



Earli Association News

Looking back at the past months, one may say that this has been an extremely active and exciting period for EARLI. The association had a very successful 12th biennial conference at the end of August, a wonderful JURE pre-conference, a newly elected Executive Committee stepped on board and 20 new SIG coordinators committed to EARLI. Our future plans? Well, we will certainly keep on ‘pleasuring’ our members with interesting initiatives and events that promote an active research culture in the field of learning and instruction. You may already start looking forward to the first EARLI Advanced Study Colloquium, the JURE summer school in Leuven and several conferences of the EARLI Special Interest Groups in 2008. We are proud to inform you EARLI is expanding which implies that more ‘human resources’ are needed to adequately manage this growth. That’s why we are very pleased to announce the appointment of a new employee in the EARLI office: welcome Tonia Davison!

All this information and more about the European Association for Research on Learning and Instruction can be found on the website www.earli.org.

1. Report of the 12th biennial EARLI conference 2007

From August 28 until September 1, the EARLI conference took place in the beautiful city of Budapest, Hungary. In line with the theme of the conference ‘Developing potentials for learning’, the conference organisers, Benő Csapó and Csaba Csíkos, succeeded in making this event a successful learning experience for 1745 conference participants. Eleven keynote speakers and 1492 contributors presented a very wide range of research from the field of learning and instruction, some of which draw substantially from educational psychology, such as cognitive development, knowledge structures, reasoning and problem solving, individual differences, and motivation. Other contributions were more focused on educational processes, such as reading, writing, communication skills, educational attainment, assessment and evaluation, pedagogical innovations, computer-based learning, social interaction, multicultural education and teacher training.

Of course, the EARLI conferences are not only about ‘professional development’, it is also a time for pleasure, networking and exploring the city. The EARLI 2007 conference organising committee agreed with that and they organised many activities to entertain the conference participants. There was for example the outdoor opening reception at the conference venue terrace with beautiful sunset panorama to River Danube and the Buda Mountains and a buffet dinner with Hungarian specialities. Then there was the mysterious EARLI surprise disco, a climax for many EARLI past presidents who set the dance floor on fire with their favorite records. Another highlight was the gala dinner on a ship on River Danube with excellent Hungarian food and wines.

EARLI would like to express sincere thanks to Benő Csapó (University of Szeged, Hungary), the conference president, Csaba Csíkos (University of Szeged, Hungary), the conference manager, and the whole organising committee 2007 for the excellent organisation.

For those who were not able to attend this year, we recommend that you mark the following dates in your agenda for 2009: EARLI conference 2009, 25–29 August, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

2. Report of the JURE pre-conference 2007

The 10th pre-conference of the Junior Researchers of EARLI took place on the 27–28th of August 2007, in Budapest, Hungary. The conference theme was: “Learning as a focus, process and outcome”. JURE 2007 gathered 218 registered participants from all over the world. The participants enjoyed 43 paper presentations, 46 poster presentations, 7 roundtable presentations, 5 workshops and 218 lunch boxes. The topics of the workshops were writing scientific articles, phenomenography, video-observation in research, the use of technology in research, and analysing computer supported collaborative learning.

The JURE conference enjoyed the Hungarian hospitality in many ways. We are grateful to EARLI and to the local organising committee for providing us with the resources needed for the conference. Csíkos Csaba provided full support as well as an unforgettable private performance of “Restless feet” (Finnish punk song!). It is a known fact that the Hungarians and the Finnish have a close linguistic connection—they just do not understand each other. Nevertheless, the JURE conference dinner took place in a cozy terrace of the Fresco Restaurant with more than 100 people. We were also glad to see so many seniors joining the dinner.

As the JURE conferences are increasing in attendance, the most pressing challenge for the future is maintaining a balance between growth, quality and resources. The next JURE conference will be on the 8–11th of July 2008, in Leuven, Belgium. We hope to meet you there!

Martin Ubani
Committee Chair
JURE 2007
University of Helsinki, Finland

3. The new Executive committee of EARLI

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the resigning Executive committee members for their commitment and contribution to the history of EARLI. Many thanks to Roger Säljö, the EARLI president from 2005 until 2007, Beatrice Ligorio, the secretary-treasurer from 2003 until 2007 and Michèle Grossen, EARLI EC member from 2005 until 2007.

These are the newly elected committee members 2007–2009:

EARLI President:	Pietro Boscolo
President Elect:	Sari Lindblom-Ylänne
Secretary-Treasurer:	Costas Constantinou
4 Ordinary members:	Margarita Limon Rob Martens Lauren Resnick Marcel Veenman
3 ex-officio EC-members:	Anastasia Efklides (editor of the EARLI journal <i>Learning & Instruction</i>), Filip Dochy (editor of the EARLI journal <i>Educational Research Review</i>) and Jos Beishuizen (president of the EARLI 2009 conference)

4. Special Interest Groups (SIG's) of EARLI

The EARLI Special Interest Groups represent a group of researchers who study one or more parts and/or aspects of the field of learning and Instruction. The SIG's support activities such as seminars, newsletters and publications and they give substance to the conference themes of the biennial conference.

4.1. New Special Interest Group: *Learning and Teaching in Culturally Diverse Settings*

We are proud to announce the setup of our 21st Special Interest Group: Learning and Teaching in culturally diverse settings. This SIG is founded by Ed Elbers (The Netherlands) and Guida de Abreu (United Kingdom), who are officially appointed as SIG coordinators. They bring together researchers who study culturally diverse schools, classrooms and other educational settings from the perspective of learning, teaching, social interaction and home–school relationships. Ethno-cultural diversity in schools is a big challenge for European education. Large scale studies of school achievements

have shown that migrant students often do less well than native students and have fewer opportunities to be successful in the school system. Schools and teachers find it difficult to adapt to the diversity of cultural and language backgrounds of students. At the same time, research on what happens in culturally diverse schools, classrooms and other educational settings has been a neglected area. We think that the educational research community can contribute to the future of European society by putting research on processes within and around culturally diverse settings higher on the agenda. The SIG wants to contribute to this aim.

At this moment, given the scarcity of knowledge, we think that in depth studies of school and classroom processes and events are crucial. We also think that studies focusing on the experiences of learners, teachers and parents are very important. Studies might concern issues such as: language diversity and communication processes in classrooms, (cultural) representations of teaching and learning and their impact on teachers' and learners' identities, cultural expectations and student-teacher relationships, home-school relationships, learners' experiences of cultural transitions, learning and cultural identities, (best) practices of teaching in culturally diverse settings, special programs for supporting migrant students and for promoting their learning. Culturally diverse schools exist in the context of educational policy. We, therefore, also want to encourage the exchange of information between countries about educational policies and language policies, and the impact of these policies on processes in schools, classrooms and other educational settings.

We hereby invite researchers who study these and other relevant topics to join the SIG!

4.2. *New Special Interest Group Coordinators*

We would like to thank all resigning SIG-coordinators for their efforts and we welcome the new ones! For a complete overview of the SIG-coordinators, please consult the EARLI website.

Special interest group	Resigning coordinator	New coordinator
Assessment and Evaluation	Jim Ridgway	Eduardo Cascallar
Comprehension of Text and Graphics	Eduardo Vidal-Abarca	Fons Maes
Conceptual Change	Gunilla Petersson	Wim Van Dooren
Higher Education	Mien Segers	Velda McCune
Instructional Design	Jan Elen	Tina Seufert
Learning and Instruction with Computers	Paul Kirschner	Joerg Zumbach
Motivation and Emotion	Marold Wosnitza	Alexander Minnaert
Phenomenography and Variation Theory	Ming Fai Pang	Jo McKenzie
Social Interaction in Learning and Instruction	Margarida Cesar	Eva Hjerne
Teaching and Teacher Education	Elaine Munthe	Fritz Staub
Writing	Joachim Grabowski	Denis Alamargot
Moral and Democratic Education	Nava Maslovy	Jean-Luc Patry
Learning and Professional development	Anneli Eteläpelto	Leif C. Lahn
Special Educational Needs	Eva Hjerne	Adina Shamir
Metacognition	Marcel Veenman	Stephanie Pieschl
Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches to Learning and Instruction	Phillipp Mayring	Michaela Gläser-Zikuda
	Leo Guertler	Markus Wirtz
Educational Effectiveness	John Ainley	Eckhard Klieme
Religious and Spiritual Education	Zehavit Gross	Theo van der Zee

5. EARLI and JURE award winners

During every Biennial conference, EARLI presents three awards: the Eric De Corte Award for young scholars, The Outstanding Publication Award and the Oeuvre Award.

These are the winners for 2007:

Erik De Corte Award: Tamara van Gog, The Open University, The Netherlands. **EARLI outstanding Publication award:** M. Hannula and E. Lehtinen both from the University of Turku in Finland, for the article 'Spontaneous focusing on Numerosity and Mathematical skills of young children', published in *Learning & Instruction* 15 (2005) 237–256. **Oeuvre Award:** Professor Ference Marton, Göteborg University, Sweden

Box 1. 2nd European Practice-Based and Practitioner Research Conference
14–16 November 2007, Maastricht, The Netherlands
Learning and Instruction for the New Generation <http://www.earli-pbpr.org>

Box 2. 1st Earli Advanced Study Colloquium
An Advanced Study Colloquium is a meeting of 4 days with a small group of EARLI members (12 to 20) who gather for in-depth discussion on research design, analyses, results, future research questions, current developments in the research field, etc. The meeting is organised by EARLI, in close cooperation with the hosting institution. EARLI is proud to announce the first event, taking place from 14 to 18 January in Stellenbosch, South Africa. The theme of the conference is Research on cultural Differences and the Influence on Education in Teaching and Teacher Education. Please consult the website for detailed information: http://www.earli.org/about_earli/activities/asc/asc2008

Box 3. Junior Researchers of EARLI conference
8–11 July 2008, Leuven, Belgium
Innovative and Creative Perspectives: New Directions in Educational Research <http://www.earli-jure2008.org>

Box 4. 4th Biennial SIG Assessment conference
27–29 August 2008, Potsdam, Germany
Challenging Assessment <http://www.iqb.huberlin.de/enac2008>

Box 5. Biennial SIG instructional design meeting
20–22 June 2008, Heerlen, The Netherlands
Instructional Design for complex learning: whole-task versus part-task approaches

The **Junior Researchers of EARLI** present two awards. This year, the **Best Paper Presentation Award** was given to Maaïke Endendijk (presenter), Jan Vermunt, Mieke Brekelmans, Perry den Brok, & Nico Verloop: “An exploratory study to student teachers’ regulation activities in a dual learning environment”.

The **Best Poster Presentation Award** was awarded to Daniel Wessel, Carmen Zahn & Friedrich W. Hesse with: “A Mobile Application to Satisfy Situational Interest in Informal Settings”.

Congratulations to all!

Box 6. Biennial SIG motivation meeting
21–23 August 2008, Turku, Finland
Motivation in action www.otuk.utu.fi/conferences/icm2008

Box 7. SIG workshop Phenomenography and Variation Theory
22–24 May 2008, Kristianstad, Sweden
Implications of Phenomenography and Variation Theory in Practice <http://www.distans.hkr.se/sig9/home/EARLI.htm>

Joint SIG conference:
SIG Social Interaction in Learning and Instruction
SIG Special Educational Needs
SIG Learning and Teaching in Culturally Diverse Settings
19–20 May 2008, Goteborg, Sweden
Social interaction, learning and diversity

4th SIG Learning and Professional Development conference
27–29 August 2008, University of Jyväskylä, Finland

3rd SIG Metacognition conference
8–10 May 2008, Ioannina, Greece <http://sig16.uoi.gr>

6. Announcement of upcoming EARLI events

7. Call for proposals: Advanced Study Colloquium 2009

7.1. Character of this event

An Advanced Study Colloquium is a meeting of 4 days with a small group of EARLI members (12 to 20) who gather for in-depth discussion on research design, analyses, results, future research questions, current developments in the research field, etc. The participants are professors and their PHD-students, and come from 3 different countries.

7.2. Organisation

EARLI organises, in close cooperation with the hosting institution.

SIG 18 Educational effectiveness meeting
28–30 August 2008, Frankfurt, Germany

7.3. *Participants*

The ASC welcomes 6 full professors from at least 3 different countries, accompanied by 1 or 2 PhD-students per professor. The total number of attendants may not exceed 20.

7.4. *Programme*

The 4-day meeting consists out of 2 h time slots for PhD-students and 1 h slots for the full professors. Professors present a review of their research or theory, PhD-students present (a part of) their research, based on a full paper. The slots may be filled with a presentation or can be used fully for in-depth discussion. All participants receive all full papers before the meeting.

7.5. *Location and time*

The ASC will take place every year in springtime on an attractive location in or outside Europe, preferably a university.

7.6. *EARLI funding*

EARLI funds the travel and registration costs of full professors (who are members of EARLI for at least 3 years) and each first PhD student of each participating professor. This funding is limited to 6 PhD students and 6 professors at a maximum of 500€ each. The possible second PhD student pays his own travel, registration and accommodation. The host university provides conference rooms and student lodging if possible. The conference fee covers food, drinks, possibly accommodation.

7.7. *Tasks of the hosting professor*

The hosting professor and a colleague expert from a different country and working in that specific domain of the conference, are responsible for the review of the contributions. They take the final decision on acceptance and actual participation. The hosting organiser takes care of the arrangement of accommodation and will negotiate the prices for catering and lodging. He or she takes care of the budget, draws up a break-even balance of income and expenses and composes the conference programme. Dissemination and (financial) administration are handled by the EARLI Office.

7.8. *How to apply for organisation in 2009?*

EARLI welcomes proposals for the organisation of an ASC in 2009. Please send your proposals by E-mail to goele.nickmans@ped.kuleuven.be. A proposal should contain the following elements:

- A specific research theme, relevant to EARLI members.
- An abstract of 500 words explaining the theme and the goal of the ASC.
- Name of the hosting professor and the colleague expert.
- A clear description of the conference facilities in the university where the ASC will take place.
- Suggestions for accommodation for the participants (including a price estimate).
- Suggestions for catering during the conference (including a price estimate).
- A suggestion for 1 colleague professor who is willing to act as a member of the review committee.
- A budget estimate with an estimated conference fee covering the costs that are not funded.