

## NERA Board meeting March 5<sup>th</sup> 2024

### Minutes

#### Place

Orkanen, Nordenskiöldsgatan 10,  
Room: A 234

#### Participants

John Benedicto Krejsler (Denmark), Christian Ydesen (Denmark), Solveig Cornér (Finland), Piia av Ursin (Finland), Gry Paulgaard (Norway), Hege Knudsmoen (Norway), Michael Dal (Iceland), Anette Olin (Sweden), Joacim Andersson (Sweden), Simon Bernotaite (treasurer)  
*Editor: Herner Sæverot (Norway)*

#### Part 1: kl. 9:00 – 12:00

1. Opening.

*Michael opened the meeting.*

2. Election of secretary.

*Christian was unanimously elected*

3. Election of two controllers.

*Piia and Joachim were unanimously elected*

4. Acceptance of agenda for the meeting.

*The agenda was accepted.*

5. [Minutes](#) from the Board meeting September 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023.

*The minutes were accepted.*

6. Economy (Simona).

a. [Balance](#) 2023.

*Simona presented a detailed account of the balance for 2023. The economy is generally very good, and NERA continues to attract a considerable number of members (currently 925 members). Incoming balance was 789,165 NOK. Outgoing balance was 1,143,148 NOK.*

*There was a discussion about the salary levels of the editor and the treasurer. It was decided to increase the salary levels of the treasurer and the editor (see below).*

*It was also discussed to raise the amount associated with the The Ahlström award. These budgetary posts have been kept at the current level for several years. It was decided to increase the Ahlström award from 5,000 SEK to 15,000 SEK from 2024. It was also discussed if the economic buffer at 550,000 NOK is appropriate. It was decided to keep an economic buffer at 640,000 NOK reflecting the ability to pay two years of the fee to Cappelen.*

*The level of the membership fee was discussed. It was decided to make a decision about the membership fee structure at the next board meeting pending calculations of different scenarios.*

**b. Final account**

i **Audit** 2023.

*The balance was approved by the auditors and no remarks were made.*

c. **Budget proposal** for 2024.

*The total amount is estimated at 1,900,147 NOK. It is expected that the amount coming in from membership fees will be bigger. The amount for board and editor's meeting has been increased because the next meeting is in Finland.*

*It was decided to increase the editor's salary level from 105,000 NOK to 125,000 NOK.*

*It was decided to increase the treasurer salary level from 18,000 NOK to 25,000 NOK.*

*It was decided to increase the account audit service from 1,500 NOK to 2,000 NOK.*

*It was decided to increase the secretariat (gifts and office support) to 10,000 NOK.*

*The outgoing balance is estimated at 1,087,647 NOK.*

**7. Network issues (Gry).**

a. **Report** from network coordinator.

*Gry presented the status on the networks. Gry has received 16 network reports from the 25 NERA networks. NW 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24 have sent report. NW 1, 2, 6, 9, 11, 14, 17, 18 and 25 have not sent reports. The deadline for network reports was 22<sup>nd</sup> August.*

*When Gry will step down from the board, Hege will take the position as network coordinator.*

*A digital meeting with network convenors was held three weeks before the conference. It was a good experience, and the network activities seem to have increased. Communication with the network convenors is working well.*

*It was decided to continue with the practice of having a digital meeting with network convenors prior to the conference itself.*

*There have been issues with the programme in terms of multiple presentations and appearances in the conference.*

*The deadline for submitting the networks' annual reports is 15<sup>th</sup> of April.*

b. **Distribution of abstracts** between networks 2024.

*Michael presented a status. It was decided to show the status at the network convenor meeting.*

**8. Website issues** (Anette & Michael).

Annette presented a status. Generally, the collaboration with our new website handler has been working well. There has been a process around finding and publishing pictures at the website. There is a need for more conference pictures. Board members will take some pictures during the conference adhering to GDPR rules.

9. International collaborations (John & Michael).

a. EERA (John).

i [Minutes of the EERA Council Meeting](#)

ii [Agenda EERA Council Meeting march 2023](#)

John gave a status following the ECER conference in Glasgow including the change of EERA president to Marit Honerod Hove.

The next conference (2024) will be in Nicosia, Cyprus, and in 2027 it will be in Kyrenia, Northern Cyprus.

2025 Belgrade, Serbia

2026 Tampere, Finland

2028 Salamanca, Spain

2029 Warsaw is a possible location

The annual WERA meeting could be something to host in a NERA conference.

Latvia is a new member of EERA while Azerbaijan is under consideration.

Michael will take over from John as NERA's EERA liaison. At the next board meeting a more formal discussion about who will serve as the NERA liaison with EERA.

b. SERA & ESAI (Michael & John).

John and Michael participated in the latest SERA conference. Meetings were held with members of the SERA board.

A draft contract for the collaboration with SERA was presented and discussed. The SERA part of the contract is still missing so a final decision cannot be made. When the draft is complete it will be shared with whole NERA board.

The ESAI president also participated in SERA. The ESAI conference will take place on 2-3 April. There is an interest in NERA board members participating.

c. AERA (John & Michael).

AERA 2024 will be held in Philadelphia in April. Michael will participate and has a meeting the AERA executive director Felice J. Levine.

Network 4 is representing NERA and this year's AERA.

d. Other issues?

Simona shared her impressions from the latest LERA (Latvian) conference.

10. NSE Editorial Meeting (kl. 11.00 – 12.00).

a. Summary of the conflict with the network philosophy of education (regarding the journal name Nordic Studies in Philosophy and Education)

Herner gave a status, and informed that the network philosophy of education journal has changed to 'Speki – Nordic Philosophy and Education Review'.

b. Summary of the conflict with Western Norway University regarding the NOS-HS funds of EUR 11,200

*Herner gave a status, and the matter has been settled and NERA has received the 11,200 EUR.*

- c. Key numbers for NSE for 2023  
*The journal is in a positive development. 364 pages have been published in 2023. There have been four issues, 21 peer-reviewed papers, one editorial, and two book reviews. In total 83 papers have been received. 59 papers have been rejected. There were 62 contributors.*
- d. **Editorial Report**  
*Herner presented the status and the key numbers in terms of downloads of the journal's articles. There is a steady increase in downloads.  
In 2023 NERA paid 264,240 NOK for 350 pages. If we want to increase the page number to 375, the cost would be 18,850 NOK extra. If we want to increase to 400 pages, the extra cost would be 33,500 NOK (all numbers without VAT).  
There was a discussion about the need for an increase in pages balanced against the economy and the work of the editor. It was decided to make a decision at the next board meeting based on calculations of scenarios.  
It is increasingly difficult to find reviewers for the journal. It was decided that the NERA board members should play a more active role in suggesting reviewers.  
There was a discussion about the language policies of the journal. Where should the journal develop in terms of languages in the future?*
- e. Activities, marketing from Cappelen  
*Herner presented the status and the key numbers in terms of downloads of the journal's articles. There is a steady increase in downloads*
- f. **Publication plans** for 2024  
*There are four issues planned with the fourth being a special issue.*
- g. Special issue 2024  
*The theme is Education and De-Growth.*
- h. The Annual Nordic Educational Conversation 2024  
*The Annual Nordic Educational Conversation will take place for the fifth time in 2024. In 2023, the number of participants was lower than in previous years. There is a need to disseminate date, time and topic before the summer holiday. There was a discussion about themes. It was decided to mention the Nordic Educational Conversation in the president's opening speech and at the network convenor meeting.*
- i. The Ahlström Award  
*Joachim, Hege and Herner were in the assessment committee. The Ahlström award 2024 will be given to Jens Erik Kristensen from Aarhus University.*

\*\*\*\* 12.00: LUNCH \*\*\*\*

## Part 2: Kl. 13.00 – 18.00

### 11. NERA 2024: meeting with the conveners at Malmö University:

- a. Conveners present conference issues to the board.
- b. Discussion.

*The conference seems to generate more economic revenue than anticipated because there are more participants than in the original budget of the organising committee. There are 920 participants in the conference.*

*There was a discussion about how to improve the working conditions of the organising committee including its connections with the board in order to secure continuity and lessons-learnt between conferences.*

*There was a discussion about various matters the programme.*

### 12. Board's Plan

- a. Discussion of [Board's plan for 2024 - 25](#) (Michael).

*The board plan draft (see appendix 12b) was discussed. There is a potential issue relating to the Sapmi region. Gry will discuss the matter with Sapmi representatives. The plan was approved for presentation at the General Assembly.*

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

- a. Overview and status.  
*Michael gave a status.*

- b. [NERA policy paper](#).

*The policy paper was discussed. No changes are called for at this point.*

- c. [Election committee](#).

*Michael provided an overview.*

- d. [Changes of board members](#).

*Both Danish representatives and the deputy representative will resign. One Finnish representative will resign. One Swedish deputy member will resign. One Norwegian auditor will resign. Replacements have been found.*

- e. Expressions of interest  
*Nothing to report.*

### 14. NERA Conferences

- a. [Finland](#) 2025 (Solveig)

*Solveig gave a status on the work with the 2025 conference.*

*The contract with the University of Helsinki has been signed. The contract has been scrutinized by the University of Helsinki legal department and all parties are now in agreement.*

*The conference will take place 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> of March 2025.*

*The organisation committee is in place and has applied for external funding and has received 17,000 EUR. A major part of that money will be spent on hiring a conference assistant.*

*There are two other active external funding applications which will be decided in due time.*

*A conference website has been created and was shown to the board.*

*All reservations concerning venues have been made and the conference will take place in the centre of Helsinki.*

*The three keynote speakers are set.*

b. Denmark 2026

*The issue will be discussed at the board meeting on Friday when the new Danish representatives are present.*

c. Norway 2027

*Hege and Gry will consider the possibilities and present the options in the September board meeting.*

15. Preparation of NERA General Assembly meeting (Michael)

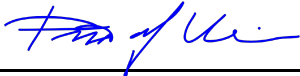
a. [Agenda](#)

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

16. Next meeting

*The next meeting will take place in Helsinki on 3-4<sup>th</sup> October 12:00-12:00.*

17. Closing of the meeting.



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Piia av Ursin  
Controller



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Joacim Andersson  
Controller