



## **7<sup>th</sup> SIG gender balance research conference in Thessaloniki/Greece** **From theory to practice: Perspectives for collaboration**

**Tuesday, 20.8.2019, 9.00-16.30**

The SIG gender balance conference has developed to be a place for exchanging research ideas, strategies, and results in the field of gender balance and gender flexibility in ECEC. After reporting recent developments, and having a look at European and international contexts of the issue, the following topics will be focused:

- How is gender linked to the body – which concepts can help us to overcome simplifying concepts of body-mind dualism in the context of professional development of men and women in ECEC?
- How can we transfer sophisticated knowledge on gender issues from our research to teaching and practice in the field of ECEC?

The purpose of the SIG research conference is to allow for mutual debate among participants by being together a whole day, and working with different methods in small groups and in plenary sessions. We ask participants to prepare material for the group work and debates.

Finally, there will be room for discussing ideas for future research and collaboration in the SIG group. A “speed dating” will initiate quick exchange about ongoing research and new ideas, which is also a good possibility for researchers interested to learn more about the SIG’s purposes and its members. With this, the conference comprises the Annual meeting of the EECERA Special Interest Group *Gender Balance*. The conference and especially the “speed dating” is open to all interested researchers.

### ***We are looking forward to meeting you in Thessaloniki!***

*This year’s SIG Gender Balance team: David Brody (Israel) · Jo Warin (UK) · Kari Emilsen (Norway) · Elin Birgitte Ljunggren (Norway) · Tim Rohrmann (Germany) · Yuwei Xu (China/UK)*

#### **Venue**

Aristoteles University Thessaloniki (*room details will be announced later*)

#### **Conference fee**

A fee of ~ 30 € to cover the costs for room, technical equipment, and beverages, will be collected on the conference – please bring cash!

**Conference registration** with the attached registration form → [yuwei.xu@port.ac.uk](mailto:yuwei.xu@port.ac.uk)

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**Aristoteles University, room to be confirmed**

### Program

9.00 Reception and welcome *Kari Emilsen & Tim Rohrmann, conference chairs*

#### **Round talk - recent developments**

9.45 Opening contribution *Jan Peeters, Belgium*

#### **Recent developments in European and international policy making regarding men and gender balance in ECEC**

10.15 Tea & coffee break

10.45 **Gender, bodies, corporeality**

*moderated by Markus Andrae, Germany & Christian Eidevald, Sweden*

Postmodern and post-structuralist theories of gender put into question the use of “men” and “women” as categories. However, perspectives on gender should take account the bodies of individuals involved in interactions. Phenomenological philosophy attempts to overcome simplifying ideas of a body and mind dualism with the idea of the "felt body" or corporeality. The relevance of these approaches for research on gender-mixed teams will be discussed.

12.00 *Lunch break*

13.30 **From research to teaching and practice: How can we transfer sophisticated knowledge on gender issues?** *moderated by Tim Rohrmann, Germany*

How can we transfer scientific knowledge from theory and empirical research to our teaching at university and work with practitioners? We will discuss this in small groups for different target groups, including basic qualification of assistants, academic training for ECEC teachers, working with staff in continuous professional development, and policy making with providers and administrators. All participants are asked to contribute challenging examples from their teaching and training experience.

15.00 *Tea & coffee break*

15.15 **Research speed dating** *moderated by Kari Emilsen, Norway*

Find your research partner - bring your business card!

We want to initiate cross-country cooperation by e.g. exchange of papers from national research; exploring possibilities for merging data and findings from several countries; writing joint papers; engage in steering groups of projects in other countries...

16.00 **Final round: Issues and strategies for research on gender balance**

16.30 *End of conference*