

Dear SIG4 members,

SIG4 Newsletter, December 2016

We hope you have had a prosperous academic term! We have been screening candidates for the **SIG4 coordinator and JURE coordinator** positions (as announced in the previous newsletter), and we are glad to inform that we will have an election of the next SIG4 coordinator in spring 2017! We have at least two excellent candidates to serve as a coordinator starting at the EARLI 2017 conference. More information about the candidates in the next newsletter!

For the JURE coordinator position we had one candidate, so we are proud to tell you that the next JURE coordinator will be Rachelle Esterhazy from the University of Oslo, Norway (<http://www.uv.uio.no/iped/english/people/aca/rachelle/>). Below you can find her application to the position where she tells more about herself.

My name is Rachelle Esterhazy and I am a third year PhD candidate at the Department of Education at the University of Oslo, Norway.

In my dissertation I study feedback to students in higher education by doing an in-depth observation study of several higher education courses across different disciplines and institutions. By taking a sociocultural perspective, I focus on the way students engage with and make meaning of the feedback they receive, and how this plays out in different disciplinary and institutional contexts. My dissertation is part of a larger project called '[Quality of Norwegian Higher Education](#)', which aims at identifying and examining factors affecting educational quality at system levels as well as in educational practices in higher education. Moreover, I am member of the research group '[ExCID - Expert cultures and institutional dynamics: Studies in higher education and work](#)', which focuses on strengthening our knowledge base and enhance our theoretical, methodological, and empirical understanding of the dynamics of higher education and its way of fostering academic and professional development. Concerning my disciplinary background, I hold a B.Sc in Psychology from the University of Konstanz, Germany and a M.Phil in Higher Education from the University of Oslo.

I am applying for the position of SIG4 JURE coordinator from summer 2017 on. I have been active in the SIG since the beginning of my dissertation and am familiar with its structure and past activities, as my supervisors Monika Nerland and Crina Damsa have also been members for several years. Considering the close links of my PhD topic to the themes studied in the SIG4 community, my experiences during the EARLI2015 in Limassol, the HEC2016 in Amsterdam and the JURE2016 in Helsinki have been very rewarding and inspiring. For this reason, I wish to contribute to the further development of the EARLI community and hope to support in particular my fellow JURE members by creating more opportunities to become active participants and shapers of our academic community.

In addition to screening the candidates for the coordinator positions, we have been organising the **SIG4 invited symposium for the EARLI 2017 conference** and we are now happy to announce the presenters in the SIG 4 invited symposium 2017. The four proposals that were selected all relate to the theme of the symposium **“Higher Education Teachers and Teaching”**. The first two papers focus on the use of activating and engaging teaching methods in order to address the need for more student-centred teaching. The third paper addresses the relationship between students’ learning identities and their conceptions of teaching. In the fourth paper, a deeper understanding of the lives of mid-career teachers is provided. We invite all SIG 4 members to attend the symposium and join the discussion about teaching in higher education at the EARLI conference in Tampere. The discussant of the symposium will be confirmed soon.

1. University teachers’ conceptions of the development of scientific thinking in relation to their use of engaging teaching methods and amount of pedagogical training

Mari Murtonen & Heidi Salmento (University of Turku, Finland)

2. Pedagogical designs for student-centered learning: innovative teachers’ approaches and experienced challenges

Crina Damsa, Monika Nerland, Rachelle Esterhazy (University of Oslo, Norway), Heidi Hyytinen & Sari Lindblom-Ylänne (University of Helsinki, Finland)

3. Students’ learning identities and experiences of tutorial teaching: ‘Meeting of minds’ in reaching personal understanding

Evangelia Karagiannopoulou (University of Ioannina, Greece) & Noel Entwistle (University of Edinburgh, UK)

4. Mid-Career Faculty: Trends, Barriers, and Possibilities

Anita Welch (Ball State University, USA)

Messages from SIG4 members:

From this link you can find information about a call for papers in Education Research International for a Special Issue on “Entrepreneurship Education with Impact: Opening the Black Box”. <https://www.hindawi.com/journals/edri/si/130234/cfp/>

Do you have a message you want to forward to SIG4 members? Please send it to use to be placed in the next newsletter, or post your message directly to EARLI SIG4 Facebook page!

Wishing you a relaxing Christmas season!

SIG4 coordinators, Liisa, Robert & Rike

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Facebook – like the SIG4 page! - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/202871616757905/>