

Editors' Preface

The International Journal for Research on Extended Education starts its fourth volume. Marianne Schüpbach is the editor of the main topic. Under the umbrella "Extended Education: Professionalization and Professionalism of Staff" four papers are presented: "Pursuing a common goal: How school principals and after-school directors perceive professional culture of collaboration" (Jutzi, Schuepbach, Frei, Nieuwenboom & von Allmen), "Multiprofessional collaboration between teachers and other educational staff at German all-day schools as a characteristic of today's professionalism" (Böhm-Kasper, Dizinger & Gausling), "Building and retaining high quality professional staff for extended education programs" (Vandell & Lao), and "Aligning professional development to continuous quality improvement: A case study of Los Angeles unified school district's beyond the bell branch" (Berry, Sloper, Pickar & Talbot).

In addition there are also three general contributions outside this main topic: "Animating mastery: Navigational play as integrative learning" (Underwood, Mahmood, Pranzetti, Toloza de O. Costa), "How youths' profiles of extracurricular and leisure activity affect their social development and academic achievement" (Sauerwein, Theis & Fischer), and "Learning environments in Swedish leisure-time centres: (In) equality, 'schooling', and lack of independence" (Boström & Augutsson).

Within the section "Developments in the field of extended education" Perselli, Augustsson and Boström report on "a web survey on learning environments and staff in Swedish leisure-time centres as a starting point for a nordic research network and international cooperation". And Mustain reviews the book "Documenting and assessing learning in media-rich informal environments" authored by Lemke, Lecusay, Cole and Michalchik.

Though there is a high number of submissions we would like to encourage researchers within the field of extended education to submit papers, and also suggestions for book reviews and proposals for short research reports for the section Developments in the Field of Extended Education.

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