

Report 2017 from the WERA-IRN EXTENDED EDUCATION

**Prof. Dr. Marianne Schuepbach, University of Bamberg, Germany &
Prof. Dr. Ludwig Stecher, University of Giessen, Germany**

WERA-IRN Conference *Extended Education from an International Comparative Point of View* from November 30 – December 2, 2017 at the University of Bamberg, Germany, Organizer: Prof. Dr. Marianne Schüpbach

The title of our conference is *Extended Education from an International Comparative Point of View*. To our great pleasure, more than 100 delegates from about 16 countries have registered for the conference: from Europe we have guests from Germany, Switzerland, Serbia, Russia, England, Denmark, Iceland, Sweden, and Finland. There are participants from the U.S. and from Australia, and from Nigeria in Africa. From Asia we welcome guests from Taiwan, Japan, South Korea, and Hong Kong in China. In all of these continents and countries, you can find activities and programs focusing on the social, emotional, and academic development of children and young people, which are educationally structured to make it easier for the participants to learn specific contents. In recent years, to an increasing degree the term EXTENDED EDUCATION has been established internationally for this field of education.

We are proud to have seven keynote lectures, nine symposia, four paper sessions and eight posters at the conference. The aim of this first WERA-IRN EXTENDED EDUCATION conference is to bring together different research perspectives, to synthesize the state of research worldwide in this new field of EXTENDED EDUCATION, and to initiate an international research direction on a comparative point of view.

Conference Volume *Extended Education from an International Comparative Point of View*

Selected contributions from the conference representing the international state of research on extended education will be published in a conference volume edited by Prof. Dr. Marianne Schuepbach and Dr. Nanine Lilla in 2018 by Springer.

Special Issue of the *International Journal of Research on Extended Education (IJREE)*

As a guest editor Prof. Dr. Marianne Schuepbach will edit a special issue of the conference (keynote speeches) in the *International Journal of Research on Extended Education*.

Edited volume with the working title *International Developments in Research on Extended Education*, Editors Prof. Dr. Sang Hoon Bae, Prof. Dr. Joseph L. Mahoney, Prof. Dr. Sabine Maschke, and Prof. Dr. Ludwig Stecher

The volume is scheduled to be published by Barbara Budrich Publishers in March/April 2018. The purpose of this edited volume is to provide an overview of what extended education looks like across multiple nations around the world. Different models, policies, methods, and research findings will be discussed from an international perspective. Extended education is done differently around the world and the purpose of the volume to understand and

appreciate these differences with as much of an open mind as possible. By attempting to understand, compare, and (where appropriate) integrate these different practices as they occur in their social, cultural, and historical context, the editors hope to offer the reader a broader point of view on extended education and a critical perspective on their own society's practices and policies.

Based on these perspectives the volume aims at three main aspects: Firstly, the volume is to explore major characteristics of extended education as an emerging research field, define what this research field is (and is not), and to point to areas/nations/regions where we know very little about extended education. Secondly, the volume is to provide a potential framework for future cross-national research (collaborative and comparative research) on extended education we are lacking so far. And thirdly, the volume will shed light on the national and international features of extended education and suggest future developments in this field of education.

The next WERA-IRN EXTENDED EDUCATION conference will take part in September 2019 at the Department of Child and Youth Studies at Stockholm University, Sweden.