



Minutes for board meeting September 21 - 22, 2023

Malmö University, Sweden

Board members:

Solveig Cornér (Finland), Piia av Ursin (Finland), John Benedicto Krejsler (Denmark), Christian Ydesen (Denmark), Hege Knudsmoen (Norway), Gry Paulgaard (Norway), Michael Dal (Iceland), Anette Olin (Sweden), Joacim Andersson (Sweden)

Treasurer:

Simona Bernotaite (Norway)

Editor:

Herner Sæverot (Norway)

1. Opening and presentation of board members

Michael opened the meeting and there was a round of presentation.

2. Election of secretary

Christian was unanimously elected.

3. Election of two controllers

Solveig and Hege were unanimously elected.

4. Acceptance of agenda for the meeting

The agenda was accepted

5. Minutes from the Board meeting March 14th, 2023.

The minutes were accepted.

6. Economy (Simona Bernotaite).

a. Half year balance 2023 - **Appendix 2**

Simona presented the balance and the accounts for 2023 (half year balance). Incoming balance from 2022 was 789,165 NOK. The budget for the year result was planned to be 1,633,375 but now the budget estimates a year result at 1,809,005. The increase is due to higher incomes from

the Oslo conference and an increase in the number of members of NERA. There are now 944 members of NERA.

The budget for the outgoing balance will increase from 900,709 NOK to an estimated 1,137,802 NOK.

There was a discussion about the right long-term level of membership fee and conference participation fee. The aim is not that NERA should accumulate a lot of money, but the economy of NERA must be consolidated and robust. The NOP support at 112,000 will disappear from 2024.

It was decided to keep the current levels for two years and then revisit the decision considering the economic situation in 2025.

The half-year balance was approved, and the board notes a very positive development in the membership fee and the economy in general.

7. NERA 2024: meeting the conference conveners at Malmö University.

a. Conveners present conference and issues to board

Ulrika Ryan (Ulrika.ryan@mau.se) and Valentina Pivotti (valentina.pivotti@mau.se) from the Malmö organizing committee presented the status of the conference planning.

The conference will follow the same structure as the Iceland conference with opening and three keynote speakers.

The conference can host up to 900 participants.

Hotel rooms and conference rooms have been booked at two adjacent venues.

The conference website was demonstrated.

b. Overview and status

There was a discussion about different options for welcome reception. The conclusion was that the conference should be able to accommodate as many conference participants as possible.

There was a discussion of the keynote speakers in terms of gender balance.

There was a discussion about the placement of the network meeting and general assembly in the program.

The NERA board suggested that the annual convener meeting should take place during an extended lunch time, 1 hour and 30 minutes, Thursday the 7th of March. There will be lunch, coffee and tea for the conveners during the meeting.

The network meetings will take place during the lunchtime on the first day of the conference, on Wednesday the 6th of March.

There was a discussion about registration deadlines.

There was a discussion of pre-conference activities and the need for rooms.

8. Network issues (Gry)

a. Status

Gry presented the status on the networks and the network reports. There are now 25 networks and 42 convenors in NERA.

16 networks have submitted reports which means that 9 reports are missing.

Generally, the network activity has been high.

Support for network activities depends on the network having submitted a network report.

b. Applications for network support 2023-24

Eight networks have applied for support for network activities amounting to a total of 162,800 NOK. The amount applied for varies between 8,200 to 39,500 NOK.

Network 9 did not send in a network report and is therefore according to the NERA policy not eligible to apply for support this year.

In March 2023 the board decided to allocate 75,000 NOK to network activities. From last years some 23,000 NOK was unused by networks and returned to NERA.

The applications were discussed individually.

NW 3 (19,600 NOK) – Reduced to 15,300 NOK

NW 5 (14,000 NOK) – Reduced to 9,500 NOK

NW 9 (39,500 NOK) – Rejected due to missing report

NW 16 (20,300 NOK) – Reduced to 19,300 NOK

NW 19 (8,200 NOK) - Approved

NW 20 (35,000 NOK) – Reduced to 20,000 NOK

NW 22 (21,200 NOK) – Reduced to 15,000 NOK

NW 24 (5,000 NOK) – Approved

A total of 92,300 NOK will be allocated to network activities.

It was decided to state a maximum amount for dinner and accommodation for future applications.

The guidelines for network activity applications will be updated.

9. Draft of Policy paper presented by working group (Michael)

The policy paper draft was discussed. A structure of the policy paper was agreed consisting of five interrelated elements: congress, networks, conference, journal and affiliations. Minor changes were made in the text.

10. Nordic Studies in Education, Editorial Board Meeting

a. Copyrights on title of the journal

Herner presented the issue concerning a conflicting name of another journal called 'Nordic Studies in Philosophy and Education'. Herner and Michael had a meeting with the editors of the other journal. Currently the issue is being discussed in the new journal's member base.

b. NSE, nr 3 2023

This issue has just been published and represents all Nordic countries except Iceland:

<https://noredstudies.org/index.php/nse>

c. NordForsk and other support opportunities for NSE

Possibilities for acquiring external funding for journals has been depleted.

d. The 4th Annual Nordic Educational Conversation

There was a discussion of possible topics:

- *The conditions for doing educational research in the Nordic countries*
- *The economic model as a condition for global problems and the role of education → Education as De-Growth*
- *The priority of geopolitics: implications for education*

Herner will share a first draft of an abstract with the board.

The Annual Nordic Educational Conversation will take place on Friday December 8th 2-4 pm as an online event.

Herner suggested to have the Annual Nordic Educational Conversations on the NERA website. The suggestion was approved.

e. The Ahlström Award 2024

The selection of a paper for the award will be decided based on criteria applied by an assessment committee that will read all NSE papers for the last two years. The committee will consist of Herner, Hege and Joacim.

f. Other issues

None

11. NERA Conferences

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

Joacim made a brief status, and the planning is on track and the value of the conference is recognized by Malmö university.

b. Finland 2025 (Solveig & Piia)

An organising committee consisting of 9 members has been formed. Solveig is a member of the organisation committee. A start-up meeting was held in February.

The university and the faculty are well supporting the process.

The contract is currently being reviewed by the University of Helsinki legal department.

A few foundations dedicated to Nordic cooperation and some Finnish companies will be applied for financial support.

The proposed theme is: A Pedagogy of Hope: Gratitude, Diversity and Sustainability in Education.

Three keynote speakers have been contacted – one for each subtheme.

Conference dates: 5-7th of March 2025.

Central university buildings for the conference have been booked.

The conference dinner has been booked at the Finlandia Hall.

The reception will take place at the Helsinki City Hall.

The website is in process.

A conference organising company is involved and will take care of the registration and a conference app.

The budget will be opened in January 2024. The maximum number of seats in the main hall is 600. We can probably aim for around 750 participants. The number of participants in the Malmö conference will be an indicator for what can be expected in Helsinki.

It was suggested to keep all food vegetarian and locally produced.

There is a need to find room for publishers' book stands and poster presentations at the conference (also in Malmö next year).

c. Denmark 2026 (John and Christian)

John and Christian will discuss possible venues.

d. Norway 2027 (Gry and Hege)

Gry and Hege will discuss possible venues.

12. NERA portfolio for the coming terms (Michael)

Deadlines for NERA 2024, see conference webpage:

<https://sv-se.eu.invaio.com/events/welcome/id/813fac80-aea8-11ed-85b1-3b1d50885dc4>

Annual Educational Conversation: 8th December

SERA conference 22-24 November

Meeting with Cappeln: 8th December

Deadline for ECER abstracts: 31th January 2024

11-14th April: AERA in Philadelphia

15th April: Deadline for network convenors to send in network reports

15th May: Deadline for sending in proposals for symposium at AERA 2025

1st August: Deadline for sending in applications for establishing new networks

27-30th August: ECER 2024 in Nicosia

13. Website issues (Michael and Anette)

Anette presented the status of the new website which is based in WordPress

A good collaboration with the Swedish website company 'Expediten' has been established in terms of website development and support.

The ECER website has served as a source of inspiration.

A suggestion was made to have a group photo of the board on the website.

Anette will present the new website at the convenor meeting in Malmö.

A few minor adjustments and updates were discussed, but the board generally expressed its content with the new website.

14. International collaborations (John, Christian and Michael)

a) EERA (John)

John updated on EERA matters.

A new EERA president, professor Marit Honerød Hoveid, has been elected.

EERA is dedicated to capacity building in terms of emerging researchers and new member associations.

3,200 participated in the ECER 2023 conference in Glasgow.

The 2024 ECER conference will be in Nicosia, Cyprus

In 2025 the ECER conference will take place in Belgrade, Serbia

In 2026 the ECER conference will take place in Tampere, Finland

In 2027 the ECER conference will take place in Northern Cyprus

The EERA summer school will take place in Porto in 2024 and Chemnitz in 2025

EERA organise academic writing workshops

b) SERA & ESAI (John & Michael)

NERA relations and collaborations with SERA are becoming more solidified and the exchange of slots in our respective conference has become institutionalized.

NERA relations and collaborations with ESAI has not come to the same maturity as the SERA collaboration. The NERA board is currently exploring various collaborative initiatives.

c) AERA (John)

Michael participated in the 2023 conference in Chicago and had a meeting with the AERA board. The annual AERA conference has some 17-25,000 participants but not many Nordic researchers participate.

a. Proposal for the AERA conference

The inclusive education network (12) will have the NERA slot at the 2024 AERA conference in Philadelphia.

d) Other issues?

A discussion of possible relations with the Baltic states took place. There have been some informal contacts with the Latvian and Lithuanian Education Research Association. The board decided to explore possible contacts with the education research associations of the Baltic states.

15. Next meeting

Next meeting will take place at Malmö University on March 5th, 2024 at 9am.

16. Closing of the meeting

Michael closed the meeting.



Solveig Cornér
Controller



Hege Knudsmoen
Controller