



26<sup>th</sup> International  
Reconceptualizing Early Childhood Education Conference  
“Inequality in Early Childhood Education and Care”  
Copenhagen, Denmark

Hosted by The Danish Center for Research in Early Childhood Education and Care,  
Roskilde University and the Danish School of Education (Aarhus University)  
14-18, October 2018  
(Preconference Workshops 13-14, October)

### **Call for proposals**

We invite proposals from early childhood researchers, scholars, educators, pedagogues, preschool teachers, teacher-educators, and activists for the 26th Annual Reconceptualizing Early Childhood Education (RECE) Conference. The conference is to be held at the Danish School of Education (Aarhus University) in Copenhagen, Denmark.

In 2018, as always, the RECE conference invites proposals that challenge traditional assumptions about children, childhood and the theoretical underpinnings of early childhood practices. The conference welcomes all proposals that point to new directions in research, policy, and practice in early education and care. It emphasizes the intersections of theory, collective activism and reconceptualizing practices in work with children, families, and communities.

Within this larger framework, for each of our conferences we have a focus. This year's theme is “Inequality in Early Childhood Education and Care.”

Children's social, cultural, ethnic, gendered, and religious differences too often lead to unequal Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) experiences. ECEC practitioners in many countries have lower status, salaries and harsher working conditions than their counterparts in other fields. ECEC programs can function to either reduce or exacerbate social inequality. The term “quality” is used, often unproblematically, to rate socially, culturally, and linguistically diverse ECEC programs and personnel. The local knowledge of communities often competes at a disadvantage with globally circulating knowledge. The practical knowledge of practitioners gets trumped by the knowledge of experts and organizations that define and then impose decontextualized notions of best practice. And, of course, the knowledge of children is too often undervalued by the adults who educate and care for them.

With such thoughts in mind, we encourage submissions of papers that explore how inequality is produced and reproduced in different ways and at different levels, as well as how it can be counter-acted, and also the many ways that knowledge is being defined and applied in our ECEC research, theory, and practice. We do however welcome any proposal that falls within the RECE approach also proposals that fall outside the theme.

**Proposal submission.** The deadline for submissions (both presentations and workshops) is 28, February 2018. Proposals will be accepted beginning on 1, February 2018. Note: To facilitate the timely announcement of the conference program, there will be no deadline extension. Proposals will be reviewed by our international program committee and volunteer reviewers. The submission system can be found here (after 1, February 2018):

<http://www.receinternational.org/conference.html#sthash.smsEUFuW.dpbs>

To promote broad participation in the conference, your name must appear on **one** submission only (this *does not* include proposals for preconference workshops). In addition, an individual must not appear on the program more than once (e.g. in the role of presenter, convener, panel/workshop participant, or performer).

Proposals must be no more than three single-spaced pages in length. All proposals must be submitted as a Word doc. You will be notified of the outcome of your proposal for presentations no later than 22, April 2018.

Your submission should include the following:

1. Names, affiliations, addresses, and e-mail addresses of all presenters
2. Brief title, capturing the primary focus, concern, or topic of the session
3. One-line summary of the session
4. 3-5 keywords
5. Indication of session type and duration (e.g. interactive discussion, roundtable paper presentation, workshop, themed panel, discussion forum)
6. Indication of provisions for involving audience participation, and format (overhead, PowerPoint, etc.)
7. Abstract for inclusion in the conference program (100-word maximum)
8. Brief rationale explicating the theoretical grounding of the session, and its relevance to the theme and interests of the conference (500 words max without references):

The rationale should include, and will be evaluated based on the following four criteria:

- Significance of the topic/concern within the RECE's foci on research, theory, practice, policy, advocacy and activism
- Perspective(s) or theoretical framework

- Methods, techniques, or modes of inquiry
- Warrants for arguments/point of view

Specific format or style, such as APA, is not required

Indication of whether “fast-track” reviewing is needed: Experience from prior conference shows that participants from proposers from some countries – especially from the global South – may experience prolonged time getting visas. In order to counter that we will review proposals with anticipated visa difficulties as fast as possible. Please indicate if you think this is needed.

**Modes of presentation:** Presentations will be offered in multimodal formats, including:

- 90-minute themed panels (ideally, no more than 3 presenters, no discussant and allowing 15 of these minutes for discussion)
- 30-minute individual papers/presentations (allowing 10 minutes for discussion)
- 90-minute roundtable paper presentations (a combination of 3 individual papers presented and discussed at the roundtable)
- 90-minute themed interactive workshops
- 90-minute themed open space discussion forums
- 90-minute collaborative arts-based performances/AV presentations
- Poster presentation

**Types of sessions:**

**Paper sessions.** In paper sessions, authors present abbreviated versions of their papers, followed by audience discussion. Each session will be scheduled for a 90-minute time slot. Each individual paper is 30 minutes, although papers may have multiple presenters. In the case of multiple-authored papers, more than one person may present, but multiple presenters must divide among the presenters the total time available to them. Individuals must be attentive to the time allocation for presenting their work in paper sessions. They should take steps to ensure that including more than one speaker does not detract from the overall presentation of the work or infringe on the time allotments for other presentations.

**Panel proposals** should also include a description and rationale of the panel theme (500 words), a 100-word summary abstract for inclusion in the conference program and 100 word abstracts from each of the presenters (also for inclusion in the conference program). *Because they afford dialogue among the individual papers in a session, panel proposals are especially welcome.*

**Roundtable sessions.** Roundtable sessions allow maximum interaction among presenters and with attendees. Papers accepted for a roundtable session will be grouped by the program chair into tables with three papers per table, clustered around shared interests. Each roundtable session will be scheduled for a 90-minute time slot. Each individual paper is 30 minutes, although papers may have multiple presenters.

Each roundtable at a roundtable session will have a designated chair, who is knowledgeable about the research area, to facilitate interaction and participation. Because the emphasis is on interaction, there will be no discussants. Because of the physical configuration of this type of session, no additional audiovisual equipment, such as a screen or LCD projector, is provided. Authors wishing to display information may do so from their own laptop computer screens. If you plan to use a laptop, please be sure the battery is charged, as a power source will not be provided. Roundtable sessions are encouraged for new scholars to the RECE conference.

### **Preconference sessions and workshops**

Prior to the conference on 13 October and/or the morning of 14 October, we plan to organize pre-conference sessions. These sessions could include, but are not limited to:

- orientation to RECE for first time conference attendees
- skills building workshops on publishing, grant writing, and advocacy
- focused explorations of individual philosophers and social theorists

Proposals for pre-conference workshops should be submitted by 28, Feb 2018 to Allison Sterling Henward, ([Henward@psu.edu](mailto:Henward@psu.edu)). Proposals for and presentations at preconference workshops or sessions are not included in the limit of one submission only per participant.

- If you have any questions about abstracts and the theme of the RECE conference or questions about the RECE conference program, please contact Allison Sterling Henward, ([Henward@psu.edu](mailto:Henward@psu.edu)).
- If you have any questions about preconference workshops, please contact Tomas Ellegaard ([telle@ruc.dk](mailto:telle@ruc.dk)).
- If you have any questions about visa and invitation letters for presenters and attendees at the RECE conference, please contact Tomas Ellegaard ([telle@ruc.dk](mailto:telle@ruc.dk)).
- Nominations for the Mimi Bloch Distinguished Career Award should be sent to Beth Swadener ([Beth.Swadener@asu.edu](mailto:Beth.Swadener@asu.edu)).
- Nominations for the Early Career Dissertation Award should be sent to Mathias Urban ([Mathias.urban@dcu.ie](mailto:Mathias.urban@dcu.ie)).

### **Proposal reviewing**

The presentations and discussions rely on the dialogue during the conference, but also on the reviewing of the proposals by other RECE volunteer reviewers. We therefore encourage members of the RECE community, regardless of whether you plan to be a conference participant, to volunteer as a reviewer.

If you are interested in reviewing proposals, please put "RECE volunteer reviewer" in the email subject and your position (e.g. graduate student, faculty) and areas of research interest in the body of an email, to Allison Sterling Henward, ([Henward@psu.edu](mailto:Henward@psu.edu)).

Sincerely, on behalf of the program committee,

Allison Sterling Henward (Chair), The Pennsylvania State University

Annegrethe Ahrenkiel, Roskilde University

Tomas Ellegaard, Roskilde University

Shinae Han, University of Georgia

Michelle Salazar Pérez, New Mexico State University

Joseph Tobin, University of Georgia

Mathias Urban, Dublin City University

Yejoo Yoon, The Pennsylvania State University