



# EARLI SIG 9 Phenomenography & Variation Theory



Dear SIG9 members and friends,

Welcome to the latest issue of the SIG 9 newsletter. We wish all our community a happy new year and look forward to seeing you all in Uppsala in August!

*Ann-Sofie, Malin & Will*

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## **SIG 09 Conference: Extended Call for Abstracts**

The 2024 EARLI SIG 9 conference at Uppsala University in Sweden, will be held between August 21st-23rd.

We are extending the call for abstracts, giving you enough time to develop your abstract and submit. The deadline for submissions is now **28<sup>th</sup> February 2024.**

For details of the conference theme, presentation formats and the submission process please visit our dedicated conference website through the following link, please [click here](#)

## SIG 09 Conference: Keynote Speakers

We are honoured to announce our two keynote speakers at the conference:



**Gerlese Åkerlind**, Professor Emerita at the ANU and previous Director of the Centre for Educational Development and Academic Methods at the ANU, Director of the Teaching and Learning Centre at the University of Canberra, and a Research Associate of the Oxford Learning Institute at Oxford University. She has particular expertise in the phenomenographic research approach and using phenomenography to investigate academic practice and improve university teaching and learning.



**Angelika Kullberg**, Professor in mathematics education at the University of Gothenburg. She has 20 years of experience in using the Variation theory of learning and conducting collaborative research together with teachers. She is since 2022 the vice president of the World Association of Lesson Studies.

## SIG 09 Digital Seminar

A reminder that all members are invited to **the SIG 9 digital seminar on January 31st 10:00-12:00 CET**. In this seminar, the four presenters from the SIG 9 invited symposium at EARLI 2023 will give a short recap of their main take-aways from their presentations, followed by a discussion on their different contributions from discussant Camilla Björklund. Time will be given to a general discussion on the notion of critical aspects.

Attached with this email is the [abstract](#) for the invited symposium (from the 2023 EARLI conference) in order for anyone interested to remind themselves of the focus for the symposium. We hope to see you for interesting discussions on January 31<sup>st</sup>. You can access the seminar on the following link: <https://gu-se.zoom.us/my/angelikakullberg>.

## Keynote Suggestions for EARLI 2025

The International Programme Committee (IPC) of EARLI 2025 is inviting input from each SIG to suggest a maximum of three potential keynotes to be considered for the next biennial EARLI conference, which will take place from 25 - 29 August 2025 in Graz, Austria.

If you have any suggestions for potential keynote speakers, please send them to one of the SIG coordinators. When writing please include the full name, and why you believe they would be a suitable keynote for the SIG and appropriate for the EARLI conference. Any informal questions, queries or discussions are also welcome. Please send your suggestions to us by **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February**.

## 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@solent.ac.uk](mailto:william.zoppellini@solent.ac.uk)

### **Recent research from the Phenomenographic community:**

- 🌐 Kullberg, A., Ingerman, Å., & Marton, F. (2024). Planning and Analyzing Teaching: Using the Variation Theory of Learning (1st ed.). Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003194903>
- 🌐 Backman, A. (2023a). 'But dragons don't exist, do they?': Preschoolers' focus in determining whether a picturebook is a non-fiction or not. *Journal of Early Childhood Literacy*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/14687984231161115>
- 🌐 Backman, A. (2023b). When the Sun is Out of the Picture: Exploring a Variation Theory Key to Children's Imagination in a Picturebook Reading Activity. *Early Childhood Education Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10643-023-01595-4>
- 🌐 Mimirinis, M., Ventouris, A. & Wright, E. (2023) Variation in Black students' conceptions of academic support. *British Educational Research Journal*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1002/berj.3921>.
- 🌐 Whitfield, M., Mimirinis, M., Macdonald, D., Klein, T. & Wilson, R. (2023) Phenomenographic approaches in research about nursing. *Global Qualitative Nursing Research*. Advance online publication.

## Key dates:

- 🌐 Deadline for submission: 28th February 2024
- 🌐 Notification of review decision: March 2024
- 🌐 Registration opens: 1st April 2024
- 🌐 Registration deadline for presenters: 1st May 2024
- 🌐 Full conference program online: 1st June 2024
- 🌐 Conference dates: 21st - 23rd August 2024
- 🌐 EARLI JURE Conference, Sevilla 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> June 2024

## SIG9 Coordinators

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