

**Minutes: Nera Board meeting and Editorial Board meeting in Helsinki.
University of Helsinki, Beteendevetenskapliga falkultetet.
Saturday August 28, 10-17 and Sunday August 29, 9-11.**

Attending: Berit Karseth, Tone Dyrdal Solbrekke, Hans Petter Ulleberg, John Benedicto Krejsler, Niels Kryger, Kasper Kofoed, Camila Kovero, Sirpa Lappalainen (in the absence of Göran Björk), Carl Anders Säfström, Robert Thornberg, Björn Hasselgren, Gyða Jóhannsdóttir

1. **Welcome**
2. **Election of 2 minute controllers:** Niels Kryger and Carl Anders Säfström.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Decided to:
 - Discuss letter from Angela J Dean (AERA) under 11.c
 - Discuss 10.b under 8.
 - Any other business: NERA's 40 years anniversary 2012.
4. **Adjustment and approval of minutes from Board meeting and Editorial Board meeting in Malmö, March 2010:** Minutes from the Board meeting and Editorial Board meeting March 10, approved. Minutes from Board meeting March 13, change *Nature and culture* to "*Natur och Kultur*", change *symposia* to *symposium*.
5. **Follow up General Assembly 2010:** Approved.
 - a. **Amendment of the Bylaws: Election procedure:** Change *substitute* with *deputy*.
 - b. **Bylaws Ahlström Award:** Following changes:
 - Use the term *award* consequently in the text.
 - *Is to be given to one or more co-researchers* (§1).
 - *The award will be given every second year at the Annual Congress. If there is no qualified candidate it will be postponed to the next year.*
(§2)Decided to have the text proofread by a native speaking person before it is put on the web
 - c. **The diminishing number of NERA members: Recruitment strategies:**
 - Niels and Robert will deliver a draft on NERA's Nordic profile (one page) and send it to the Board members before Oct. 1st. The Board members will respond to it and Berit will finalize the document and put it on the web. Board members will translate it to their own language.
 - Board members will inform their colleagues and PhD students of the coming NERA congress and encourage them to participate.
 - The Board will look into possible Nordic funding for NERA congresses.
6. **Congresses:**
 - a. **2010 Malmö:** Overall the Malmö congress was very well organized.
 - b. **2011 Jyväskylä:** Satu Perälä-Littunen a member of the Finnish organization committee informed the Board of the organizational process:
 - The conference web page is open and quite informative.

- The organization committee has been applying for several funds but does not know the outcome yet.
- It is intended to review the abstracts unanimously
- It is possible to fly from Sweden and Norway to Tampere
- They are still working on the congress fee, but will try to keep it as low as possible.

The Board found the congress preparation satisfying but stressed the importance that those who commit an abstract get good comments for possible corrections.

- 2012 Copenhagen:** An agreement has been signed by NERA and School of Education at Århus University. Niels Kryger is chair of the organization committee. The committee is working on what the university can do and where they need external help. The theme „Everyday life and its transformation in a Nordic and an increasingly globalized context“ is being discussed. After further discussion the Board suggested a reference to the role of education in this respect.
- 2013 Iceland:** Gyda informed that the Icelandic situation had changed in some ways from 2004 as the Iceland University of Education was merged with Iceland University in 2008 and is now a School of Education at the University of Iceland. An agreement between NERA and The School of Education should be signed before the next Board meeting in March 2011. An organization committee should be established before the Board meeting in August 2011. Furthermore, a draft of the congress theme should be introduced.
- 2014 Norway:** The location of the congress will most likely be Oslo or perhaps Lillehammer.
- 2015 Sweden:** University of Gothenburg has offered to host the congress 2015

7. Discussion of the Congress agreement (between NERA and the hosting institution) Decided to add one paragraph to the Congress agreement, i.e. different congress fee for different groups.

8. Budget half year balance (Toni)

Toni informed that NERA had now paid \$325 for WERA membership for 2009 and \$ 1300 for 2010.

- Application for funding of pre-conference.** The board has Nkr.15.000 at its disposal. Network 4 and network 16 have applied for 15.000 each. Decided to allocate 7.500 to each network. Berit will inform the conveners of the procedure of how to get the money.

9. Web page: Berit informed that the development of the web page was at the final stage. Following issues came up in the discussion:

- Three topics will be on the front page, one of which should be changed at least every month.
- The forthcoming profile should be placed under the heading *More information*.
- The heading *2010 Congress* should be changed into *Congress*

- Coming congress and past congresses are placed under this heading.
- Following links should be placed under the heading *About Nera*:
 - Information
 - Board (which in turn can be linked to the Board members respective webpage)
 - Minutes etc.
- The web page will be opened no later than 15th of September.

10. Networks

a. Activity reports (Hans Petter)

- Hans Petter informed that the network convener of network 17 has suggested to put the network on ice for the time being as no one wants to take over as convener. Network 18 has no convener. Decided to put both networks on ice. Hans Petter will inform the Finnish congress organizers.
- Network 6 and 22 will most likely be combined.
- Only eight networks have delivered an activity report. Decided:
 - Change the deadline to an earlier date closer to the annual congress.
 - Hans Petter will develop a form for the conveners to fill in.

11. International collaboration

- a. **EERA (John):** John explained one of the main problems of EERA, i.e. the rapid expansion. He has volunteered to present NERA's main concerns for EERA. After a lively discussion on the main concerns of NERA, he asked how he should present NERA? The forthcoming profile should be helpful as well as communication with the Board, if needed,
- b. **WERA (Berit):** Berit informed that because of lack of money the Board had decided (agreed upon by the General Assembly) not to participate in the Second WERA Council meeting in Denver in May. The role of NERA in WERA was discussed and decided that Berit will ask for clarification of the amount of WERA meetings according to the minutes from Denver.
- c. **AERA (letter from Angela J Dean):** An extended invitation for NERA to present a symposium during the Annual meeting in Orleans next spring. Decided to send the network conveners this invitation and invite them to write a draft of an application for a proposal and send it to the Board latest September 20. The board will evaluate the drafts and send the best one for further elaboration. AERA's deadline is Oct. 15.

12. Incident of plagiarism at NERA's congress in Malmö: Berit informed that the person in question had withdrawn the abstract upon request but also wrote a letter to Berit. She will respond and state that the Board will take no further action.

13. Ahlström 2011: Procedures and responsibilities: Decided that in the beginning of January the Board members will individually go through year 2009 and 2010 and nominate 1 or 2 articles as well as reason for their choice). Criteria are critical, outstanding and peer reviewed. These nominations will circulate between Board members

in January. The Board will take the final decision latest at the Board meeting in March 2011.

Any other business: NERA's 40 years anniversary 2012. The celebration was discussed and following issues came up:

- Mark the anniversary with a special number of the Journal, where two scientific articles of NERA should be written.
- Björn will contact former Chairs of NERA's Board and ask them to write something about their time as chairs. This can be put on the web.
- Niels will see to it that the anniversary will be honoured at the congress in Copenhagen.

Next Board meeting will be in Jyväskylä March 9 and start at 10.00 instead of 12.

Editorial Board meeting:

1. Evaluation of no. 1/2010 and 2/2010.

2. Contents 3/2010 (Attachment 1): Björn informed that 4 articles are ready.

3. Manuscripts:

a. Report from Monica Larsson (Attachment 2): 41 manuscripts have been received, 32 have been sent to reviewers and 9 manuscripts have been refused.

b. Report from Kasper: Generally there are fewer articles waiting for a long time for review than earlier. Still one article has been waiting for more than a year.

Two problems of the journal were discussed, i.e. a decreasing flow of articles and an increasing difficulty to get reviewers. One of the reasons for lack of articles might be that authors want to publish articles in a Journal with a citation system.

Possible strategies:

- Try to find a way to market the Journal at our congresses.
- Hans Petter will ask network conveners to encourage their network members (at their annual meetings) to send an article to the journal.

Decided, that Kasper will send us a reminder one week before deadline. If Board members are in trouble they should contact Kasper and explain why.

4. Special Issues:

a. Stephen Dobson (Attachment 3): Planned publication is late 2010 or early 2011

b. Torill Strand (Attachment 4)

5. Duplicate articles (Attachment 5): The Board agreed that the editor should inform the author that he got this information and remind the author that he should have mentioned that the latter article was a translation of a former article

6. The future of the printed version of Nordic Studies in Education: It is becoming increasingly harder to finance the printed version. The possibility to open up access

was discussed. The contract with the publishers is valid till 2011. It was decided to keep the printed version while we can afford it.

Secretary: Gyða Jóhannsdóttir

Controller of minutes 1: Niels Kryger

Controller of minutes 2: Carl Anders Säfström