



EARLI SIG 9 Phenomenography & Variation Theory



Dear SIG9 members and friends,

Welcome to the latest issue of the SIG 9 newsletter. We hope you are all having a good start to the academic year.

Ann-Sofie, Malin & Will

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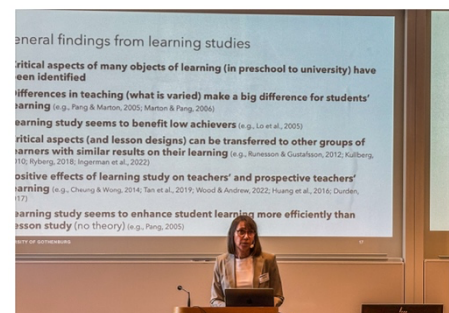
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SIG 09 Conference 2024

Thank you all for participating in our biennial conference at Uppsala University, Sweden. Your presence and contributions made the event a great success, fostering insightful discussions and valuable collaborations. We appreciate the time and effort you invested in sharing your research and ideas, and we hope this conference has provided meaningful connections and inspiration for your future work. We look forward to seeing the lasting impact of the ideas exchanged here.



Professor Gerlese Åkerlind



Professor Angelika Kullberg

[EARLI Conference 2025](#)

The EARLI 2025 conference will be hosted by EARLI and the University of Graz in Austria, from **25 - 29 August 2025**. The conference will be preceded by the JURE 2025 pre-conference on **23 - 24 August 2025**. More information can be seen on the conference website - [Please click here](#)

The deadline for submissions is 5th November 2024. Details regarding submission types and guidelines can be found on the conference webpage accessed by [clicking here](#)

Please note that when you submit for EARLI there is an option to link to a SIG. Please remember to link to SIG 9 so the community can come to engage in your presentation and the SIG can be more visible.

[EARLI 2025 Symposia](#)

We encourage you to collaborate and submit a symposium proposal for the upcoming conference, as they can foster richer discussions around key areas of SIG 9 academic research. Symposia bring together multiple perspectives on related topics, ensuring a more cohesive and engaging session. By submitting a symposium, you'll also have the opportunity to present alongside researchers working on similar themes, enhancing the depth of the conversation and strengthening connections within your area of study. Additionally, Symposia sessions are more likely to be accepted than single papers.

Symposia sessions are directed by a chair, involving four presenters and one discussant, from at least three different countries. If you want to collaborate to submit a symposium but need assistance finding or contacting other scholars in the community, please contact the SIG coordinators.

[Pre-Conference Day 2025](#)

We are announcing that the SIG will run a **Pre-Conference Day on 24th August 2025.** This will happen the day before the EARLI conference, in Graz, Austria.

Further details of the location and schedule will be released over the coming months. But we ask that if you are planning on attending the EARLI conference that you can also prepare to attend and engage in this SIG specific event.

Research and Publications

What have you been up to?
We would like to feature our community as much as possible in the newsletter.

Please send any publications or completed PhD thesis that you have so we can feature in the next issue.



Please send the full citation and, if possible, a link to the article to Will Zoppellini – William.zoppellini@hotmail.co.uk

Recent research from the Phenomenographic community:

- 🌐 Ahlstrand, P., & Andersson, N. (2024). Articulating dance knowledge a study investigating aspects of knowing when performing a parallel pirouette. *Acta Didactica Norden*, 2024, Vol. 18, Iss. 1, 18(1). <https://doi.org/10.5617/adno.9880>
- 🌐 Hsu, J. L., Sung, R. J., Swarat, S. L., Gore, A. J., Kim, S., & Lo, S. M. (2024). Variations in Student Approaches to Problem Solving in Undergraduate Biology Education. *CBE—Life Sciences Education*, 23(2), ar12.
- 🌐 Killam, L. A., Åkerlind, G. S., Lock, M., Camargo-Plazas, P. & Luctkar-Flude, M. (2024) Healthcare Students' Experiences of Learner-Educator Cocreation of Virtual Simulations, *Simulation in Healthcare*, Vol 19(4), pp. 205-212.
- 🌐 Yu, S.V. and Åkerlind, G. (2024) Being a Doctor: From Treating Individual Patients to Maximising Community Health and Social Justice. *Health Care Analysis* (Epub before publication). [Linked Text](#)
- 🌐 Åkerlind, G. (2024) Different understandings of the nature of 'structural relationships' in phenomenographic research: views of educational researchers, *International Journal of Social Research Methodology* (Epub before publication). [Linked Text](#)
- 🌐 Åkerlind, G. (2024) Why should I be interested in phenomenographic research? Variation in views of phenomenography amongst higher education scholars, *Higher Education* (Epub before publication). [Linked Text](#)

New Book Release:

- 🌐 Taylor-Beswick, A. M. L and Hornung, E. *Phenomenography: A Practical Guide*. Bristol: Policy Press, due September 2024.

More information on the book can be seen on the publishing website accessed by [Clicking here](#)

[Phenomenography & Variation Theory: PhD Student Course](#)

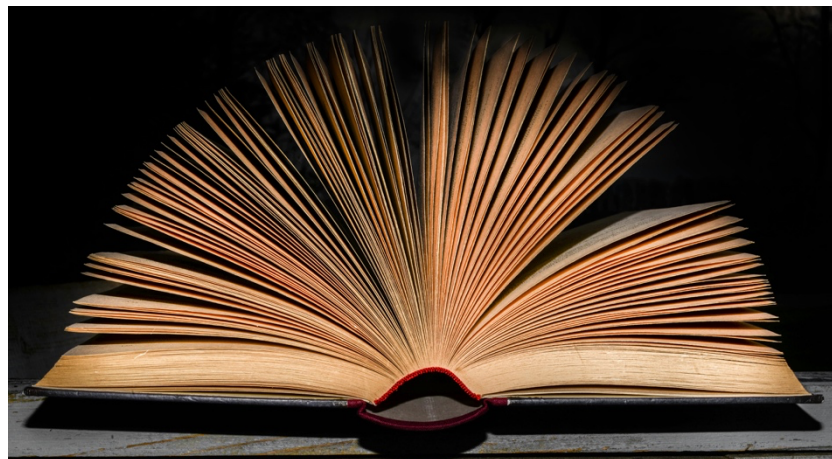
Gothenburg University offers a PhD course on Phenomenography & Variation Theory during the coming academic year, titled: *Phenomenographic Horizons*. The course will study phenomenography as it has emerged as an empirical research approach to issues involving student learning and understanding, looking at both its origins and its evolution. Variation theory, building as it does on phenomenographic studies, will be studied through the literature, anchored in the empirical research and other contributing theoretical groundings.

The online course is free of charge and runs spring 2025. You can begin to sign up for the course in October/November 2024. More information about the course can be found on the Gothenburg University website, where PhD-students can also apply: [Please click here](#)

You can also see information on the research group at Gothenburg University by [Clicking here](#)

[Book Launch Event](#)






We are excited to announce a special book launch event organised by WALs on **November 6th** featuring three prominent scholars from the SIG 9 community: Angelika Kullberg, Åke Ingerman, and Ference Marton. They will be presenting their new book: *Planning and Analyzing Teaching: Using the Variation Theory of Learning*.



You can read more about the book on the publishing page by [Clicking here](#)

Specific details and further announcements about the book launch event will be available on the WALs homepage: <https://www.walsnet.org>

Key dates:

-  EARLI 2025 Conference Submission Deadline 5th November 2024
-  Phenomenography & Variation Theory PhD course sign up Oct/Nov 2024
-  EARLI SIG 9 Pre-Conference Day 24th August 2025
-  EARLI JURE 2025 Conference 23rd – 24th August 2025
-  EARLI 2025 Conference, Austria 25th – 29th August 2025

SIG9 Coordinators

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