 1st editor and many SIG members as contributors. For an annual list of publications on SIG issues please see the SIG's website.

2. EECERA Symposia 2021

SIG members will present two symposia, a poster, and a book launch, on the EECERA online festival in September 2021.

4. There are no relevant changes in number of members. Beyond EECERA SIG members, the SIG has a huge mailing list including researchers from all over the globe.

How SIG activities fit with aims and ethos of EECERA

The SIG has developed fascinating cross-national collaborations, with multi-disciplinary research on early childhood and early childhood education. We are a true international group which leads to reflections on native English speakers dominance in research discourses, and the dominance of the "North" over the "South". Moreover, we aim at including perspectives of all stakeholders in the wide field of ECEC in our research, including practitioners, children, and parents.

Networking, future plans and links to other institutions

Besides various activities in their home countries, SIG members were part of

- the international steering group of the project "GenderEYE", Lancaster University, UK
- a tri-national project on gender sensitive pedagogy in the UK, Sweden, and Germany

The Men's Career Trajectories project presented results on two international virtual seminars:

- Gender and Education Association in March 2021
- Centre of Justice and Wellbeing in Education, Lancaster University, UK, in May 2021

Building up on this project, a new international collaborative research project was started with a focus on children's perspectives on their teachers.

- I have read the privacy policy and agree