



NERA/NFPF Board Meeting Protocol in Aarhus, March 3rd, 2026, 09.00-17.00

Place

Via University College Aarhus; room B2.02

Participants

Solveig Corner (Finland), Riikka Sirkko (Finland), Dion Rüsselbæk (Denmark), Thomas Iskov (Denmark), Hege Knudsmoen (Norway), Gry Paulgaard (Norway), Michael Dal (Iceland), Anette Olin Almquist (Sweden), Joacim Andersson (Sweden).

Treasurer: Simona Bernotaite

Editor: Herner Sæverot (Norway)

1. Opening.

The chair of the NERA Board, Anette Olin Almquist, opened the meeting at 9.10 and welcomed all Board members.

2. Election of secretary.

Board member Solveig Cornér was elected as the secretary.

3. Election of two controllers.

Board members Dion Rüsselbæk and Joacim Andersson were elected as controllers.

4. Acceptance of agenda for the meeting.

The Board accepted the agenda for the meeting.

5. [Minutes](#) from the Board meeting October 20th and 21st, 2025.

The minutes from the previous Board meeting were accepted. The Board also accepted the revisors Daniel Petterson and Mette Maidell.

6. Economy

a. [Balance 2025.](#)

Simona presented the balance for year 2025. Incoming balance for 2025 is NOK 2 118 231.

Audit 2025, [Daniel](#) and [Mette](#)

b. [Budget proposal for 2026.](#)

The budget for 2026 is planned to be 2 118 231 NOK. One can therefore conclude that the costs almost equal the planned budget.

The proposal was accepted by the Board. Not very big changes were made in the budget, except for the international collaborations budget slot that was raised from 40 000 NOK to 60 000 NOK.

The Board summarized the budget discussion that there is a need to foresee risks for the future. Now there is a reasonable amount on the accounts to survive at least two years if conferences could not be held.

7. Network issues

a. [Report](#) on meetings with convenors.

The digital meeting on 26.1.2026 with the convenors and members of the NERA

Board was appreciated and perceived successful. It is crucial to inform the convenors about how the conference is arranged and that the guidelines for all the presentation formats must be followed. The NERA policy paper should be communicated with the network convenors.

- b. Submitted abstracts for the 2026 conference
In total 926 abstracts were submitted.
- c. Deadline for network reports: 15th April 2026. The network report should be sent to Joacim Andersson, as new co-ordinator for convenors in the NERA Board.
- d. Support for network activities
Date for pre-conference applications 2027
The deadline for pre-conference 2027 is 7.9.2026. The application should be sent to Anette Olin Almqvist, the chair of the NERA Board.
To inform about the pre-conferences, the chair of the Board sends out a newsletter when decision is taken about pre-conferences, with information about which networks will have a pre-conference and also who to contact if members are interested to participate. Lastly, the Board emphasized that the responsibility for arranging the pre-conferences is in the hands of the network convenors.

8. Website issues

The support from the service provider of the NERA website works well. It was decided to establish NERA email-addresses in connection to the website in order to make communication better and information more transferable. The Board decided to start using the Teams platform for documentation of important documents.

9. NERA 2026: meeting with the organizing committee at Via University College Aarhus (10.30-11.30)

- a. The committee presented conference issues to the board.
The members of the organization committee presented information about the NERA conference 2026.
- b. Discussion.
The discussion was about how the organization committee is structured and key competencies of the members. Knowledge transition and how this can be arranged in the future was discussed.
Further, new formats of presentations or so-called sidetracks were presented. The description of new formats was suggested to be developed with the organization committee of UiT. Hence, a decision was made to have a meeting in near future with key stakeholders from NERA Board, UiT and VIA college organization committee.

10. International collaborations (Michael).

- a. EERA .
 - i [Minutes](#) of the EERA Council Meeting
Michael presented actualities from EERA. A discussion was held about an issue of potential memberships from national organizations in EERA council, since the Swedish association SWERA has asked about if they could be part of the council. Most countries in Europe are represented by themselves, so NERA actually gives our Nordic region less votes than we

are countries in the EERA board since we represent five countries.

[Agenda EERA Council Meeting March 2025](#)

ii Issue of SWERA applying for membership

It was decided that Michael will continue the discussion with the EERA council and Anette Olin Almqvist with SWERA.

In addition, the Board decided that Dion Rüsselbæk will take over the NERA representativeness in the EERA Council from March 2027.

b. SERA & ESAI.

i Up-coming conference ESAI

The NERA Board got an invitation to collaborate more closely with SERA & ESAI. Anette Olin Almqvist, Hege Knudsmoen and Michael Dal will attend the meeting and report to the NERA Board about the conversations in the SERA & ESAI meeting.

c. AERA.

i Withdrawn presentation this year

The NERA slot at AERA was withdrawn in 2026 because of the political situation in USA.

d. Other issues

The collaboration with BERA was further slightly discussed.

A broader discussion about international collaborations is held in the Board meeting in Tromsø in September 2026.

11. Board's report and plan

a. Review of [Board's report](#) for 2025-2026.

The Board's report is also presented in the General Assembly meeting 5.3.2026. The Board discussed some parts of the text and definitions in the plan. The text will be redefined according to the policy document and agreed upon during the next Board meeting in September.

b. The Discussion of [Board's plan](#) for 2026-2027

The Board's plan for 2026-2027 was accepted with minor adjustments.

12. NERA portfolio for the coming year

a. Election committee.

The confirmed list of members for each country (board, election committee and auditors) was presented.

b. Changes of board members.

No changes of board members except for the deputy from Iceland.

c. Other expressions of interest?

No other expressions of interest.

13. NERA Conferences

a. Denmark 2026 in Århus

b. Norway 2027 in Tromsø, The Arctic University of Norway (UiT) (10-12.3.2027)

Gry showed the promoting video for the Board members and gave more information about the NERA conference 2027.

c. Sweden 2028 in Mälardalen University, Sweden. The organization committee is formed.

d. Finland 2029. Riikka informed the Board that preparations are made. The

internal discussions will continue in Spring 2026.

e. Iceland 2030.

A discussion was initiated about how to manage such a big number of participants at the conferences. The decision was made to take up the discussion again in Autumn 2026, when all the numbers are clear for 2026. A dialogue with members of the Board and the organization committee for the university arranging the conference is crucial.

14. Preparation of NERA General Assembly meeting (Anette)

a. [Agenda](#)

The agenda was presented, and arrangements were made for the meeting (5.3.2026)

15. NSE Editorial Meeting (Herner)

a. Key numbers for Nordic Studies of Education (NSE) for 2025

Herner Sæverot presented the key numbers for NSE 2025. 4 issues, 106 submitted articles and 19 peer-reviewed articles published with 56 contributors.

b. [Editorial report](#) from Herner

Herner continued to present the editorial report for NSE.

The Board discussed the criteria for the review process and whether it should be further developed. A pre-discussion will be held before the next Board meeting in the company of Herner Sæverot, Joacim Andersson, Thomas Iskov, Solveig Cornér and Michael Dal. Thomas will take the lead for involving the Board members in the pre-discussion.

The Board discussed whether the NSE journal should be advanced into level 2. The decision was to continue the analyses (and especially the issue of inclusiveness) within the working group mentioned above.

c. Activities and marketing from Cappelen

d. [Publication plans](#) for 2026

e. Special issue 2026

The theme is the question of using the Scandinavian languages in educational research and university teaching in the Nordic context.

f. The 7th Annual Nordic Educational Conversation 2026

Nordic Educational Conversation takes place usually in October. A suggestion for the topic Autumn 2026 has been made. The Board will investigate the possibility of recording the Annual Nordic Conversation and publish the recording on the NERA website.

g. The Ahlstrom Award 2027

The winner of the Ahlström Award will be announced during the NERA Conference dinner in Aarhus 5.3.2026.

h. Other

The book series *Nordic educational enquiries* by Bloomsbury are accepted and the agreement will be signed soon.

The responsibility of the Board is to review the proposals for the book series. The chair of the Board will present the news during the conference in Aarhus.

16. Next Board meeting is in Tromsø, Norway 22-23.9.2026.

17. The chair of the Board, Anette Olin Almqvist, closed the meeting at 16.50.

Secretary



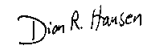
Solveig Cornér

Auditor



Joacim Andersson

Auditor



Dion Rüsselbæk