NZARE Early Childhood Education Special Interest Group

Business Meeting Minutes

November 2016, NZARE Conference, Wellington

1. Welcome and Introductions

Present: Tara McLaghlin, Bridegette Redder, Claire McLachlan, Monica Cameron, Jess Smith, Bronya Dean, Diti Hill, Penny Smith, Lesley Robinson, Celeste Harrington, Margaret Brennan, Helen Hedges, Margaret Carr, Jeanette Clarkin-Phillips, Alex Gunn, Linda Mitchell, Sue Cherrington, Tracey Hooker, Sophie Alcock, Karyn Apsden, Shelley Gardner, Maggie Lyall, Jayne White, Jane Bone, and Carmen Dalli

Apologies: Sara Murray

2. Convenors Report (see below)

3. Business Items Requiring Action

   1. Discussion of Definition of Early Childhood

Discussion of clarification of a definition of EC for award purposes

Discussion related to possible age ranges: birth to 5, birth through 5, birth to 8, and inclusion of prenatal. It was suggested 'upto' instead of from 'birth to' could potentially be an option re age. A further suggestion was made to reference early childhood services and suggestion of birth through to school age or upto and including transition to school. It was decided to email members to continue the dialogue in the new year. Watch this space.

4. New Orders of Business

   1. Nomination of new co-convenor(s)

Nominations of new co-convenors:

   • Tara McLaghlin and Sara Murray will stand down and Bridgette Redder will continue in the role of co-convenors.
   • Maggie Lyall nominated by Bridgette Redder, seconded by Shelley Gardner; and Sue Cherrington nominated by Carmen Dalli, seconded by Alex Gunn will be the new co-convenors.

   2. Items proposed from membership

Alex Gunn tabled a document, which outlined a position statement calling upon the NZ Government to not participate in the OECD IELS. Alex called upon ECE SIG members to endorse this document. Although expression of support was raised, further clarification was requested by some members in tandem with a possible statement offering an alternative.

   3. Plans for 2017

   n/a – item not discussed
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Convenors Report

November 2016, NZARE Conference, Wellington

Membership

- Current membership list of 63 NZARE ECE SIG members (down from 66 in 2016)
- Active engagement of members this year in conference reviewing, award panel reviewing, hui panel presentations, and sending in updates for SIG announcements

2016 Activities

Awards

- Developed, administered and conferred two new ECE SIG awards
  - Lyn Foote Award for Student Research
  - Judith Duncan Award for Early Childhood Research
- Awards panel to meet to review and update awards information and procedures for 2017

ECE SIG hui

- Over 41 registered for participation in 1-day hui held before the conference
- Additional panel members and invited guests participated in specific activities
- Activities included: keynote (Carmen Dalli), awards presentations, panel presentations, student poster session, book launch and tribute to Anne Smith, and time for networking

Conference

- 40 ECE session proposals submitted for conference
- 37 ECE sessions included in NZARE conference
- Helen May Keynote – highlighting ECE

SIG announcements

- Ongoing updates sent to members in e-mail throughout the year

Co-convenors

- Tara McLaughlin and Sara Murray end their term as co-convenors
- Bridgette Redder continues in role as co-convenor
- Request for new co-convenors announced
NZARE Early Childhood Education Special Interest Group

'Me he horoeka'

is about growing, about soaring, resilient, fulfilled – strong and tall like the horoeka.

Purpose Statement (Confirmed 2015)

The Early Childhood SIG has been established for early childhood academics and professionals to share research activities and explore topics for research in the early childhood sector in Aotearoa New Zealand. It is anticipated that participants will use the SIG as a means to connect and collaborate with colleagues from around the country and internationally. Within the SIG, our aim is to create opportunities to grow, foster, and share research in a supportive environment in order to build research capacity and nurture emergent and early researchers in the sector.

The Early Childhood SIG promotes the growth and development of early childhood research as a critical and integral part of wider educational research. Our work and findings provide evidence and information for practice, policy and teacher education in the sector. We encourage early childhood researchers to share and disseminate their work in early childhood circles and to wider education communities. We support a diverse range research topics and methodologies from a diverse group of researchers including practising early childhood educators/teachers, lecturers and scholars at universities and teacher education institutes, students and student teachers, primary school teachers, educators in extension education services, and other professionals with an interest in supports and services for young children and their families.