



Call for proposals

Joint Conference of the EARLI Special Interest Groups 18 & 23

SIG 18 Educational Effectiveness & SIG 23 Educational Evaluation,
Accountability and School Improvement

“Towards sustainable school improvement through rigorous research”

JURE pre-conference: 28 August 2018
SIG main conference: 29-31 August 2018
Groningen, the Netherlands



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groningen

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for educational research

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Conference topic

“Towards sustainable school improvement through rigorous research”

Improving educational practice is the ultimate goal of educational sciences as an applied discipline. And there are still a lot of issues to be resolved in education in order to help children and young adults to develop their full potential.

Although an old saying by Kurt Lewin learns us that nothing is as practical as a good theory, it is of course very helpful if such a theory has been put to the test. Or if practical combinations of elements of theories have been put together in programs which have been rigorously tested in educational practice.

The conference welcomes empirical contributions that either focus on system, school or classroom level improvement efforts that ultimately result in higher quality and more equality of educational outcomes for students, and that are moreover sustainable.

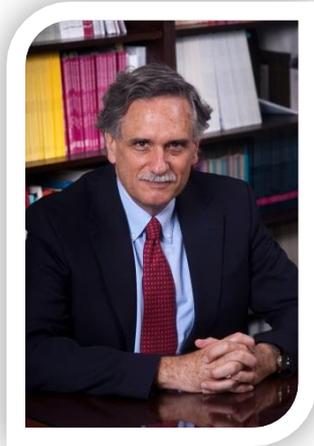
In line with the main topics of EARLI SIG 18 “Educational Effectiveness” and SIG 23 “Educational Evaluation, Accountability and School Improvement” such studies may focus on:

- Factors influencing the effectiveness of schools and teaching, including mediating and moderating variables
- Large-scale evaluation of schools, programs, and educational systems, including the nature and extent of the equity gap in achievement for different student groups
- Theoretical modeling of the relationship between educational evaluation, accountability, and school improvement
- Design of external evaluation and accountability systems of schools and teachers (e.g., concerning reliability and validity), their relation to internal evaluation systems and the impact of such systems on equal opportunities in education, school improvement, teaching and learning in the classroom and achievement of the students
- Empirical methods to address research questions within these main topics (e.g., longitudinal multilevel modeling, quasi-experimental approaches, regression discontinuity, randomized experiments)

Keynotes

Robert Slavin and Nancy Madden,
Johns Hopkins University

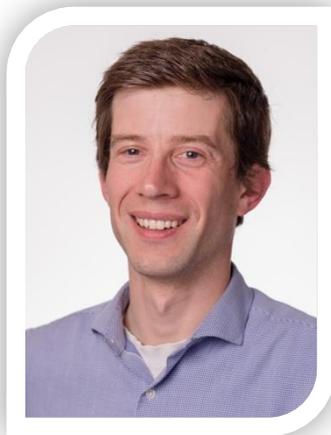
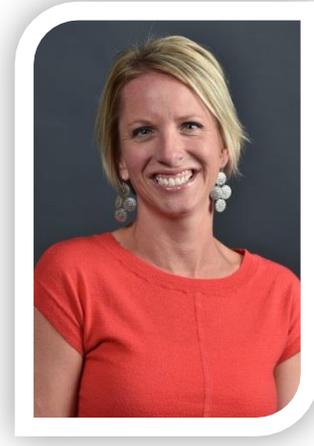
Jessaca Spybrook,
Western Michigan University



George Leckie,
University of Bristol



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Important dates

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 26 January 2018 | Open submission for abstracts and papers |
| 2 March 2018 | Deadline of submission of abstracts (and) Papers |
| 24 April 2018 | Notification of acceptance of abstracts and papers – Registration opens |
| 22 May 2018 | Deadline for registration at reduced fees |
| 12 June 2018 | Deadline registration for being included in the program |

26 June 2018	Notification to presenters of time schedule – Draft program to all sessions and presenters
10 July 2018	Final program
28 August 2018	Pre-conference (to be announced)
29 - 31 August 2018	EARLI 2018 SIG 18 & 23 joint conference

Submission types

Paper Sessions

Individual papers will be grouped in paper sessions according to their themes and keywords. Paper sessions consist of three papers, each of which will be presented within 20 minutes, followed by a short discussion of no more than 10 minutes. We welcome both empirical and theoretical papers. For empirical papers, it is important to include at least preliminary results in order to be accepted. Research which is at an earlier stage is suitable for round table sessions, as they provide a platform for in-depth discussions on research designs and methodologies.

Submission guidelines for individual papers:

Paper submissions consist of an abstract (max. 250 words) and an extended summary of the paper (max. 1000 words). References, tables, and figures may be included and do not feed into the word count. Please make sure to provide information on the following points:

- Title of the paper
- Author(s): Name, affiliation, address, and email address
- Abstract (max. 250 words): The abstract should describe the paper concisely and must be self-contained.
- Keywords: Indicate 3-5 keywords that describe the paper.
- Extended summary (max. 1000 words): Please describe the paper with respect to:
 - Objectives and purposes
 - Theoretical framework and background
 - Research questions and/or hypotheses
 - Data, methods, and modeling approaches
 - Results and discussion
 - Significance of the study

Symposia

Symposia provide opportunities to present papers that coherently address one research topic. A symposium comprises three thematically grouped papers, each of which will be presented in no

more than 20 minutes. After the paper presentations and a few minutes for questions, a discussant will synthesize and review the papers (10-15 minutes). The symposium is concluded by an open discussion with the audience (10-15 minutes). Each symposium lasts 90 minutes and is led by a chair person.

Submission guidelines for symposia:

Symposia submissions consist of a short abstract (max. 250 words) and an extended summary (max. 500 words) which describe the session as an ensemble. Moreover, for each paper, an extended summary (max. 1000 words) is provided. References, tables, and figures may be included and do not feed into the word count. The names of a session chair and discussant must be submitted. There are no restrictions regarding the affiliations of authors. Please make sure to provide information on the following points:

- Title of the symposium
- Chair: Name, affiliation, address, and email address
- Discussant: Name, affiliation, address, and email address
- Abstract (max. 250 words): The abstract should describe the symposium concisely and must be self-contained.
- Session summary (max. 500 words): Please describe the session with respect to:
 - Objectives and purposes of the session
 - Overview of the presentations
 - Significance of the topic
- Keywords: Indicate 3-5 keywords that describe the session.
- Extended summary of each individual paper (max. 1000 words): Please describe the papers with respect to:
 - Objectives and purposes
 - Theoretical framework and background
 - Research questions and/or hypotheses
 - Data, methods, and modeling approaches
 - Results and discussion
 - Significance of the study

Round Table

Round table sessions provide opportunities for researchers to present and discuss work in progress. Specifically, research outcomes, designs, research methodologies, and future directions can be discussed. As the set-up of round table sessions is very open, allowing for open discussions on research topics related to the conference theme and the domains of the EARLI SIGs 18 and 23, they will serve as platforms for active discussions rather than paper presentations. A round table session lasts up to 90 minutes and focuses on a specific topic for discussion.

Submission guidelines for a round table session:

- Round table submissions outline an agenda for discussing a specific research topic and provide information on the following aspects:
- Title of the round table session
- Chair(s): Name, affiliation, address, and email address (optional)
- Abstract (max. 200 words): The abstract should describe the round table session concisely and must be self-contained.
- Keywords: Indicate 3-5 keywords that describe the session.
- Extended summary (max. 600 words): Please describe the session with respect to:
 - Objectives and purposes
 - Problem statement: Description of the issues authors came across in their research. Depending on the issues raised, authors may want to use figures, tables, and illustrations to clarify the issues at hand.
 - Specific questions or issues for discussion: Please provide specific questions or issues (relevant to your topic) you would like to discuss in the round table session.
 - References, tables, and figures may be included and do not feed into the word count.

Review criteria

Depending on the format and type of research report being submitted, the proposals will be blindly reviewed by at least two reviewers, who are asked to take into account the criteria outlined below according to the type of the contribution. Symposia are evaluated both as a whole and as individual contributions. Each reviewer is asked to score the quality of each proposal, indicating a score between 1-100 and to provide brief and constructive feedback in the appropriate text box. Scores and comments are both communicated to the authors along with the final decision; we ask our reviewers to be as constructive as possible, while also being considerate of the efforts invested in writing a proposal.

Empirical paper

- Relevance to the domains of the EARLI SIGs 18 and 23
- Significance for theory, policy and practice
- Theoretical framework, conceptual rationale or pragmatic grounding q Research method and design for both qualitative and quantitative approaches (research questions, context, participants, data sources, sampling, procedure, ethical issues)
- Clarity of results or preliminary results and conclusions
- Overall quality and scientific originality

Theoretical paper

- Relevance to the domains of the EARLI SIGs 18 and 23
- Significance for theoretical debate

- Theoretical framework, conceptual rationale or pragmatic grounding
- Embeddedness in relevant literature
- Clarity and robustness of theoretical argument
- Overall quality and scientific originality

Symposium as a whole

- Relevance to the domains of the EARLI SIGs 18 and 23
- Significance for theory, practice and policy
- Theoretical perspective, conceptual rationale or pragmatic grounding
- Organization and internal logic of the whole symposium
- Overall quality and scientific originality

Each paper in a symposium will also be reviewed as an individual paper using the criteria outlined above.

Round table

- Relevance to the domains of the EARLI SIGs 18 and 23
- Significance for theory, policy and practice
- Theoretical framework, conceptual rationale or pragmatic grounding
- Research method and design (research questions, context, participants, data sources, sampling, procedure, ethical issues)
- Clarity of issue at stake
- Overall quality and scientific originality

Review thresholds

The International Program Committee (IPC), comprised of the local committee and the SIG18 & 23 coordinators, has set the following thresholds for accepting a proposal at the EARLI 2017 conference:

Score	Review decision
Lower than 40	Automatic rejection for all contributions, including symposia.
Over 70	Automatic acceptance.
Between 40 and 69	Acceptance or rejection will be decided by the International Program Committee. Please note that the International Scientific Committee will not perform reviews but will make a decision based on, and respecting, the reviewers' suggestions and comments.

Whenever there is a discrepancy of over 25% between two review scores, the proposal is automatically sent to a third reviewer. The reviewer's scores are averaged and taken into account when deciding if a proposal is accepted or not.

Please note that all scores refer to “combined review scores” (average of review scores).

When a symposium is rejected, the individual papers comprising the symposium are evaluated on their own merit. Individual papers that are accepted based on the received scores are likely to be scheduled in the same paper session.

Authors whose reviews are complete and within the automatic rejection or acceptance range will receive an automatic notification. This means that authors will be notified at different times, with all reviews expected to be communicated by April 24th, 2018.

Venue and contact

The main conference will take place at the Hampshire Hotel – Plaza Groningen. The full address is: Laan Corpus den Hoorn 300, 9728 JT Groningen, The Netherlands. Website: www.hampshire-plazagroningen.nl

Hampshire Hotel – Plaza Groningen is situated at the intersection of the A7 and the A28. That makes this design hotel an excellent point of departure for exploring the city of Groningen and the surrounding area. The hotel is also adjacent to the nature area lake Hoornsemeer, which offers lovely cycling and walking.



Detailed information on the registration procedure, early-bird and regular conference fees will be published on the conference website after the opening of the registration and submission systems.

For queries regarding the conference, please contact us via **email:** earli2018sig1823@rug.nl

Please find further information about the conference on the webpage: <http://www.earli2018sig1823.nl>