Minutes
EERA Council Meeting

University of Hamburg
SAT, 7 Sept and SUN, 8 Sept 2019

Attendees List:

Name	Association
Ana Kozina	The Slovenian Educational Research Association (SLODRE)
Andreas Hadjar	Luxembourg Educational Research Association (LuxERA)
Angelika Wegscheider	EERA Office
Anna Aleksanyan	Educational Research Armenian Society (ERAS)
Arcady Margolis	Educational Research Association (RERA)
Arnaud Dubois	Association des Enseignants et Chercheurs en Sciences de l'Education (AECSE)
Branislava Baranovic	Croatian Educational Research Association (CERA)
Daniela Preis	EERA Office
Dita Nimante	University of Latvia (Candidate Member)
Dragica Pavlović Babic	Educational Research Association of Serbia (DIOS)
Drorit Lengyel	LOC 2019
Eduardo García-Jiménez	Asociación Interuniversitaria de Investigación Pedagógica (AIDIPE)
Edwin Keiner	EERJ Editors' Nomiation Committee
Elisabetta Biffi	Società Italiana di Pedagogia (SIPED)
Enda Donlon	Educational Studies Association of Ireland (ESAI)
Eric Mangez	Association des cherchers belges francophones en éducation (ABCéduc)
Erich Svecnik	Österreichische Gesellschaft für Forschung und Entwicklung im Bildungswesen (OEFEB)
Eva Hultin	Nordic Educational Research Association (NERA)
George Head	Emerging Researchers' Group
Gonzalo Jover	Sociedad Española de Pedagogía (SEP)
Helen Phtiaka	Cyprus Pedagogical Association (CPA)
Herbert Altrichter	EERA Treasurer
Huseyin Uzunboylu	Cyprus Educational Sciences Association (KEB-DER)
Ingrid Gogolin	LOC 2019
Isabelle Mili	Swiss Society for Research in Education (SSRE)
Jana Poláchová Vašťatková	Česká asociace pedagogického výzkumu (ČAPV)
Jani Ursin	EERA Networks' Representative on Council - leaving
Joanna Madalińska-Michalak	Polskie Towarzystwo Pedagogiczne (PTP)
Joe O'Hara	EERA President
Julianna Mrazik	Hungarian Educational Research Association (HERA)

Karmen Trasberg	Estonian Academic Research Association (EAPS)
Liudmila Rupšienė	Lithuanian Academic Educational Association (LERA)
Lucian Ion Ciolan	Romanian Educational Research Association (ARCE)
Maarten Simons	European Educational Research Journal
Marco Rieckmann	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Erziehungswissenschaft (DGfE)
Mhairi Beaton	British Educational Research Association (BERA)
Yunus Eryaman	Turkish Educational Research Association (EAB)
Nicolai Gorbachev	Belarus National Association "Innovations in Education" (IE)
Oksana Zabolotna	Ukrainian Educational Research Association (UERA)
Paulina Korsnakova	Slovak Educational Research Society (SERS)
Petra Grell	EERA Networks' Representative on Council - taking over
Saneeya Qureshi	Emerging Researchers' Group
Satu Perälä-Littunen	Finnish Educational Research Association (FERA)
Sofia Marques da Silva	Sociedade Portuguesa de Ciências da Educação (SPCE)
Stephen McKinney	Scottish Educational Research Association (SERA)
Wilfried Admiraal	Vereniging voor Onderwijs Research (VOR)
Yasar Kondakçı	Educational Administration Research and Development Association (EARDA)
Yonka Parvanova	Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Faculty of Education (Candidate Member)

1. Apologies and Welcome of New Members

Joe O'Hara informed Council that Maria Pacheco Figueiredo, Berhardo Canha and Milosh Raikov had expressed their apologies before the meeting, and he welcomed the new members from Lithuania, Dita Nimante, and from Bulgaria, Yonka Parvanova.

2. Confirmation of Minutes [Decision]

Council confirmed the minutes in the current version provided in the dropbox.

3. ECER/ERC 2019 Review [Information]

3.1   LOC

Ingrid Gogolin reported that LOC was very satisfied with the conference. ECER 2019 has been taken as a model to implement sustainable conference management at the University of Hamburg. One of the outcomes will be a brochure about green conference organisation, which may also serve as guidance for future LOCs. She also suggested that each year a roundtable for funding agencies is organised, e.g. with OECD. Within a similar session this year it became clear that funding agencies do not necessarily know of each other's programmes and that there is great interest to learn more about the work of other agencies.

3.2   Networks' Feedback

Jani Ursin reported from his collection of link convenors' feedback that Joint Sessions were – again - very well received, and most of the paper session succeeded in grouping the papers well, according to their focus. The only complaints that came were regarding particularities of the venue, e.g. the centralised coffee break spots, which were seen as an asset by some and as hindrance by others.

3.3   Office Feedback

The EERA desk received only few complaints during the event which signals that the conference was well organized and that people had enough and good guidance to navigate the campus. Angelika Wegscheider thanked LOC for the smooth cooperation and highlighted how LOC 2019 added new ideas to ECER in the field of corporate social responsibility: e.g. the sing language translation of keynote speakers, including an exhibition on Work & disability, offering student lead activities on LGBT and environmental questions, social tickets for the social event, green exhibitors as guests in the publishers' exhibition.

Compared to previous years there was relatively low number of withdrawals during the conference. There were also relatively few last minute programme changes.

As for the first results of the participants' evaluation, she pointed out that 27% of participants were very satisfied and another 54% were satisfied with the academic quality of the conference (15% neutral).   40% were very satisfied and 42% were satisfied with the on-location organisation (13% neutral),

48%/40% were very/satisfied with pre conference communication (11% neutral).

Also the going green activities were well received with 46 % being very and 39% being satisfied, 12% neutral. All in all 59% would definitely recommend ECER to a colleague, 32% probably 6,5 % neutral.

3.4   Other Feedback

Branislava Baranovic reported back for network 33. Her summary was that the academic side was really good, the room changes were confusing, and apparently many people did not check for updates in the programme. They had more contributions from young researchers, which she found very good, as it shows the interest in the conference and research in general.

Isabelle Mili said that network 27 was very happy with the conference, except for the keynotes. They were seen as being too general, without a specific, scientific approach.

Jani replied that some praised the keynotes, others didn't like them. But as it was the first time that there were three in parallel, it can be seen as a chance for the future to offer more diversity. And the networks could be more involved in the process.

Generally the full logistics of the conference were praised, as there were no long queues, despite the high number of participants. LOC can be proud. And it was a wonderful thing to get the HVV ticket for free.

Joe concluded by stating that it was an excellent conference, the academic, the social events as well as the offers for the free time.

4. Reports and Exculpations [Decision]

4.1   President

Based on the Presidents Report provided beforehand council exculpated Joe O'Hara.

4.2   Secretary General

Based on the Secretary Generals' report provided beforehand council exculpated Maria P. Figueiredo.

4.3   Treasurer 2018

Herbert Altrichter introduced to the audited report of 2018 which included the auditors' recommendation for exculpation. He explained the larger than expected positive outcome with high attendance numbers at ECER 2018 and underspending in other areas. He concluded that with the financial year of 2018 result the decision taken in Istanbul 2015, to secure a sufficient reserve for surviving a year without an ECER has been achieved. He pointed out that, when discussing coming budgets later in the agenda, Council will have the option to discuss how to react to the financial situation and asked to have this question discussed separately from the exculpation for the past year.
Council agreed and exculpated Herbert Altrichter.

5. Upcoming ECERs

5.1   2020, Glasgow, Report from LOC [information]

Stephen McKinney informed Council about the latest developments with ECER 2020 preparations. At the moment the LOC is investigating options for the Social Events. A recommendation for those attending was to fly to Edinburgh, as there are direct flights from more destinations than to Glasgow. In addition, there is a direct bus from Edinburgh airport to Glasgow's city centre, taking only 40 minutes. The UK is rather strict with visa applications, but the university has an international office that can help.

5.2   2021, Geneva, Report from Scientific Committee re Theme [decision]

The text explaining the theme is still work in progress, but the title can go on the website in Autumn. A challenge is the Bank Holiday on the Thursday, as all shops and restaurants around Campus will be closed, but Isabelle Mili and LOC are considering a market area where food can be purchased in the Lunch Break. LOC is currently in negotiations for the social events, and have a professional partner (which can get better conditions) for that.

Saneeya Qureshi suggested to offer a couch surfing database, especially for emerging researchers, as hotels in Geneva are rather expensive. LOC had also considered that, and will look into how this could be realised.

5.3   2022, Yerevan, Report on Contract [information]

The contract has not yet been signed, as there was a change in presidency.

5.4   2023 / 2027 Report from Meetings in Cyprus [information / decision]

Joe O'Hara first asked Council whether they would accept to remove the principle that all member associations need to collaborate to organise ECER in one country (if there are more than one member associations in a country). Joe pointed out that he had travelled to both possible venues, and he found both very suitable for an ECER.

Council agreed to remove the principle for having member associations from one country cooperate while organizing an ECER for the context of Cyprus, but to generally stick to the principle. Then, Council received two presentations for conference in Cyprus in 2023 and 2027.

5.4.1   Presentation/Report Nikosia (2023)

Helen Phtiaka presented her university as well as Nicosia itself as a possible ECER venue. The dates could be 22 to 25 August 2023, with the ERC on 21 – 22 August. Council welcomed the proposals and EXEC will therefore start budget negotiations.

5.4.2   Presentation/Report Kyrenia (2027)

Eser Gemikonakli and Huseyin Uzunboylu presented Kyrenia University and the city of Kyrenia as potential venue for ECER 27 in Northern Cyprus.

Council formally noted the proposal of Kyrenia for 2027. It was agreed to stay in close contact but to postpone starting with budget negotiations and formalising a contract, as generally confirmation for hosting an ECER are only given 3 years in advance. Exec will also use the occasion of a meeting in Nikosia in 2022 for preparing ECER 2023, to also connect to Kyrenia for a follow up meeting and formal start of negotiations.

5.5   2024 Proposal from Serbia [information/decision]

Dragica Pavlovic Babic introduced the ECER 2024 proposal from Belgrade, at the Faculty of Philosophy, and showed a film on the city etc. She pointed out that there were 4500 hotel rooms in walking distance to the University buildings in the City Centre and of course others accessible with transport. There is visa-free entry to Serbia from Europe and the city is well connected to international airports.

The council members from Croatia and Slovenia supported the proposal, and would welcome it to be accepted. Another comment from Council was that it is an easy destination, still not as expensive as elsewhere, and they have a strong academic tradition.

The proposal is formally noted and further negotiations will start in 2020.

5.6   General: ECER and Disabilities [information]

Angelika Wegscheider pointed out that office regularly revisits its own working procedures. Triggered by requests from participants and based on a research started by Doretta Dow office now suggests rethinking the approach to disabilities. Until now the topic of "special needs/accessibility" has been addressed in the conference registration system and on the EERA website and referred to as "special needs". Research shows however that the term"special needs" seems to be outdated. The preferred term today is "disabilities" or "accessibility".
We have thus changed the terminology on the website to "Accessibility" and will also introduce this into the Conftool 2020 set up.
Doretta Dow also compiled a number of questions to collect from LOC for pre-informing those with disabilities (e.g.: is their visual pavement on campus?)
While there are not too many requests per year, there are always some and the aim should be to be able to support participant with information and guidance. Most of the annual requests relate to dietary restrictions and LOCs are asked to provide good visual signage for the coffee breaks. In 2018 there were ten and in 2019 seven requests related to mobility, hearing disabilities and visual impairments.

Office and LOC usually handle them e.g. providing assistance to walk people to their conference room, introduce the chairperson of the sessions and the requesting person in advance, etc.
Joe thanked Office for their efforts and invited Council to bring EERAs efforts to their associations and look into our material to increase awareness.

6. Publications

6.1   EERJ

6.1.1   Result of Nomination Process for Coming Editors

Edwin Keiner, as head of the nomination committee, informed Council that two candidates were found to replace Eric and Maarten. Sotiria Grek and Paolo Landri are willing to take over, and there will be a transition process to hand over the duties properly. The incoming editors will shadow Eric and Maarten and will also finalise some special issues they started.
Council approved the suggestions and thanked Eric and Maarten for their development of EERJ and for the excellent work that they have undertaken as co- editors over the past number of years.   Council also thanked Edwin Keiner and the nomination committee for their work and good documentation.

6.1.2   Editors Report

Eric Mangez presented the editors report and highlighted the successful application to SSCI. With EERJ being indexed there, more papers are to be expected which would also mean more work for the editors. As all papers are reviewed by two reviewers and as it is more and more difficult to find reviewers the journal is in need for more support here. He thanked those Council Members who had acted as reviewers, and invited them and others to do so, again, in future.

Stephen McKinney reported that he had done reviews, and that he had found Eric and Marteen to be two of the best editors he had ever come across as they would provide excellent guidance in the reviewing process. Saneeya Qureshi also thanked the two editors for the cooperation regarding the ERC and the best paper award.

6.2   Book series

6.2.1   Process [Information]

Dennis Beach is the lead editor of the series, and according to the contract, three books per year minimum are planned. The book series is open not only for networks, and the editorial board will send out the Call once the process has been established.
There will, in a short while, also be information on the EERA website..

6.3   Research Methods Book

The book launch during the ECER Opening Ceremony was successful, and also the other sessions focusing on the book were well received. SAGE seemed happy with the sales, and the contact person, who was present at the SAGE stand, was enthusiastic with feedback: "this book is unique"!

EERA is open for similar ideas and a future collaboration with SAGE.

7. Emerging Researchers' Group

7.1   Result of the Selection Process [decision]

Satu Perälä-Littunen informed Council about the five candidates, of which three were interviewed online. All five fulfilled the definition, and the three interviewed were all good candidates, but Saneeya has been in the job, has done the job very well, and has many ideas for the future. Therefore, the nomination committee suggested to council to re-appoint Saneeya in her role as link convenor of the emerging researchers' group.
Council agreed to this and congratulated Saneeya.

7.2   Report of ERG Link Convenor [information]

Saneeya Qureshi presented her report for the ERC 2019. The change of programme for the second day resulted in higher attendances for the keynote session. Also the afternoon workshops were well attended and well received. This year's pilot, the lunch break event on how to make the most of the ERC and ECER experience, was very well received. People from Council, Exec, Networks and LOC were there to advise and answer questions. There was great feedback, and the session especially helped to understand the structure behind ERC and ECER, and the link with EERA.
Marco Rieckmann was at both lunch break sessions and liked both. He also noticed that the emerging researchers talked to each other in between tables, i.e. it also gave them a platform to communicate. Some questions were proposed beforehand, and this was very helpful to start the conversation.
Branislava Baranovic was pleased that her network received many contributions from emerging researchers, and she was wondering whether she could invite some to be reviewers. Saneeya found that a good idea, she would just suggest not to assign too many papers to them in the first year.
Saneeya also highlighted ideas for comings years, including installing "critical friends" from networks who could act as discussants for certain themes in the ERC sessions. She also plans a Facebook Group for emerging researchers and investigates into options to install a capacity building workshop on Sunday afternoon before the Emerging researchers' conference.

Saneeya thanked Council for their support and cooperation.

8. EERA Activities

8.1   Summer School

8.1.1   Report & Evaluation 2019 [Information]

The summer school in Brno went fine and was well received. The final and financial report is yet to be received. In order to facilitate the handover to 2021/22 Satu was invited as tutor and she followed this year's school.

8.1.2   Report 2020 [Information]

Satu Perälä-Littunen reported on the plans for 2021/2022. She will probably have a colleague from the US on a Fullbright scholarship for evaluating the event. At the moment she is investigating into additional funding to support social activities.
Saneeya approved of the fact that the information was online before ERC, as she received many questions regarding the Summer School.

8.1.3   Call for Proposals for 2022 onwards

Office will send out a call for hosting the school 2022/2023. Please indicate your interest by 15 November.

8.2   Academic Writing Workshop Report and Outlook [decision]

Stephen McKinney and George Head as facilitators of the workshop were quite happy with their one-day event, it is very interactive, and deals with difficult topics, such as publishing in English for non-natives etc. They are open to continue, would just have some practical recommendations.

Also, the hosting associations were more than content with the outcome of the event. Elisabetta Biffi, co-organiser of the workshop held in Italy, reported that it was very well received, that the participants not only better understood the EERA community but felt more secure regarding their own work. They were given the feeling that there is a friendly community supporting them even if they do not have international experience. The students loved the way the workshop was done, so humorous and friendly. The workshop also helped to increase the interest in ECER and ERC. Liudmila Ruspiene confirmed that in Lithuania, they were also very satisfied with the course, and that the feedback was really good. People actually felt that the experience would change their manner of writing.

Council thanked Stephen and George and decided to offer Workshops also in 2020. Associations who are interested in hosting these workshops should be in touch with office.

9. Report and Outlook Networks

9.1   Network Evaluations [information]

Jani Ursin reported on the networks annual review which focussed on What networks are happy/content with? What they are concerned about and what they would like to develop further.

Networks value the good regular attendance by core people, the excellent opportunities for networking, the great social scene & friendship ties and the inclusiveness of the networks (emerging/established researchers, colleagues from various countries, loyal members/newcomers etc.). They were concerned about the size, sometimes claiming the network was too large or too small and about the quality of proposals as well as the theoretical basis of a network. Also some were worried about the ensuring a good north/south participation and debate.
Areas of development were activities between conferences - something to which there is answer within a suggested ne funding scheme, network publications, which also might find a means in the book series, as well as season schools and links or joint activities with the emerging researchers. Some Councilmembers complaint about networks' mailing-lists being inactive and that not all link convenors seem to understand how people can enrol for the lists. Office will resend information on how to handle/manage networks' lists again.

Jani Ursin then also reported that the still new NW 33, Gender & Education had all full programme of 21 sessions with 62 submissions (41 papers 2 workshops, 4 symposia with 14 symposium papers. 2 posters).

9.2   Overview Network Projects [information]

Jani commented on the overview list provided for council and stated that not too many proposals had come in/were decided on since March council. Based on discussions in March Council and in

the Network meeting in April, NW 17 was granted some money for their anniversary celebration at ECER 2019. All in all, there is still open funding for 2019 available and he hopes that more proposals will come up for the autumn funding round.

9.3   New Forms of Network Funding [decision]

Jani Ursin presented the ideas for new forms of network funding which had been developed by Exec, based on discussions in Council, the Network Seminar and the Network Meeting during ECER.

1.) In addition to the funding of network activities already in place (network projects, network season schools and network related publications) it is proposed to create an annual fund of 25,000 euros to support *specific network related activities*. This can be used for the purpose of network development and to celebrate special moments of a network.

2.) Additionally, for organizational purposes throughout the year, like program planning, EERA offers the *setting up of online meetings through the GoTo Meeting system*. The EERA Office will manage the technical side of this.

3.) EERA also suggests that networks needing additional time for network related activities *meet on the day before ECER* (usually Monday), offering (on the basis of availability by LOC) a room to meet and financially supporting convenors from low GDP countries for one night for participating in this meeting.

With the three suggestions, it is hoped to answer the needs for networks for meeting time and internal development.

Council approved of these activities and the funding scheme will be put online.

9.4   Update Change of the Names of Two Networks [decision]

New names for NW 01 (now: "Professional Learning and Development") and NW 08 (now: "Health and wellbeing education") were accepted by Council, after NW 18 signalled their consent to the change of name of NW 08.

9.5   Psychoanalysis & Education: report on nesting within NW Philosophy & Education [discussion]

The Special Call for Papers done by the nesting group "Psychoanalysis & Education" drew a good number of papers and symposia. Organisers were happy with the sessions and also a meeting with NW 13 representatives, exec and representatives of the psychoanalysis group was valued as productive and promising. It was agreed to also do a special all for ECER 2020 and to have the group nest within NW 13 for another year.

Joe O'Hara thanked Jani Ursin for facilitating these discussions and the process.

10. Members

10.1 Georgia

Unfortunately, none of the Georgian colleagues could come to ECER. They are facing practical/administrative problems, and have requested support in setting up an association. A first step will be to organise a workshop to help developing an association. It is not yet decided who of exec will go, though.

10.2 Kosovo

Exec had a meeting with colleagues from Kosovo during ECER. The situation in Kosovo is similar to Georgia. Exec will stay in touch and see into how the development of an association can be supported.

Council reconfirmed to keep up the initiative of being in touch with countries which are not yet linked to EERA. Council members were asked to use their connections to people from countries with no member association for bringing them in contact with Exec. When discussing support for building up new associations, Lucian Ciolan pointed out that the Romanian association had invited colleagues from Moldovia to the ARCE conference, which then raised the question if membership should be opened for non-Rumanian colleagues as well or if they should better be encouraged to establish an own association, a question which remained unanswered so far.
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10.3 Example of Different Forms of Membership – SiPed

Exec had asked SiPed to explain how they were able to open membership for researchers not based in education departments of universities. Maybe this example could help to solve the issues for second and third associations within countries who cannot apply for EERA membership as their country has already one represented association. There is still a pending question on how to include these colleagues (e.g. also in reduced ECER fees).

SiPed has three different kinds of membership:
- Academics (full, or regular membership with position within a position within a education department of a Italian university)
- Associate members, for post-doc fellows etc who don't have a post at a university. There cannot be more than associate members than 15 % of the full members.
- Corresponding members, they are not pedagogics, but from other fields, they cannot vote nor have a formal role in the executive board.

On the question why not everybody who is interested can become a member of SiPed, Elisabetta explained the specific situation in Italy: membership of a certain domain-specific association is part of career building in Italy, and thus very important. PhD Students may attend the SiPed conference and Summer Schools, but they cannot be members.

In Switzerland, there are two associations: one research oriented only, and the other for teacher education and practitioners. People are encouraged to become members of both, but they are offered a lower fee for a combined membership.

10.4 Helsinki Initiative for Multilingualism in Scholarly Communication [information / decision]

Satu Perälä-Littunen presented the Helsinki Initiative which underlines the importance of publishing also in national languages and pointed to the two sides of it: A language also means a mind-set and not all is translatable to English, which speaks for a scientific discourse in national languages, on the other hand there is also the necessity to talk to a broader community and publishing in English brings more merits, due the way most citation indexes work.
It was suggested to discuss challenges of translation and culture and how to address them in more depths in the next council meeting.

11. Office [Information]

Office is, in standard times, working with 4 people (all on larger part-time contracts). In peak times (e.g. for ECER) student help is added. Following the Development Talks with the Secretary General each staff member has named an area where training will be sought. In addition, office will invest in better office equipment (namely chairs).
Challenges ahead are the setup of Conftool for ISCHE, which will take some additional time in the next weeks. All in all the ISCHE work-hours do, however, not exceed the number fixed in the EERA-ISCHE-contract.

12. General Regulations

As Maria Figueiredo could not attend the meeting, this topic was postponed until March.

13. External Relationships

13.1 WERA, [information]

Joe O'Hara reported on a successful WERA focal meeting earlier this year in Tokyo with about 1000 participants. EERA participated with an EERA session, WERA contributed to ECER with a symposium. For EERA, the key action in Tokyo was the reconsideration of the fee structure, which had been requested by EERA. The committee had developed ideas for this, and a re-calibration of the fee should be expected.
The next focal meeting takes place in Santiago de Compostela, July 2020

13.2 EASSH, [oral report, information]

Horizon Europe still foresees relatively little money for educational research and the attempt to get more formal representation for educational research within the challenges / missions of H2020 was not successful. EASSH is still working on developing an advocacy role for SSH. They produce regular reports and have an annual business meeting.

13.3 ISE, [oral report, information]

ISE recently appointed a project manager who is reactivating the group.

13.4 EEPN, [oral report, information]

Herbert Altrichter reported that meanwhile all operative roles in the EEPN-project have been handed over to colleagues of the Leadership NW and the Politics NW and their respective universities so that – as it was originally envisaged - EERA does not have any operative involvement in the project.

14. Budget

14.1 Budget Outlook 2019 and Budget Proposal 2020

Herbert Altrichter presented the interim overview for the first two quarters of 2019 and confirmed that no adaptations of the 2019 budget are needed. EERA will probably again see a positive result.

14.2 Budget Proposal 2020

With the surprisingly good 2018 result and an expected positive result for 2019 he suggested that Council should consider additional projects / investments and potentially also lowering

conference fees.

In the long run, this would also be advisable as with Charity status an association should not accumulate too much of a reserve.

Ideas for suitable investments are more money for the Emerging researchers and Networks (which in part is already agreed through the additional funding schemes at 9.3 of the agenda). He also pointed out that new projects linked to the EERA strategy (e.g. Blog, seed money for further publications, support collaboration of national associations, more money for office etc.) may need additional funding.

The 2020 Budget foresees a rise of 5.000 Euro for ERG, additional 25.000 for Networks, and 30.00 for strategy projects. Council agreed to this and accepted the budget proposal for 2020.

14.3 Conference fee 2021

In order to let ECER attendees participate in the financial success of ECERs Herbert Altrichter suggested considering to reduce the conference fees for Geneva (ECER 2021). Additionally, this could be an extra-incentive for participation as Geneva is an expensive city. He presented a model calculation with a 25 % reduction of early bird fees (as compared to 2019 prices).

In the discussion, several ideas, comments, and recommendations were offered: Some council members suggested that it would be better to reduce Low GDP fees with a higher rate than High GDP fees instead of using the same %-reduction across all groups, and if ECER fees are reduced also ERC fees should be reduce. Investment towards more comfort during the conference(lunches, coffee breaks, public transport) was suggested. Reductions for retired researchers might be considered.

Some council members suggested that it might be better to reduce fees with a lower rate but on a longer term perspective and not only for one year.

In general, the Council suggested that immediate conference fee reduction is not a high priority. In a medium-term perspective, Exec was encouraged to develop proposals for future conferences which included both (differentiated) reduction of fees and enrichment of conference offers.

14.4 Budget checkers

Each year three council members act as budget checkers. They have the chance to meet during ECER with the treasurer and look more deeply into the spendings, earnings, and budget plans of EERA. For 2020 these will be Wilfried Admiraal, Eduardo Garcia Jimenez and Paulina Korsnakova.

14.5 Confirming the Auditor

EERA's constitution foresees to have the association's annual bookkeeping formally audited by an accredited auditor which needs to be appointed by EERA council. Herbert Altrichter suggested to again appoint the office of Mr. Vollmer, who has already served as auditor in the previous years. Council agreed to this.

14.6 Proposal from DGfE/GERA for Changes in the Structure of Membership Fee [Decision]

Marco Rieckmann briefly summed up previous discussions between EERA and DGfE. Before the Council Meeting Harm Kuper (DGfE president) and EERA exec have agreed to follow the offer of DGfE for a stepwise raise of fees until 2021 and re-discuss the fee structure at a later stage.

15. Communication and Social Media

15.1 Network Videos [Information]

Angelika Wegscheider updated Council that two colleagues from NW 02 were video interviewing NWs during ECER 2019. Videos should be available in October, so early enough for being online before the call for submissions for ECER 2020.

15.2 EERA Blog (discussed in Working-Groups)

Report ?

16. Strategy (discussed in Working-Groups)

Report ?

17. Nomination Committee Treasurer

Dragica Pavlovic Babic, Karmen Trasberg, Enda Donlon will form the search committee for the Treasurer. Elections to take place in March 2020.

18. AOB

18.1 Sverker Lindblad Introducing a Survey on National Educational Research Associations

In the 1990s Armin Gretler did a review of Educational Research in Europe directed to the EERA member associations on behalf of the EERA council. A follow up study is now suggested.

Council wanted to know who would collect the data, and who would answer: Collecting and evaluating would be done by Sverker and his team, the answers should come from one representative per association. However, for specific questions, different people are experts. The goal would be not to answer with personal opinions, but to give a general overview, and if you cannot answer, this is also an answer. Sverker pointed out that publicly available data should be the basis for the answers.

Joe suggested to re-schedule the survey: a provisional version of the survey instrument test may be discussed by March council and survey started later, accordingly. It would be more important to have a good study than a quick one.
It was concluded that Sverker should come to the March Council Meeting in Berlin and present a draft survey that could be discussed and further developed.

19. Next Meeting[s]

2020
Council: 20 - 21 March
NW Seminar: 7 - 8 May

2021
Council: 12 - 13 March
NW Seminar: 6 - 7 May