

Annual Report from SIG 5 in Science Identities, 2020

Newsletter

Twice a year we send a newsletter to all registered SIG members via email. This newsletter features general information about the SIG as well as more timely announcements or calls in the ESERA context. For example, our most recent newsletter (September 2020) shared the coordinator transition and a call for a SIG Symposium for ESERA 2021. The newsletter also includes an update from the Post-Graduate and Early Career Researcher Ambassador, Social Media/Communication team, and News from Members. Through the newsletter, we also could also reach out to our members in introduce our diverse social media platforms.

Social media

In 2020, we launched our Twitter account and have been successfully connecting to SIG members and science identity researchers around the world. We aim to tweet and post three times a week, focusing on 1) sharing members' work; 2) highlighting ESERA news and events; and 3) highlighting SIG news and events. We also amplify relevant tweets and news from members. Currently, we have over 200 followers.

We are maintaining our SIG website, where we share information about the SIG and events. In 2021, we are planning to expand the website adding features such as a blog. We are furthermore planning on recording our events that will be shared on our website.

We are working to create consistent messaging across platforms; for example, when the SIG hosts events we advertise for them through social media and the website and also spotlight presenters' work in our weekly research feature on Twitter. We hope to soon add the ability for members to also contribute short blog entries relating to their work with the SIG and in science identity.

Early career activities, report from the ECR SIG ambassador

The lack of in-person events over the last year has left ECRs and students with fewer opportunities to build important professional networks and friendships at a time in their careers where these are especially valuable. With this in mind, we have used the move to online-only meetings as a chance for our ECR and

student network to meet more regularly. We held our first online ECR event in October 2020, and have since arranged two ECR meet-ups following whole-SIG events (the second of which will be held in March). It has been great to get to know colleagues with similar research interests who are based in other areas and other countries, and I look forward to building this network more in the coming months, especially at the conference in September.

Emily (SIG's ECR & student ambassador)

Online meetings and events

The SIG has in the past period hosted four online events.

- An event exclusively for ECR within science identities
- An online writing retreat for science identities researchers
- An online seminar on physics identities with four presenters, providing short presentations of their research followed by group discussions.
- A planned online seminar on Intersectionality and Science Identity with four presenters providing different perspectives on science identities and working with an intersectionality lenses. Planned group discussions and panel-debate will follow.

The events have been open for all scholars within science identities. However, the platform has been used to promote the SIG community and the benefits of joining ESERA. All events have been well attended with more than 60 participants to the online seminar on physics identities. The participants have expressed their gratitude for being able to connect online during the covid challenges in many countries. Participant have been from all over the world.

In February 2021, to combat work from home isolation, and to provide opportunities for networking, we launched a SIG 5 online writing group. 20 participants attended our first event, where we did a goal setting activity and engaged in pomodoro-style silent writing. We debriefed after and found that members were keen to attend weekly or bi-weekly online writing events. These events will be offered weekly for the months of February and March, after which we will determine if we will continue with such regularity.

Future activities

The SIG-coordinators will in the coming period prepare more online events as well as a newsletter to all members. Also we will begin thinking of preparing activities for SIG-members at ESERA 2021.

- ESERA online social event. We will plan an online social event for members – we will gain inspiration by other online conferences like the NARST social events in where members meet in different groups to share other interests than research online
- ESERA business meeting
Here we will announce the election of new coordinator for the SIG as Henriette Holmegaard is stepping down as coordinator in 2022. Election will be during the conference so that the new elected coordinator will have some overlap with Henriette.
- ESERA Symposium
The 2021 Science Identities Symposium is entitled: Theoretical and Methodological Perspectives on Science Identities in Educational Research. The symposium features speakers (senior and early career researchers) who employ concepts of science identities that intersect with various theoretical framings, in a variety of settings ranging from school science to out-of-school settings and higher education.

Book proposal

The current and past SIG-coordinator are currently working on preparing the manuscript to the edited book about Science Identity to the ESERA Springer Series. The proposed edited collection will bring together state-of-the-art research on science identities, providing a valuable resource for researchers, academics and students interested in this topic.