Collaboration between families and external stakeholders in Early Childhood Education:
European fields and methods

October 21st 2021
PM: Faculty of Education

October 22nd 2021
AM: Faculty of Education – PM: IRTS

October 23rd 2021
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Collaboration between families and external stakeholders in Early Childhood Education: European fields and methods

In a world in transition, services and professionals that work directly with children, and specifically those in the early childhood period, must adapt and reorient their institutional operations and organizational methodologies to meet new requirements and changes. Notably in Europe, the socio-economic demographics and political contexts are rapidly changing. This is especially evident in cross-border zones more than in other regions, and with this comes potential disruptions but also new opportunities (e.g., migration flows, variable political solutions, multiplicity of the expressions of multiculturalism, specificities of the contexts and time periods). These observed socio-economic and political changes do not exist without having an effect on daily life, and there is no doubt families are at the forefront of this issue in conjunction with other community stakeholders.

This conference aims to establish a detailed and contemporary framework for the cooperation between the multitude of professionals that hold a stake in the domain of early childhood education and wellbeing. Notably, this includes educational researchers, social workers, caregivers and preschool teachers. Consequently, it is fair to ask ourselves about the exact role(s) Europe is likely to endorse on these current social, educational and political issues, including questions about the “values” of inclusion and solidarity addressed by the different programs Europe supports on a short or long term.

The first half-day of the conference will be opened by Åse Kari Hansen Wagner and Sara Esmaeeli (Stavanger, Norway). They will highlight research concerning social development and literacy in the home setting for young children, based on the PIRLS 2016 study and the Norwegian early literacy intervention study On Track. Chiara Melloni and Maria Vender (University of Verona, Italy) will close this section of the conference with an examination of the link between education and social work.

Encarnación Soriano Ayala, Veronica Caballero and Rachida Dalouh (University of Almería, Spain) will start off the following day of the conference on October 22nd. They will present on the interconnected nature of different professions working within the domain of early childhood, with specific attention to the spheres of schools, academic progress and families. This will be followed by a discussion and poster presentations relating to these same topics. Tijana Ašić & Izabela Dankić (University of Kragujevac and University of Mostar, Serbia and Bosnia-Herzegovina) will focus next on border regions in relationship to the conference topic and the challenges faced in this context via minority group acceptance. The day will finish with a roundtable discussion with a multidimensional focus on comparing and contrasting different issues across Europe concerning early childhood.

The final half-day will comprise a discussion about controversial issues that require the collaboration between families and community stakeholders in the area of early childhood. This discussion will be enriched by presentations by Snejana Konsulova (University of Sofia, Bulgaria) and Daiva Jakavonytė-Staškuvienė (University of Vilnius, Lithuania), who will also mediate the second roundtable event.

October 21st pm

14 - 14:30 Opening of the Conference: Philippe Augé, Muriel Guedj, Jean-Paul Udave & Frédéric Torterat.

14:30 - 15:15 Plenary Conference 1.
Åse Kari Hansen Wagner & Sara Esmaeeli (Stavanger, Institute for Early Childhood Education, Norway).
The importance of home/family environment in early age for later literacy development. Evidence from On Track and PIRLS 2016.

15:20 - 16:20 Communication session A.

16:35 - 17:20 Plenary Conference 2.
Chiara Melloni & Maria Vender (Università di Verona).
Disentangling bilingualism and language impairment in early L2 children: best practices.

17:20 Closing of the first half-day.

October 22nd pm

14:10 - 15:10 Communication session C.
Comm. C1A Comm. C1B Comm. C1C

15:40 - 16:20 Round table event 1.
Moderated by Nathalie Auger (UPVM).
Chiara Melloni, Encarnación Soriano Ayala, Rachida Dalouh & Nathalie Auger.

16:20 Closing of the second day.