

## NERA Board meeting 2023-03-14 (9 am to 6 pm)

### Minutes

#### Board members:

Monica Londen (Finland), Piia af Ursin (Finland), John Benedicto Krejsler (Denmark), Christian Ydesen (Denmark), Hans Erik Bugge (Norway – substitute for Ketil Knutsen), Gry Paulgaard (Norway), Michael Dal (Iceland), Anette Olin (Sweden), Joacim Andersson (Sweden), Simona Bernotaite (treasurer).

**Editor:** Herner Sæverot (Norway)

#### 1. Opening

*Michael opened the meeting*

#### 2. Election of secretary

*Christian was unanimously elected.*

#### 3. Election of two controllers

*Piia and Monica were unanimously elected*

#### 4. Acceptance of agenda for the meeting

*The agenda was accepted.*

#### 5. Minutes from the Board meeting September 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022

*The minutes were accepted.*

#### 6. Economy (Simona Bernotaite).

##### a. Balance 2022

*Simona presented the balance and the accounts for 2022. Incoming balance was 34,159 and the outgoing balance was 789,165. The income from the Denmark conference in 2021 and the Iceland conference in 2022 have been received. NOP support has been paid directly to Cappeln meaning that the NERA transfer to Cappeln for the publication of NSE was only 179,010 (normally it is 305,000).*

*The balance was approved, and the board notes a very positive development in the membership fee which is now at 708,124 (it was 483,623 in 2022). The outgoing balance for the Ahlström award account is 19,223.*

*The board notes with content that the NERA economy is sustainable and viable in its present configuration and that it will allow the board to increase its activities vis-à-vis the networks.*

b. Final account – Audit

*Simona gave a brief introduction. The account postings are transparent, and the auditors have approved the accounts.*

c. Budget proposal for 2023

*Simona presented the budget proposal. The ingoing balance is 789,165 NOK. There are currently 920 NERA members, and the number is increasing. The Oslo conference is expected to generate 100,000 NOK. NOP support is expected to be 112,000 NOK.*

*The board discussed a possible increase in the support for network activities (see item 8 on the agenda).*

*The expenses for EERA participation were increased from 15,000 to 20,000 NOK.*

*The expected outgoing balance is 900,709 NOK.*

*The board approved the budget.*

7. Website issues (Anette and Michael)

*Anette presented the status on the work with the NERA website. Michael and Anette have investigated the possibilities and services offered by different IT companies suggested by the communicator at Gothenburg University.*

*Michael and Anette recommend that the company 'Expediten' is selected as the NERA website developer and subsequent supporter.*

*The expenses will be approximately 36,000 NOK for developing a new website on a new platform and with a new webhotel. The board estimates that NERA will need 20 hours of support per year. The hourly price for support is 700 NOK generating a total of 14,000 NOK annually.*

*Anette, Gry and Michael will be the points of contact regarding issues with the website.*

*The board approved the offer.*

8. Network issues (Gry)

*Gry presented the status on the networks. There are now 25 networks and 40 convenors. Only one network has less than 8 accepted abstracts.*

*Since the last conference a process has been ongoing for finding new convenors. The process has been successful so far and some networks have been saved from extinction.*

*Four networks have received support for pre-conference activities. The board would like to see more network activities. The next deadline for submitting applications for network support is September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023.*

*There was a discussion of the NERA policies on network support. It was decided to broaden the limits of support:*

- *Support will be given for travel and daily allowance for up to two lecturers (key-notes) and coffee/snacks to the network participants. Limited support will be given to lunch or dinner for all participants.*
- *The support cannot exceed the amount applied for and approved by the NERA board.*

*All networks have submitted a network report.*

*There was a discussion about points for communication at the network convenor meeting: Deadlines for submitting network reports, applying for NERA support (including the overall budgetary limit), AERA slot, SERA slot, and the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Nordic Educational Conversation.*

*The network convenor meeting will take place on Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup> 11:45-12:45.*

## 9. International collaborations (John and Michael)

### a. EERA (John)

*John gave a status on the situation EERA.*

*Yerevan was a hybrid conference and one of the experiences was that the Whova app proved invaluable for orchestrating interaction between conference participants. A hybrid format is very complicated in terms of planning, but it might have an appeal for researchers without funding. For the foreseeable future ECER will be onsite.*

*The new president of EERA will be Professor Marit Honerød Hoveid from NTNU.*

*EERA is actively supporting education research in Ukraine (see EERA website for details).*

*The next conferences will be Glasgow, UK (2023), Nicosia, Cyprus (2024) Belgrade, Serbia (2025), and Tampere, Finland (2026).*

### b. SERA & ESAI (Michel and John)

*Michael gave a status on the meetings and activities with SERA following a meeting on November 2022 at the SERA conference in Ayr.*

- *In the future the two organizations will provide a slot for each organization at their respective conferences from 2025 onwards at the NERA conference.*
- *A guide/description on how to exactly organize this will be written. NERA will take the first step in producing such a guide.*
- *It was decided that from 2024/2025 the two organizations do not provide free participation for two or more members from the sister organization at the conferences as it has been custom the last couple of years. However, if either NERA or SERA can afford it, an economical support can be provided to those members that are chosen to use the slot, that is available for the other organization at the future conferences. This means that NERA will be able to support NERA members presenting at the NERA slot at SERA conference and vice versa.*
- *At the meeting the possibility of providing lower conference fees for members of the sister organization in the long term was discussed. This suggestion needs to be further discussed.*
- *It is necessary to discuss and find approaches on how the different networks/special interest groups in the long term in the two organisations can establish some kind of cooperation.*

*Gry and Michael will attend the upcoming ESAI conference March 30<sup>th</sup> – April 1<sup>st</sup> in Belfast.*

*The board will continue work with institutionalising the collaboration with SERA and ESAI.*

c. AERA (John)

*John gave a status on the NERA slot in AERA. There is a need to increase knowledge about the AERA slot among network convenors and members.*

*Michael has been in contact with the AERA executive director, Felice Levine, is very supportive of the NERA slot in order to give the Nordic region a voice.*

d. Other issues?

*No other issues were discussed.*

10. NSE editorial meeting

*See below*

## LUNCH 12:00 – 13:00

### 11. NERA 2023: meeting the OsloMet conveners (13.00-14.00):

- a. Conveners present conference and issues to board

*A meeting will be scheduled to take place during the conference.*

### 12. Board plan

- a. Review of board plan for 2022
- b. Discussion of board plan for 2023-24

*The board plan consists of five main points of attention:*

- *Develop and maintain NERA as a platform for Nordic educational researchers*
- *Networks*
- *NERA's economy*
- *Nordic Studies in Education*
- *International activities*

*The draft was discussed. A special focus must be on encouraging more members from Greenland, the Faroe Islands, the Åland Islands and the Sami community. Ideas will be discussed in the next meeting.*

*The board plan was approved (see appendix 12a and 12b)*

### 13. The NERA portfolio for the coming year (Michael)

- a. Overview and status

*The participants for the AERA slot will be announced in April*

*The participants for the SERA slot will be announced in September*

- b. NERA Policy Paper

*The NERA policy paper needs a revision (it has not been updated since 2018) and a revised version should be discussed at the upcoming Malmö meeting. Special focus should be on the role of the network conveners, the establishment and closing of networks, support for networks (see item 8 in the minutes) and collaboration with other organisations.*

*A working group consisting of Michael, John, Joacim, Piia and Gry was estab-*

lished.

c. Election committee

*The composition of board members, election committees, and auditors was discussed in preparation of the General Assembly.*

*There was a discussion about how new board members are elected and how the election committee works. There is a need to revisit the byelaws and consider a greater level of transparency and clearer criteria for how to become a NERA board member. Michael will speak with the election committee.*

*The policy group will work with this issue as well (see sub-item b)*

d. Expressions of interest

N/A

14. NERA Conferences

a. Sweden 2024, University of Malmö (Joacim & Anette)

*Joacim gave a status on the planning of the Malmö conference 6-8 March 2024. The organising team is ready to present the upcoming conference venue at the closing the 2023 NERA conference.*

b. Finland 2025, University of Helsinki (Monica & Piia)

*The contract draft was discussed. Discount on the conference fee for retirees was discussed and it was decided to maintain the discount.*

c. Denmark 2026 (John and Christian)

d. Norway 2027

15. Preparation of NERA General Assembly meeting (Michael)

*The agenda of the GA was discussed, including the appointment of chairperson, secretary, and controllers.*

16. Next meeting

*The next meeting will take place at Malmö University on September 14-15 (noon to noon)*

17. Meeting with SERA-colleagues for mutual exchange concerning status of NERA-SERA collaboration (app. 20 minutes)

*The minutes from the meeting in Ayr in November 2022 was presented and discussed with NERA representative Paul Adams.*

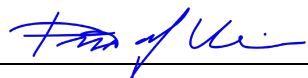
*The key to solidifying the collaboration is to establish connections between NERA and SE-RA networks/SIGs. The mutual slot exchange should relate to network activities.*

*Paul will discuss with the SERA board when the NERA slot can be initiated.*

*Both organisations should ensure a formalised point of contact at the board level.*

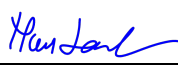
18. Closing of the meeting.

*Michael closed the meeting.*



Piia af Ursin

Controller



Monica Londen

Controller

### **Nordic Studies in Education Editorial Meeting 2023-03-14 [11 – 12]**

(Herner)

1. Issues 1 and 2 2023.

This is a double issue called “The Nordic Dimension in Education” with John Krejsler as guest editor. The issue has contributors from all the Nordic countries. The issues emerge from the Annual Nordic Educational Conversations.

2. Editor’s report

Herner presented a PowerPoint presentation with key indicators for the journal: number of pages (394), number of issues (4), number of received articles (85), number of rejected articles (66), number of contributors (48) and number of downloads (64,297 downloads in 2022).

The journal shows steady progress on all indicators.

3. Editor’s plan

Herner presented a PowerPoint presentation with the publication plan for 2023.

It is possible to have a new-issue-launch event at Cappeln.

The Journal's webpage has been updated and improved.

NOS-HS has cancelled journal support beyond 2023. It is necessary to search the landscape for other funding options in the Nordic region. Michael will investigate the matter via contacts in NORDFORSK. Herner will have a dialogue with Cappeln.

An option could be to form an alliance with other journals having received NOS-HS support. Cappeln may be able to offer a scanning tool to discover cases of plagiarism.

#### 4. The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Nordic Educational Conversation

The theme is 'Pedagogy and Educational Sciences in the Nordic Region' and it will be held in mid-October.

Suggestions for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Nordic Educational Conversation from the network convenors are very welcome.

#### 5. Special Issue request from Finland

A special issue about network analysis on research on teaching and learning has been proposed. Herner had a dialogue with the researchers from University of Helsinki proposing the special issue.

The proposal was approved with minor adjustments to the open call, and it is scheduled for publication in August 2024.

#### 6. Other

N/A