

Disability Studies and Inclusive Education in the Early Years

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1. Aim of the SIG:

We are a community of researchers who wish to work toward sharing and strengthening knowledge, understandings and practices of disability studies and inclusive education in the early years.

We aim to explore and develop shared values, understandings, resources, and practices that promote shared humanity through research, by:

- Recognising, acknowledging and celebrating the full breadth of human diversity
- Supporting belonging and meaningful participation for all children, families and communities

- Challenging ableism, exclusion, objectification, stigma, discrimination, devaluing, dehumanising and othering
- 'Listening' to lived experiences of inclusion and exclusion (e.g., "nothing about us without us")
- Recognising, upholding and promoting human dignity, equity, agency, rights and the valuable contribution of ALL people
- Identifying and addressing barriers in the environment, curriculum, pedagogies, policies, research and practice

2. Activities 2023-2024:

Publications, meetings, networking, cross-national collaboration, symposiums etc.

Throughout the year, the SIG was involved in:

- Organizing symposia for presenting at the 2024 EECERA conference.
- Welcoming new members to the SIG
- Preparing a proposal for a special issue for EECERJ

3. Planned activities:

Publications, meetings, networking, cross-national collaboration, symposiums etc.

Throughout the coming year, the SIG will be involved in:

- Organizing a cross-national research project
- Organizing a Special Issue for EECERJ on Professional Learning for Inclusive Pedagogy

4. Links and networks established with other institutions and organizations

n/a

5. How do SIG's activities fit with the aims and ethos of EECERA:

Our aims align with EECERA philosophy and ethos. Through this group we hope to contribute to increasing knowledge and understanding in this critical area for the development of quality early childhood education, with potentialities for working toward more inclusive and socially just communities.