

## Special Interest Group 'Professionalism in Early Childhood Education and Care'

### Annual Report

19 August 2019, Thessaloniki, SIG Conveners

#### SIG Conveners:

1. Margaret Sims, University of New England, Australia
2. Mary Moloney, Mary Immaculate College, Ireland
3. Antje Rothe, Leibniz University of Hanover, Germany

#### Report to EECERA Board of Trustees, August 2019

##### Aim of the SIG

To create a safe space where those interested can debate issues relating to professionalism and professionalisation in early childhood education and care, both face-to-face at the annual conference and online throughout the year. The SIG also encourages and facilitates interested parties to collaborate on research projects and publications.

##### SIG Activities 2018-2019

- *Member of the P-SIG* published a paper based on a collaborative project on "Professionalisation of ECEC" (<https://www.researchgate.net/project/Professionalisation-of-ECEC>) and conference paper presented at the 28<sup>th</sup> EECERA Annual Conference 2018:

Moloney, M., Sims, M., Rothe, A., Buettner, C., Sonter, L., Waniganayake, M., Pardo, M., Opazo, M.-J., Calder, P., Girlich, S. (2019). Resisting Neoliberalism: Professionalisation of Early Childhood Education and Care. *International Electronic Journal of Elementary Education*, 8(1), 1-10.

- *Members of the P-SIG* organized several *self-organized symposia* at the 29<sup>th</sup> EECERA Annual Conference 2019

##### **"What could professionalization in early childhood look like to EC professionals?"**

- Antje Rothe (Co-Convener): "Co-constructing professionalism – A qualitative approach to collective visions of professionalism"
- Pamela Calder (London South Bank University, UK): "Professionalism in the early childhood workforce. Women's rights or children's rights?"
- Margaret Sims (Co-Convener): "Neoliberalism and early childhood: The invisibility of our take-over"

##### **"Quality and early childhood professionalization in a neoliberal context"**

- Fabio Dovigo (Danish School of Education, DPU Aarhus University, Denmark): "If it ain't got that swing: Developing professional practice in ECEC through improvisation"
- Laura Doan (Thompson Rivers University, Canada): "Professional identity development through a community of practice"
- Margie Rogers (University of New England, Australia): "Contextualised, not neoliberalised professionalism in early childhood"

