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EARLI Association News, Fall 2009

In June and July 2009, the members of EARLI had the possibility to participate in the elections for the new Executive Committee of EARLI. This resulted in the appointment of a President-Elect, a Secretary-Treasurer and four ordinary EC-members. Curious? You will find out who the members of EARLI's next EC are in this Association News.

Last summer, the 13th biennial EARLI Conference in Amsterdam turned out to be a huge success. The expansion of EARLI showed in the high number of attendants at the EARLI conference and the increasing number of EARLI members. In this newsletter you will find a short report of the EARLI 2009 Conference in Amsterdam. We'll also bring you all the news about EARLI's Special Interest Group conferences that will take place in 2010. But also this year, there is another opportunity to attend a very interesting conference. From 18–20 November 2009, the EAPRIL/PBPR conference is taking place in Trier, Germany.

As mentioned earlier, the number of EARLI members is increasing every year. You can find an overview of some facts and figures in this newsletter. We'll also give you an update about the European Projects EARLI is involved in. Regarding the STEP-project, we kindly invite you to the second S-ICT Conference which will take place in Amsterdam on the 16th and 17th of December 2009. During this conference, the research results of the project will be presented. In this association news, you can also find more information about the EARLI Advanced Study Colloquium taking place in 2010 and the upcoming Junior Researchers conference.

Last but not least, we are happy to invite you to the next EARLI Conference in Exeter, United Kingdom in 2011 from August 30 until September 3. Exeter is located approximately 255 kilometers Southwest of London. The conference theme will be: Education for a Global Networked Society.

1. The new Executive Committee of EARLI 2009–2011

We would like to start with thanking the EARLI Executive Committee members who led the EARLI association from September 2007 until September 2009 for their valuable contribution to the association. First of all, the outgoing president, Pietro Boscolo from Italy. Also the ordinary members Rob Martens, Marcel Veenman, Margarita Limon and Lauren Resnick will be missed. Furthermore, Anastasia Efklides and Filip Dochy, who were ex-officio EC members as editors in chief of Learning & Instruction and EDUREV, decided to step down as editors of the EARLI journals. All outgoing EC-members are thanked for their loyal support towards the association.

But for every end, there is a new beginning and during the General Assembly at the EARLI 2009 conference in Amsterdam, the results of the EC-elections were announced. We are proud to present the members of the next Executive Committee:

- EARLI president: Sari Lindblom-Ylänne (Finland);
- President-Elect: Jos Beishuizen (the Netherlands);
- Secretary-Treasurer: Costas Constantinou (Cyprus);
- Ordinary members:
 - Sanna Järvelä (Finland);
 - Jan Vermunt (the Netherlands);
 - Vera Monteiro (Portugal);
 - Hans Gruber (Germany);

Ex Officio members of the Executive Committee are:

- Lucia Mason (Italy) is the new editor in chief of Learning and Instruction;
- Paivi Tynjala (Finland) is the new editor in chief of EDUREV;
- Rupert Wegerif (United Kingdom) is the Conference President of the EARLI 2011 Conference.

2. Report of the 13th biennial EARLI Conference 2009

Last summer, from August 25 until 29, the EARLI 2009 Conference took place in the magnificent city of Amsterdam, the Netherlands. The conference turned out to be a huge success: about 2000 people from all over the world participated.

In total, there were 1885 contributions. See the overview of sessions below:

Keynote presentations	9
Symposia and panel sessions	169
SIG invited symposia	17
SIG Future & Vision Sessions	14
Invited EARLI symposium	1
Paper presentations	138
Poster sessions	41
Round tables	13
ICT demonstrations	3
Workshops	5

Of course, in the evenings, the participants had plenty of opportunities to get to know each other in a more informal way during an interesting social programme: a surprise evening, SIG dinners, and so on. On the final evening of the conference, the EARLI conference dinner outing took place on a very 'Dutch' location. Hundreds of EARLI participants expanded their networks during a dinner buffet in the folkloristic fisherman's town of Volendam.

EARLI would like to thank Jos Beishuizen, the conference president, Gert Rijlaarsdam, the conference programme manager, and the whole local organising committee for putting so much time and effort in organising the EARLI Conference. Their enthusiasm, competence and hard work resulted in a very successful, stimulating, enjoyable and thought provoking conference.

For more information about the event, please surf to <http://www.earli2009.org>.

3. Report of the JURE pre-Conference 2009

About 240 young researchers attended the the JURE pre-conference, taking place in Amsterdam from 24 until 25 August 2009. The event was a great success, providing a wide range of opportunities for participants to engage in active exchanges of ideas and to receive feedback on their work. And what would a JURE conference be without a great social programme? Highlight was the JURE dinner, a great way to end the first day of the conference and meet the people in an informal way. Besides a lot of fun, there were 148 sessions in total of which 54 paper presentations, 37 round-table sessions, 48 posters presentations and 9 workshops. EARLI gives special thanks to Janneke van de Pol, who did a great job as conference chair. Also the other members of the organising committee, Danny Kostons, Heidi Krzywacki-Vainio, Anna Espasa Roca, Katariina Stenberg and Brenda Strassfeld and the members of the local committee deserve special thanks for their contribution!

4. Special Interest Groups

EARLI's Special Interest Groups are still expanding. In 2009, two new SIGs have been founded 'Learning and Development in Early Childhood' and 'Neuroscience and Education'.

During the year in between the EARLI biennial conferences, a great number of SIGs organise conferences all over Europe.

Below you can find an overview of all the SIG Conferences taking place in 2010. Please keep in mind that not all SIGs are listed here, so check the EARLI website regularly for updates on the SIG activities in 2010.

SIG: 1 Assessment and Evaluation

Conference theme: Assessment for Learners

Date: 1-3 September 2010

Place: Slaley Hall, Northumberland, UK

Submission deadline: 13 Nov 2009

Website: <http://www.northumbria.ac.uk/assessment2010>

SIG: 2 Text and Graphics Comprehension

Conference theme: Tracing the mind: How do we learn from text and graphics?

Date: 26-28 August 2010

Place: Tuebingen, Germany

Submission deadline: March 30, 2010

Website: <http://www.earlisig2-2010.de>

SIG: 3 Conceptual Change

Date: 26-28 May 2010

Place: Louvain Institute for Ireland in Europe, Leuven, Belgium

SIG: 5 Learning and Development in Early Childhood

Conference theme/title: Topic is to be decided at the 2009 EARLI-conference meeting of the SIG

Place: University of Teacher Education, Lucerne, Switzerland

SIG: 6 Instructional Design and 7 Learning and Instruction with Computers

Conference theme: Instructional Design for motivated and competent learning in a digital world

Date: 30 August–1 September 2010

Place: Ulm, Germany

SIG: 7 Motivation and Emotion

Date: 2 September –4 September 2010

Place: University of Porto, Porto, Portugal

SIG: 12 Writing

Conference title: 12th International Conference of the EARLI Special Interest Group on Writing

Date: 8-10 September 2010

Place: Heidelberg, Germany

Submission deadline: 15th of February, 2010

Website: www.sigwriting2010.de

SIG: 14 Learning and Professional Development

Conference title: 5th Conference on Professional learning and development

Conference theme: Diversity in Vocational and Professional Education and Training

Place: University of Munich, Germany

Date: 25–27 August 2010

Submission deadline of abstracts and extended summaries: 1 March 2010

Notification of submissions: 1 April 2010

Website: <http://www.wipaed.bwl.uni-muenchen.de/earlisig14/>

SIG: 15 Special Educational Needs

Conference title: Teaching, Learning and diversity (not final)

Place: Goethe University of Frankfurt, Frankfurt, Germany

Date: September 6-7, 2010

SIG: 16 Metacognition

Conference title: 4th Biennial Meeting of the EARLI Special Interest Group 16 Metacognition

Date: 26–29 May, 2010

Place: Muenster, Germany

Submission deadline: October 1st 2009

Website: www.metacognition2010.de

SIG: 18 Educational Effectiveness

Conference title: Educational Effectiveness: Models, Methods and Applications

Date: 25-27 August 2010

Place: Leuven, Belgium

Submission deadline: January 20, 2010

Website: www.sigee2010.org

SIG: 19 Religious and Spiritual Education

Conference title: New perspectives on religious and spiritual education

Date: 26-28 August, 2010

Place: University of Malta, Malta

Submission deadline: February 15, 2010

5. EAPRIL / PBPR 2009 conference, 18-20 November 2009, Trier, Germany

The European Association for Practitioner Research on Improving Learning (EAPRIL), sister association of EARLI, organises its annual conference in Trier (Germany) from 18 until 20 November 2009. This year's conference theme is 'Improving Social Competences and Network Learning in education and professional practice'. The EAPRIL 2009 conference succeeds the 3rd Practice-Based and Practitioner Research conference. Due to the successes of the PBPR conferences, the initiative was taken to found a network organisation for anyone who wishes to contribute to the development of education through practice-based and applied research. The conference welcomes practitioner researchers, educational developers, professional and staff developers, educational technologists, instructional designers, educational policy makers, people involved in organisational change in educational institutions, teachers, trainers, academic researchers in the field of applied education, and so on. The involvement of different stakeholders on an international scale is of utmost importance for the success of the conference. Members of EAPRIL, and persons interested in the improvement of learning in education and professional practice are welcome

to present research results at this conference, or to participate without contributing. Looking forward to meeting you in Trier!
 More information about sessions, keynotes, submission and registration at the conference website: <http://www.eapril.org/EAPRIL2009>.

6. EARLI Membership

EARLI has grown as an association over the past 15 years and this is clearly visible in the increasing number of members and participants of the EARLI biennial conferences. EARLI members originate from 56 different countries, and these are the top five of nationalities represented within EARLI:

1. Germany
2. Netherlands
3. United States
4. United Kingdom
5. Finland

Right after the Amsterdam conference, EARLI had 2036 FULL members and 451 JURE members. Compared to 2008, the number of JURE members has increased by more than 40%. If you would like to find out more about EARLI membership, surf to <http://www.earli.org>.

7. Studies on Transitional Programmes – European Project

EARLI is a partner in the European S.T.E.P. Project. This project focuses on the transition for students from school to universities and between universities' programmes. This transition is very significant for students, but it doesn't always run smoothly. The increasing mobility of students in Europe and the resulting diversity of student population enhance this challenge. Several preparatory courses are offered by higher educational institutes in order to facilitate this transition. A lot of these courses use ICT, and this project focuses on the added value of using ICT in the transition of one educational programme to another. The project S.T.E.P. aims to develop a validated framework for assessing and comparing (online) preparatory transitional programmes (EFTPC). The research results will be presented during the second S-ICT Conference.

2ND Student Mobility and ICT conference (S-ICT)

Conference theme: Dimensions in Transition

Date: December 16-17, 2009

Place: Amsterdam, the Netherlands

The 2nd S-ICT conference is focusing on how ICT and E-learning can help learners on their life-long learning paths, especially with regard to the various dimensions of transition. It is an opportunity to present your recent research findings and good practices, and to discuss with other scholars.

We are looking for proposals within the following fields:

1. Knowledge acquisition in e-learning and the role of social knowledge building in (distance) education.
2. Knowledge acquisition in e-learning and the role of social knowledge building in (distance) education.
3. Collaborative knowledge construction in education context and Computer Supported Collaborative Learning (CSCL)
4. Barriers to Life-long learning and how to solve them
5. Innovative Web 2.0 tools to enhance education and learning.
6. Good-practices of education that effectively handle the dimensions of transition, remedial education, special education, acculturation and the combination with e-learning

More information on <http://www.s-ict.eu>

Online questionnaire

Although an increasing number of educational institutes are developing remedial courses, very little is known on how one can effectively develop and teach remedial education, in particular when courses are supported by ICT. Please help us to increase our knowledge on how remedial education in Europe can be improved. Your input is very important and will help us to the gain insight in best-practices of effective teaching in Europe.

Please fill in the questionnaire, which you can find on this website: <http://www.transitionalstep.eu>.

Community of Practice

As part of the EU-Lifelong Learning project S.T.E.P., a group named "Community of Practice Effective Preparatory Courses" is established on LinkedIn where teachers can share and search for best-practices in remedial teaching. If you are interested in discussing your experiences with remedial teaching, please join this group on LinkedIn.

For more information about the S.T.E.P. Project, please contact Bart Rienties (UM), the STEP project coordinator at bart.rienties@erd.unimaas.nl.

8. EARLI Advanced Study Colloquium

An ASC is a five day meeting of a small group of EARLI members (12 to 20) who gather for an in-depth discussion on research design, analyses, results, future research questions, current developments in a specific domain of learning and instruction.

The participants, from at least three different countries, are professors each accompanied by up to two PhD-student(s) or junior researchers. The meeting takes place in Europe, unless there are clear arguments for going outside Europe. In 2010, the Advanced Study Colloquium entitled **'Motivation to Learn in Social Contexts: Integrating Individual and Social Perspectives'** will take place at Cambridge University, UK from May 10 until May 14, 2010. More information and a call for contributions can be found on this link: <http://www.earli.org/conferences/asc/asc2010>.

9. Junior Researchers of EARLI conference 2010

The theme for JURE 2010 is Connecting Diverse Perspectives on Learning and Instruction: A Conference of Synergy. The conference will take place from the 19th to 22nd July 2010 in Frankfurt am Main, the most international city in Germany. JURE 2010 provides a wide range of opportunities for participants to engage in active exchange of ideas on the topic of learning and instruction within a supportive, international environment. The Conference includes different presentation formats including keynotes, "hands on" workshops, paper sessions, ICT demonstrations and interactive poster and round table sessions. With the aim of enhancing opportunities for in-depth discussion participants will review each other's papers and posters within a peer-feedback process. Additionally, there is the chance to get feedback from experienced senior researchers on paper proposals. The aim of JURE is to contribute to the generation of an active and cohesive community of young researchers. Therefore, the conference also includes a lot of opportunities for informal chats during coffee breaks and lunch hours. And, last but not least, because we all appreciate some relaxation during all this intense scholarly activity, the programme includes social activities which will make the most of the summer in Frankfurt. So come and join us! All information can be found on the conference website: <http://www.earli-jure2010.org>.

10. EARLI 2011 conference, August 30 until September 3, Exeter, UK

The EARLI 2009 conference just ended, a perfect time to schedule your new EARLI biennial conference appointment for 2011. In two years, the 14th EARLI conference will take place in Exeter, UK from 30 August until 3 September. Theme of the conference will be 'Education for a Global Networked Society'. Deadline for submissions of proposals will be 29 October 2010. For more information, surf to <http://www.earli2011.org>