

SIG Meeting Special Educational Needs

27th of August 2009; from 12:15h until 13:30h

Minutes written by Sebastian Poloczek

Introduction (Presented by Adina Shamir)

- Thanking the stepping down coordinator Diny van der Aalsvoort
- Welcoming the stepping in coordinator Gerhard Büttner
- Overview of the meeting

Review of the SIG meeting 2008 in Gothenburg (Presented by Diny Van der Aaklsvoort)

- Held together with the SIG Social Interaction in Learning and Instruction and the SIG Learning and Teaching in Culturally Diverse Settings
- Advantage: possibility to attend the sessions of the other SIGs
- But: several interesting sessions at the same time and difficulty to choose
- Book with several papers of the conference is planned and probably published in 2010

Next SIG meeting 2010 in Frankfurt (Presented by Gerhard Büttner)

- One of our goals as coordinators is that the group of SEN is more visible
- One way to achieve that is trying to publish a special issue following to the meeting in Frankfurt
- Sebastian Poloczek (doctoral student) will support Gerhard in the organisation of the meeting
- Call for papers soon, deadline 15th February
- Discussion / Debate of controversial issues in Special Education, e.g. Does Dyslexia exist? Jo Elliot of Durham University and Wolfgang Schneider (University of Würzburg) should be asked to be discussants
- Session formats ...
 - Adina is asking Fuchs & Fuchs as keynote speakers (topic)
 - Gerhard asked if the meeting participants preferred a keynote on dyscalculia or dyslexia, several preferred dyscalculia, but some dyslexia
Gerhard will ask Karin Landerl (University of Tübingen, Germany) for a presentation on children with a combined disorder
- Doctoral students of the new research center IDeA in Frankfurt (IDeA = Individual **D**evelopment and **A**daptive Education of Children at Risk) will be encouraged to participate in the SIG meeting and present results of their work

Improving the communication within the group (Presented by Adina Shamir)

- Suggestions of SIG members in the audience
 - Having an online platform on a SIG website or in an online network as My Space or Facebook
 - Using a mailing list for questions and discussions

- ➔ Decision to spread the mailing list as soon as possible and to assure that members can use the addresses to communicate with each other
- Make some core information about the research interests of the members available, because a list of mail addresses provides only limited space for interests; more detailed information on research interests will be collected by mail

Proposed Future SIG Activities

- Cross-cultural studies on the topic of technology use and fostering of metacognitive skills in Special Education
 - List to enter name, if interested, was passed round
- Teacher Education and how can the learning of students with SEN be fostered in the classroom
 - When asked, if this topic is of shared interest, several members raised their hand

JURE assistant in SIGs

- to improve the integration of junior researches into the SIG
- suggestions for a JURE assistant are welcome

Review for EARLI presentations

- even very detailed and long term case studies were rejected as poster
- Problem for Special Education, because difficult to follow many students with SEN
 - ➔ It would be helpful to strengthen the influence of the SIG in reviewing the abstracts, e.g. including at least one reviewer with a special education background

Some members asked to attach the PowerPoint presentation of the SIG to the minutes.