Special Issue: Elections 2015

Summer 2015

Limassol dining and shopping areas by night
(by Tech bro)

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Limassol#/media/File:Limassol_Marina_05.jpg
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Editorial

Dear Friends and Colleagues

I hope you are enjoying the season! I expect some of you are already travelling while others are fast approaching the end of the term. Wherever you are, whatever you are doing, there is one event lying ahead that all of us are interested in: the next EARLI Conference in Limassol (Cyprus) in August and the specific SIG 13 activities. This Special Issue of our SIG 13 Newsletter focuses on one core business, namely the election of a Joint Coordinator (to replace Karin Heinrichs) and of a JURE Coordinator (to replace Martina Nussbaumer). So far we have one official candidate for the position of Joint Coordinator, namely Hermann Josef Abs, and two candidates for that of JURE Coordinator, namely Catherine Näpflin and Violeta Vainer. To help those of us who will be present at the SIG 13 Business Meeting in our decision, the three candidates agreed to give an interview for this Newsletter. Thus, after some basic information on upcoming conferences as well as some items on the EARLI and SIG 13 agenda, you can read the interviews to get to know our candidates.

Having “new blood” in the Coordinators’ ranks also means that two of the present Coordinators will pass the torch. Both Karin Heinrichs and Martina Nussbaumer have been dedicated and enthusiastic in their work for our SIG 13 community and especially the JURE members. Together with Dorit Alt they, as did their predecessors, introduced some innovations, like for example the group discussion session at the SIG 13 Symposium in Verona or the JURE Facebook Group. At the same time, they could rely on the solid foundations established by our previous Coordinators to successfully keep together and guide our community within the broader context of EARLI. Much of the Coordinators’ work is done in the background and involves intricacies and complexities that we can only surmise. I know that I am telling nothing new here, that we are all aware of what it takes to serve a specific community on a voluntary basis. Still, I think this is a good moment to appreciate Karin’s, Martina’s and Dorit’s work as well as the work of all our former SIG 13 Coordinators, our former Newsletter Editor Anna Tapola, our EARLI Executive Committee Member Dimitris Pnevmatikos, and our Maslovaty Foundation Representative David Melnik. Moving a step further, we must also include all SIG 13 members and associates who helped establish and implement our SIG 13 Symposia. And, last but not least, all SIG 13 members and associates who have been submitting proposals and presenting at EARLI Conferences and SIG 13 Symposia ever since. (Please tell me if I forgot people, positions, or functions.) What this moment of consideration shows is how much alive our community is and how everyone in their specific and special ways contribute to our SIG 13’s thriving!!!

One more issue to be mentioned regarding the EARLI Conference in Limassol refers to the invited keynote speakers. Together with SIG 19, the SIG 13 Coordinators proposed Prof. Tina Malti (University of Toronto), Prof. Kirsir Tirri (University of Helsinki) and Prof. Tina Hascher (University of Berne). Tina Hascher was elected by EARLI to be one of the invited keynote speakers. This is a great success, and we are very much looking forward to Tina Hascher’s keynote address and to seeing aspects of moral and democratic education represented in an EARLI keynote!

And there is another inspiring outlook towards our immediate future: the next SIG 13 Symposium in Salzburg, organised by Alfred Weinberger, Jean-Luc Patry, and Sieglinde Weyringer. More information will be given at the SIG 13 Business Meeting in Limassol and in the next Issue of the SIG 13 Newsletter. So much to look forward to….. I wish you all a wonderful summer and hope to see many of you in Limassol!

Best Regards

EVELINE GUTZWILLER-HELLENFINGER
Editor
eveline.gutzwiller@phlu.ch
# Notice Board

## Meetings & Conferences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EARLI 2015 Conference</td>
<td>August 25-29. The 16th EARLI Biennial Conference (European Association for Research on Learning and Instruction) will take place at the Cyprus University of Technology (CUT), Limassol, Cyprus. <a href="http://www.earli2015.org/">www.earli2015.org/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>JURE 2015 Conference</td>
<td>August 23-24. The JURE Pre-Conference (Junior Researchers of EARLI) will be held at the Cyprus University of Technology (CUT), Limassol, Cyprus. <a href="http://www.earli2015.org/jure-2015/">www.earli2015.org/jure-2015/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>ESERA 2015 Conference</td>
<td>August 31 – September 4. The ESERA Conference (European Science Education Research Association) will be held at the University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland. <a href="http://www.esera2015.org">www.esera2015.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>CEP 2015 Forum</td>
<td>October 16-17. The 20th National Forum on Character Education of CEP (Character Education Partnership) will take place in Atlanta, GA, USA. <a href="http://www.character.org/conference/">www.character.org/conference/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>AME 2015</td>
<td>November 5-7. AME’s (Association for Moral Education) 41st Annual Conference will be held in Santos, Brazil. <a href="http://ame2015.net">http://ame2015.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>SIG 13 Symposium 2016</td>
<td>June. The next SIG 13 Symposium will be held Salzburg, Austria. More information will be published in the next issue of the SIG 13 Newsletter.</td>
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**Call for Contributions**

Deadline for the next issue of the SIG 13 Newsletter: September 30
EARLI 2015 Conference – Special Section: Elections

Important Dates

**Opening Ceremony:** Tue., Aug. 25, 10.00-10.50, Room: Rialto

**Opening Reception:** Tue., Aug. 25, 21.00, Location: Pattichion Historical Archive Museum Garden

**SIG 13 Business Meeting**
Wed., Aug. 26, 17.15-18.15, Room: Brown_B4

**SIG 13 Invited Symposium:**
Thur., Aug. 27, 08.45-10:15, Room: Purple_H4

**EARLI Members’ Meeting:**
Thur., Aug. 27, 17.30-19.00, Room: Rialto

**Keynote by Tina Hascher**
Fri., Aug. 28, 11.00-12.30, Room: Mitropoli

**Closing Ceremony**
Sat., Aug. 29, 17.20-18.00, Room: Brown_B7

Limassol Beach
(by Tech bro)
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Limassol_Beach.JPG
SIG 13 Business Meeting – Elections…..

At this year’s SIG 13 Business Meeting, elections will be an important item on the agenda. Two positions are available. First, Karin Heinrichs, the SIG 13 Joint Coordinator, will resign after a four-year period of dedicated work. Second, Martina Nussbaumer, SIG 13’s JURE Coordinator will step down, having promoted the interests of SIG 13’s junior researchers for two years.

And who are our nominees? First, Hermann Josef Abs accepted the nomination as candidate for the position of SIG 13 Joint Coordinator. And for the position of JURE Coordinator, we have two nominees: Catherine Näpflin and Violeta Vainer. All three nominees agreed to be interviewed for the present Special Issue of the Newsletter. They tell us members of the SIG 13 community more about who they are, their work, and their ideas and visions for SIG 13 should they be elected.

Hermann Josef Abs: The Interview

Hermann Josef Abs

Hermann, what kind of person are you?

My partner says that I’m a lovely person.

Can you tell us something about your academic background and present position?

Since autumn 2013 I have been a Professor of Educational Research and Schooling at the University of Duisburg-Essen, further I am the Associate Dean for Research at the Faculty of Education. I joined the faculty after having been a Professor for Research in Schooling and Teaching at the University of Giessen since 2009 and the managing director of the Institute for School Pedagogy and Citizenship Education there from 2010-2012. I also lectured at the University of Frankfurt (2002-2009) and at the University of Freiburg (1997-2000). Outside university, I worked as a project coordinator and project leader for national and international projects in the area of citizenship education at the German Institute for International Educational Research (DIPF) in Frankfurt, Main from 2002 to 2009. Earlier on, I taught at upper secondary schools for two years. I got my academic education at the Universities of Bonn and Freiburg, where I studied German literature and language, theology, philosophy and education.

What is your main research focus at present?

Currently my team and I are preparing the main survey within the International Civic and Citizenship Education Study, ICCS 2016 in Germany. This project will enable us to be more specific about the knowledge, beliefs and intentions of students in grade 8. We consider this as relevant research, because students then will be in public schools for at least two additional years.

In Germany most of the civic and citizenship formal education takes place in grades 9 and 10, so we need a more precise picture of students’ prior learning in order to develop adapted learning environments for grades 9 and 10. You can find more information also on other projects here: https://www.uni-due.de/edu-research/research.php.
What is your motivation to become the next SIG 13 Joint Coordinator?

I think of EARLI-SIG 13 as an opportunity for international exchange and reflection on research projects and results. At my first SIG conference in Tel Aviv I had the feeling that this was a good opportunity to do exactly this, and to generate new ideas for the future. Moreover it was an opportunity to reflect on the research that we are doing against the backdrop of the host country’s specific situation. Due to other obligations I was not at the SIG 13 Symposia in Bergen and Verona, but I heard that the interest of new researchers and the number of papers increased. As Joint Coordinator I have the support of my university for hosting a SIG 13 Symposium in Germany, and this would be a pleasure.

What are your potential strategies to realise these plans?

With regard to the SIG 13 Symposium in 2018 I would like to organise a workshop on methodologies in advance. Moreover one way to attract diverse researchers to the conference is the use of the ICCS 2016 context in Europe. 2018 will be the perfect year to discuss the analytic results in a broader realm of democratic and moral education. Another way was suggested by the EARLI Executive Committee (EC). The EC would like to see more collaboration between SIGs. I think this is a good idea, because as one of the smaller SIGs we could take profit from more exchange. Therefore I would like to discuss in Limassol whether the members of the SIG 13 would like to try out a joint SIG conference together with another SIG.

Should you be appointed as a Joint Coordinator of SIG 13, what do you want to achieve to benefit our community?

From my perspective the community of SIG 13 has still a potential for growth. Growth must not be the priority in our value hierarchy, but my feeling is that we still can increase the benefit for all members, by having a more diverse group of researches bringing in various research strategies for our specialised field. In this spirit I would like to organise the SIG Symposium 2018 (because 2016 is already allocated to Salzburg).

In your view, what is the role of moral and democratic education in a globalised world?

(1) As a minimalist goal I am confident that democratic education can contribute to the acceptance of democratic institutions, discourse and government within our nations and beyond.

(2) As a more advanced goal I see the enabling function of democratic education in building the confidence and knowledge necessary for active political and civil society participation in compliance with human rights and the rule of law.

(3) As an ultimate objective I see a contribution of participants in democratic education to the social, cultural and ecological sustainability of mankind.

Is there anything else that you would like to add?

Eveline and before her Anna have generously spent their time and lots of energy in building up SIG 13 has not always been among the most successful SIGs in submitting papers and symposia to the EARLI biennial conference. But the SIG meetings have increasingly served as a good preparation and starting point for the submission of symposia. This has increased the visibility of SIG 13 within EARLI. In the next step I wish to see that more EARLI members see the relevance of research in moral and democratic issues.
the Newsletter for SIG 13. This is by far the most elaborate Newsletter that I know about from any equivalent group. Thank you.

Thank you very much, Hermann! We are all looking forward to the elections!

EVELINE GUTZWILLER-HELFENFINGER

Have you published a paper, a book, a book chapter recently ...? Have you been promoted or received an award? Please let me know so I can publish this information in the next issue of the SIG 13 Newsletter!

EVELINE GUTZWILLER-HELFENFINGER
eveline.gutzwiller@phlu.ch

Catherine Näpflin: The Interview

Catherine, what kind of person are you?

If I had to describe myself briefly, I would say that I am a very motivated and focused person when I am working on a topic. I spent a lot of energy in organising and planning research projects and try to follow the path constantly. That is one reason why I am so glad working at the University of Teacher Education in Lucerne. All these projects have a practical impact, and I can see the need in what we are trying to observe.

I am always on the move, cannot sit still. That is true for my working and my private life. I am sportive, close to nature, and love animals.

Can you tell us something about your academic background and present position?

I finished my Master in Educational Science in 2010 at the University of Fribourg. I immediately started working for Prof. Fritz Oser in a SNF [Swiss National Science Foundation] project which is also part of my Thesis. Gymnasium students had to discuss the moral and ethical aspects of genetically modified plants. I am very thankful to Fritz that he opened so many doors in taking me to conferences like AME, EARLI or AERA. Since 2013 I have been working at the University of Teacher Education as a research assistant in different kinds of projects like “paired reading – to enhance reading skills” (SNF project); and the Family Life Project which is a cooperation with Darcia Narvaez, University of Notre Dame and Markus Christen, University of Zurich. I was also a cowriter of another SNF proposal.

Besides the research part I am working as a lecturer for enquiry based learning. That gives me another perspective and keeps me close to the student’s needs.
What is your main research focus at present?

My main research focus concerns questions about morality in everyday life situations (dilemma discussions) connected with research based learning formats. Since I started working at the University of Teacher Education, my interests have shifted a little bit because I met lots of new and interesting people; and I learned how to integrate my previous interests in the field of Teacher Education, which broadens my mind.

What is your motivation to become the next SIG 13 JURE Coordinator?

From my own experience I know how important a good network can be. Often young researchers do not know each other or what the colleagues are working on. Exchange of information or research questions / problems rarely takes place. It is difficult to find a contact person working in the same research field. I am very thankful to my previous professor, Fritz Oser. He took me to all the conferences from AME, AERA and EARLI and encouraged me to present our projects in front of all those experts. For me as a young researcher it was the best way to learn and to network with other researchers and find friends all over the world.

Catherine on a summer holiday

So I see that one of the key task as a SIG 13 JURE coordinator is to improve the exchange between junior and senior researcher or between young investigators and to let them learn through participating.

What are today’s young researchers’ special strengths they bring to EARLI and SIG 13?

Nowadays young researchers are open-minded and critical thinkers. So they do not only follow what others found but they ask themselves questions and enrich the science community with their new ideas.

Should you be appointed as SIG 13 JURE Coordinator, what do you want to achieve to benefit the young researchers’ community?

I already mentioned before that I would try to develop the communication between and JURE members and the senior researches. In this way they get to know each other personally at conferences and share ideas online. The previous SIG 13 JURE Coordinators did already a good job in establishing that network. I see it as my duty to continue with that. Specifically, I want to make sure that the SIG 13 JURE Members have the opportunity to present themselves and their research question / doctoral thesis in the SIG 13 newsletter or enabling them to participate at conferences like EARLI. That they can share / exchange their ideas and questions.

The “JURE SIG 13” Facebook group already exists but most of the posts are generated by the SIG 13 JURE Coordinator. I would like to encourage the students, to become more active and exchange views on this channel. This is an easy but effective opportunity for young researchers to stay in contact with each other. Probably more “commercial” activities like flyers or posters or invitations to the SIG 13 group via email to all EARLI members, especially to young collaborators, are needed. The Facebook group should become a platform not only for exchanging interests but also for announcing other conferences dealing with topics on Moral Education. That makes it easier to meet each other.

These are some of my ideas and strategies how I will try to enhance young researchers exchange and network but I am open for other suggestions and discussions with the SIG 13 community.

What are your potential strategies to realise these plans?

See question 6.
Is there anything else that you would like to add?

For me it would be a great pleasure and honour to become the next SIG 13 JURE coordinator. It would be a challenge that I would love to take on.

Thank you very much, Catherine! We are all eagerly awaiting the elections in Limassol!

EVELINE GUTZWILLER-HELFENFINGER

Join Us for the SIG 13 Dinner!
Wednesday, August 26, 20.00

After the SIG 13 Business Meeting, all members are cordially invited to have dinner. The location will be organised by the EARLI Conference Organisers. The SIG 13 Coordinators will inform us all by email as soon as they know about the restaurant.

Violeta Vainer: The Interview

Violeta, what kind of person are you?

Hello I am pleased to contact you and have the honour to be nominated as SIG 13 JURE representative candidate.

It is difficult to portray myself, but I can say I am a direct person, really sensitive to issues around me and around the world and like to observe the reality. I am conciliatory by nature and like to establish positive collaborative situations for work and life in general. I like to meet new people and enjoy knowing persons from different parts of the world and backgrounds; that is why I find this position appealing. Also because I find democratic and moral education really meaningful.

Can you tell us something about your academic background and present position?

I am currently working on my PhD thesis for the Colloquium presentation. Advances of this work have been accepted at the SIG 13 Symposium in Bergen and the Conference and Curriculum Summer Collaborative in Georgia, USA, and have been accepted and presented at the EARLI Conference Munich and at the JURE Conference in Cyprus, both in roundtable presentations where I got interesting feedback and learned a lot from these discussions.

I am a Primary School Teacher, and I have a Bachelor’s Degree in Pedagogy, and a Master’s Degree in Cognitive Psychology and Learning. Currently, I am a PhD candidate. My thesis is on the Citizenship Idea in democratization periods in Primary School Curricula in Argentina, Chile and Uruguay.

I am the founder and Pedagogical Director of a Primary and Kindergarten school in Argentina where I live. I really care about citizenship education, especially regarding democratic citizenship. It is a really meaningful issue for school, from everyday experiences to content education.
Also I have been recently named as Chairperson for the Awards Committee and as Chairperson for the International Collaboration Committee in SIG Constructivist Research Practice and Theory in AERA (American Educational Research Association).

What is your main research focus at present?
Citizenship education, as I mentioned. The Citizenship Idea is in crucial change in Democratization transitions or any political transition. In Latin America there has been a major shift in political regimes; and this was reflected in civic life. Educational plans were changed under this new reality. The aim was to study these changes and how specialists defined the new Citizenship Idea and issues like human rights and recent history. I especially study the processes curriculum specialists went through by writing these documents and the process of negotiation they held with different actors in society.

Also I would be interested in the future to study political transitions in other parts of the world and how the Citizenship Idea changes. This kind of study aims at promoting and protecting democratic citizenship.

I am also conducting a research on metacognition and creative processes in science and art.

Violeta

I am directing a research on moral education specifically in physical education, and the building of rules in primary school. This has a focus on rules of the game but it is studied as a genesis of moral autonomy building.

And I am currently making a compilation of different pedagogical strategies to work with human rights issues and recent history in Primary School.

What is your motivation to become the next SIG 13 JURE Coordinator?
I am really motivated to work in such an engaging environment of scholars, within an international context. I find it particularly meaningful at this time of my career.

Also I think I can make a positive contribution by giving the SIG an international perspective, contributing to other international member’s perspective on this.

What are today’s young researchers’ special strengths they bring to EARLI and SIG 13?
I think young researchers bring new and fresh ideas to the conferences, with new perspectives in the field. Engaged in moral education and current problems and bringing new ways of seeing them.

Should you be appointed as SIG 13 JURE Coordinator, what do you want to achieve to benefit the young researchers’ community?
I would like to promote more collaborative international research and some kind of forum to discuss issues of common concern to all JURE SIG 13 participants.

Also, ways for the member of SIG 13 to communicate their work and, as mentioned by Dorit, to enhance communication between the SIGs; and also to foster collaborative research. Also I would like to support her idea of generating more publications in the moral education field.

Continue the Facebook page as initiated by Martina (actual JURE Coordinator), and her work.

Also create a TWITTER page where members of the SIG could share ideas and news within the field.

Get the activity in our SIG be acknowledged by other SIGs by contacting other JURE SIG Coordinators and collaborating with them.

Promote participation in conferences by different means like getting EARLI JUE activities known in different parts of the world. Promoting the Maslovaty Award in different parts of the world as
a means of encouraging people to participate and get involved in EARLI and in SIG 13.

What are your potential strategies to realise these plans?

I would like to improve the communication between the communities of scholars in the SIG and find ways to promote international collaboration.

Also enhance communication with other JURE SIG representatives via email and eventually organizing a meeting during the EARLI conference.

Is there anything else that you would like to add?

I think it would be of benefit to the organization to be able to achieve this kind of goals. Also the SIG and JURE could benefit from an international scholar.

I would be honoured to work as JURE SIG 13 Coordinator.

Thank you very much, Violeta! All of us are looking forward to the elections in Limassol!

EVELINE GUTZWILLER-HELFENFINGER

Do you have any agenda items for the SIG 13 Business Meeting in Limassol?

Please send them to Karin Heinrichs (karin.heinrichs@uni-bamberg.de) or Dorit Alt (doritalt@014.net.il). You may also announce them at the beginning of the meeting.


Guidelines for Authors

SIG 13 Members are warmly encouraged to submit texts and other contributions to the SIG 13 Newsletter. This newsletter is intended to be a service for the members – an opportunity to learn and to gain from other people’s experiences. By submitting contributions to the newsletter, each author is assumed to fully accept the guidelines below. However, these guidelines are not set in stone: readers are cordially invited to suggest improvements. Please send any suggested changes for the better to the editor (eveline.gutzwiller@phlu.ch).
Formats

SIG 13 Newsletter welcomes contributions in varying formats, for example:

- Reports can consist of short summaries from meetings or other events of interest to the SIG 13 community.
- The Notice Board consists of short announcements where notices will be published under categories (and subheadings) such as Forthcoming meetings (including conferences, workshops, summer schools etc), Publications, etc.
- Articles that enable the authors to develop and explore a line of argument of interest to the readership.

Language and Manuscript

Many of us have first languages other than English. Even so, in the newsletter we will stick to English as our good old lingua franca.

- Contributions should be submitted electronically to the editor
  
  (eveline.gutzwiller@philu.ch). Send your contributions as an attachment to an e-mail. Please use Word-files for text (doc suffix). Photos, tables, illustrations or other figures can be submitted as jpg, eps, or Photoshop files.
- The author’s identity and e-mail address must be provided on the top of the first manuscript page. Below that, please add the following sentence: “This manuscript does not interfere with any third party’s copyright.”
- Manuscripts for the Notice Board should be short, and each announcement should not exceed 150 words.
- Manuscripts for reports should not exceed 500 words, and should not include an abstract or bibliography.
- Manuscripts for articles should not exceed 2500 words, including references and abstract. Abstracts should not exceed 100 words. Footnotes should be avoided. Please use APA style (sixth edition) for references.

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EVELINE GUTZWILLER-HELFENFINGER