

**Minutes from the General Meeting of NOCIES  
Turku University, May 21, 2013**

1. The President, Lennart Wikander, opened the meeting, welcomed all those present and thanked the host, Turku University, for organizing the Symposium “Comparing times and spaces: Emerging discourses in the field of comparative education in the Nordic countries”
2. The minutes from the former General Meeting in Lund, March 25 2011, were presented.  
*Motion:* The minutes are approved.
3. The President presented his report concluding that the organization of the symposium has been a significant activity for NOCIES in the last period. Apart from this no activities organized by NOCIES has taken place. However, several NOCIES members are very active within the World Council of Comparative Education Societies (WCCES):
  - Mina O’Dowd – member of the Congress Standing Committee
  - Marcella Milana – member of the Special Projects Standing Committee
  - Halla B. Holmarsdottir – member of the UNESCO Liaison Standing Committee
  - Heidi Biseth – chair of the Finance Standing Committee*Motion:* The President’s report is approved.
4. The Treasurer report little movement on the account. Expenses are related to the membership in WCCES and the web hotel. Balance reported by 31 December 2012 was 20.615,10 DKK. NOCIES has few paying members and this needs to be addressed by the new Executive Committee. There will be a deadline for payment of membership fees for 2013-2014 by August 1, 2013.  
*Motion:* The Treasurer’s report is approved.
5. Future activities
  - The next NOCIES conference will most likely be hosted in Norway. This will take place in April/May 2015. Dates, theme and venue for the conference is suggested to be ready as soon as possible as this will also help in attracting participants, funding and key note speakers. One suggested key note speaker is the upcoming President of the WCCES which will be announced in the Buenos Aires Congress in late June.
  - The nomination and election procedures have been much more transparent this year. Still there is a need for the new Executive Committee to take a closer look at them and develop a sound system, taking into account that we meet only every other year.
  - A NOCIES Newsletter should come out more regularly, including information about relevant publications by our members and/or in the field of comparative and international education in the Nordic countries.
  - A publication from the symposium is expected. The organizers of the symposium will keep us updated on the progress of this.
  - Institute of International Education, Stockholm University, managed to send several of their master’s students at the 2011 NOCIES conference. After the conference, they published a book based on the presentations these students conducted, providing voices to those who usually are “voiceless”. This activity serves as a good example of a future activity for NOCIES and in line with our Constitution.

6. Election of members to the Executive Committee

A list of candidates that had accepted to be nominated to a position was distributed in advance of the General Meeting. Very few nomination forms were submitted within the deadline, but based on the majority of votes on the nomination forms, the new Executive Committee has the following composition:

***President:*** Marcella Milana (Denmark)

***Vice-President:*** Heidi Biseth (Norway)

***Members:*** Nelli Piattoeva (Finland), Stavros Moutsios (Denmark), Johanna Kallo (Finland), Greta B. Gudmundsdottir (Norway/Iceland)

***Immediate Past President:*** Lennart Wikander (Sweden)

7. Any other business

At the upcoming World Congress for Comparative Education Societies in Buenos Aires in June, a new President for WCCES will be elected. The two candidates, Aaron Benavot and Carlos Alberto Torres, were presented through their stated visions for the WCCES, their leadership experience, research focus within comparative and international education, and through the resources they have available from their own institutions. This position requires strong leadership skills and support from their institution to perform such tasks in a good way. There was a general opinion at the meeting that Torres represented the most suited candidate and this will be taken into consideration by the officer voting on behalf of NOCIES at the WCCES meeting in Buenos Aires.

Heidi Biseth  
Minutes-taker  
Turku, 21/5-2013