

Editors' Preface

The International Journal for Research on Extended Education started with national reports and research summaries in the first two issues. The focus of this third issue is on a specific initiative in the field of extended education, the University-Community Links (UC Links) network. This network engages university students with young people in hands-on learning activities as parts of after-school programmes. We are very glad to have been able to work with Charles Underwood as guest editor. Charles Underwood is the Executive Director of UC Links, which is located in the Graduate School of Education at the University of California, Berkeley.

In their introduction to the main topic, Charles Underwood and Leann Parker, Associate Director of UC Links, describe the background and diverse activity of the network, which extends beyond California with collaborative partners throughout the world. Apart from the main topic this issue also includes several free articles on different issues and subjects in the field of extended education.

The IJREE is still a very young journal. The editors are trying to improve the journal and its service step by step. In doing so in this issue we are introducing a new section to the journal called "Developments in the Field of Extended Education". In this section we publish (short) papers that are of interest for researchers in the broad field of extended education. This includes papers dealing with new research methods, short research reports or developments in research networking. With this section we are aiming at improving research networking in the field of extended education.

Sang Hoon Bae (South Korea) opens this new section with a critical summary of the last International Conference of the Network of Extracurricular and Out-Of-School Time Educational Research (NEO ER) in Seoul, 2014.

We are very glad to have had many researchers submit their papers to the IJREE. Because of the high number of free contributions, we will publish only free contributions in the next issue 1/2015.

Though there is a high number of submissions we would like to encourage researchers of all areas within the broad field of extended education to submit papers to the IJREE. We are looking forward to your papers.

We hope you enjoy this special issue of the IJREE.

Sabine Maschke, Ludwig Stecher and Joanna Bennett