

## SIG Report

### Special Interest Group

Transforming Assessment, Evaluation and Documentation in Early Childhood Pedagogy

### SIG Convenors

Ioanna Palaiologou, Elisabetta Biffi, Rike Wettendorff

### Number of SIG members

62

### Activities undertaken by the SIG since establishment

The SIG was formed during the EECERA Conference in Dublin 2016. The first meeting was in 31st of August 2016, with the participation of 16 delegates. Since then the SIG has organised annual meetings every year and facilitated Self Organised Symposia.

It has also organised SIG seminars. An email list has created to facilitate communication with our members. There are also a Tweeter and Facebook accounts. The SIG tries to be active during the year and regularly communicate with our members.

### Report on SIG Activities this past year

Current status of the the SIG

Currently the SIG has 62 members in their list. In our annual meeting in EECERA 2019 in Greece was attended by 22 existing and new members. After the conference the SIG gained 12 new members.

It was decided that we will invite another SIG convenor to take responsibility for the SIG' s social media. We are delighted to announce that Rikke Wettendorff has now become the third co-convenor of our SIG.

SIG convenors meet on line at least three times a year to discuss the developments of the SIG and its annual activities.

Activities 2019-2020:

In our annual meeting in EECERA 2019 it was agreed that the following activities will take place in the academic year 2019/2020:

- To work on a Special Issue for the EECERJ. A call for papers was sent to all our members and the EECERA administrator also advertised the call for papers on the website. There were 10 abstracts accepted to be developed into papers. The original deadline was for 15th of April. However, as many countries entered long periods of quarantine due to COVID-19, the guest editors decided to extend the deadline to take the pressure off the authors. Currently the authors are now submitting their papers for peer review (please see appendix for the call for papers). It was also discussed and proposed as activities for this academic year to:

- organise a pre-conference event for the day before the 2020 annual conference. The proposed format is to have discussion panels with topics to be debated, rather than presentations, as these can be part of the main conference. The plan was to hold this event on the 8th of September in the afternoon and to offer (if finance allow us) lunch from 13:00 so we can gather for a start at 14:00.

Here is the draft programme for the day:

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-15:15 Panel 1

15:15-15:30 Break

15:30-16:45 Panel 2

16:45-17:00 Conclusions

Although this might have led to a position paper this activity has now been postponed, however, and we intend to revisit this for the 2021 conference.

- use more Facebook for supporting activities, which we have now done thank to the hard work of our new SIG co-convenor Rikke Wettendorff.
- A possible edited book with international perspectives of assessment, evaluation and pedagogical documentation through the EECERA series. Again this plan has now been postponed, however, as most of your members are academics that have had to work on line from home since the COVID-19 crisis started and we did not want to add extra pressure. This activity will be revisited once things are back to 'normal'.

Planned SIG activities for the coming year:

As the 2020 EECERA annual conference has been postponed we need to consider our options for an annual meeting that will not put more pressure on our members. We are currently thinking of the following options:

1. Email all members and ask them for ideas for activities for the 2020/2021;
2. To ask our members if they prefer a digitally organised annual meeting;
3. To consider whether it is possible to organise a digital workshop for our members.

### **How SIG activities fit with aims and ethos of EECERA**

There are many ways and methods of assessment, evaluation and documentation within the early childhood pedagogical debate. The SIG, faithful to the principles of EECERA, aims to collect these diverse practices and find connections among the multiple approaches on the topic so we can share examples of good practice and even develop innovative, culturally appropriate methods to gain an in-depth understanding of assessment, evaluation and documentation practices in Europe and beyond, while at the same time challenge established understandings of measuring and assessing children's' learning and development as well as the quality of pedagogical practice, including bringing attention to children's perspectives on quality.

### **Networking, future plans and links to other institutions**

Again due to the pandemic nothing to be reported for this year under this heading.

- I have read the privacy policy and agree