ISCHE 45 (in-person: 18-21 August 2024, online: 5-6 September 2024) – Natal, Brazil

Call for Papers: Standing Working Group Observatory for the History of Education

(De)Coloniality and Diversity in the Histories of Education

Diversity is the key feature of our Standing Working Group as the founders of this small community are from Brazil, Canada, and Hungary; furthermore, the broader group is constituted of colleagues from India, Nigeria, Ukraine, South Africa, and Norway. We have different cultural and socio-political backgrounds, but a common understanding is to give possible and disputable meanings of our pasts in a continuous discussion. The global phenomenon of decoloniality is a crucial point of the contemporary debates and our research in progress, which is trying to position the History of Education in a rapidly changing world. Our SWG's diversity includes countries that were colonized in the past by great powers, but also historian friends from countries that in the past, played the role of empires.

In the following two sections, we warmly welcome submissions:

1. Different memories and various pasts

Our epistemic HoE communities are in different stages of disciplinarization and institutionalization, some of them are over the peak, and others have just begun to create themselves. We are interested to see how our research field is growing and pushing back in a complex and dynamic environment. The challenge of how to legitimize the past by making (hi)stories, and within arguments is the core of this section, answering the questions of the conference call: Which narratives of the past? Which pedagogies?

2. Giving voice

In our Paedagogica Historica publication (Observatory for the History of Education: looking at the past, analysing the present and reflecting on the future – a transnational perspective), we strongly emphasized the role of Aboriginal, Native, Autochthon, Indigenous, or First Nations people in creating their own identities through HoE. The strategies and politics towards these initiatives are diverse. On the other hand, under the term of 'giving voice' we also embrace newcomers to the scene, representatives of scientific fields in progress, who just started to build up their own past.

Our epistemological attitude is plural, according to this, the SWG is open to everyone as we believe that diversity can only be practiced with theoretical and thematic plurality. Therefore, we encourage colleagues to send submissions, containing their research questions, methodologies, theories, argumentation and main findings. The SWG follows ISCHE guidelines during the review process, so the languages of the presentations can be English, German, French, Spanish or Portuguese.

Submission process

Proposals should be no longer than 500 words, excluding bibliography. The deadline for submission of papers to the SWG is January 31, 2024. Please submit your proposal through the ISCHE electronic submission system (Conftool) by selecting the respective SWG in the Abstracts area.

Participants will be informed by April 2, 2024.

Current convenors of the SWG are:

Marisa Bittar, Universidade Federal de São Carlos, Brazil Thérèse Hamel, Université Laval, Canada Lajos Somogyvári, University of Pannonia, Hungary