



6th SIG gender balance research conference in Budapest / Hungary
Strategies and realities: approaches to a better gender balance
Tuesday, 28.8.2018, 9.00-16.30

In the past few years, the issue of men in ECEC is back on the agenda in many countries worldwide. Research projects, policy and practice focus on the relevance of men for children's development, and on ways to develop a better gender balance in ECEC. The EECERA SIG gender balance supports a research-based, critical and reflective approach on gender issues in early childhood, and has played an active role in these developments.

The SIG gender balance conference is a place for researchers to exchange research ideas, strategies, and results in the field of gender balance. After exchanging recent developments, the following issues will be focused:

- Gender dynamics of mentoring in the ECEC work force
- Mixed and multiple methodologies in gender balance research

Furthermore, we will report from an ongoing international research project on career trajectories of men in and out of ECEC, and have a look at gendered presentations of ECEC workers in children's books.

This year's conference will give even more room for mutual debate among participants. All participants will be asked in forehand to provide materials and prepare contents for the debates. Questions and discussion papers will be sent to all participants in early august.

Finally, there will be room for exchange on future research and collaboration in the SIG group. With this, the conference comprises the Annual meeting of the EECERA Special Interest Group *Gender Balance*. It is open to all interested researchers.

We are looking forward to meeting you in Budapest!

The SIG Gender Balance team: Anna Bujnowska (Poland/Spain) · David Brody (Israel) · Jo Warin (UK) · Kari Emilsen (Norway) · Tim Rohrmann (Germany) · Yuwei Xu (China/UK)

Venue

Budapest University of Technology, Hungary (*room details will be announced later*)

Conference fee

A fee of ~ 30 € will be collected to cover the costs for room, technical equipment, and beverages. It will be collected on the conference – please bring cash!

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Program

- 9.00 Reception and welcome (Kari Emilsen & Tim Rohrmann, conference chairs)
Welcome address from EECERA 2018 Annual Conference chair
(Sándor Pálfi, Vice Dean of University of Debrecen, Hungary)
- Round talk - recent developments**
Presentation of SIG organization team
- 9.45 Opening contribution (Simon Brownhill, Cambridge/UK)
Strategies and Realities: A critical reflection of ways to attract, recruit, retain and develop men in the Early Years sector
- 10.15 Tea & coffee break
- 10.45 **Gender dynamics of mentoring: Peer support and the role of mentor's gender for mentoring processes** (moderation: Jo Warin, Lancaster/UK)
Mentoring can play a key role for the retainment of men in ECEC. Participants will exchange existing evidence from their countries, and debate possible approaches for further research as well as for policy development.
- 12.00 Lunch break
- 13.30 Presentation of ongoing research project
Career Trajectories of Men in – and out of – ECEC
(David Brody, Jerusalem/Israel & international research group)
- 14.00 **Mixed and multiple methodologies in gender balance research**
(moderation: Yuwei Xu, Portsmouth, UK/China)
*Different methods can provide both complement and contradict findings.
How can this be used to gain comprehensive insights into gender balance issues?*
- Overview on methods used in research projects on gender balance worldwide
 - Michael Cremers & Kevin Stützel (Berlin/Germany): Quantitative & qualitative research – examples from nationwide research projects in Germany
- 15.00 Tea & coffee break
- 15.15 **Male ECEC workers in children's picture books** (Tim Rohrmann, Dresden/Germany)
Participants are asked to bring examples of children's picture books which display men working with children in kindergarten.
Exchange in small groups and plenary round
- 15.45 **Final round: Issues and strategies for research on gender balance**
- 16.30 End of conference