



NEWSLETTER #4



December 2016

SAVE THE DATE:

23-24 January, 5th E-READ Meeting in LISBON

The Local Organising Committee is happy to host our upcoming meeting, which will be held on January 23-24, in Lisbon. The work programme includes a Management Committee meeting, Core Group meeting, and Working Groups sessions. Above all, it will be an important opportunity to share our work and findings and to discuss future projects. We look forward to welcoming you all in Lisbon!

Maria Armanda Costa, Isabel Falé, Carla Ganito and Patrícia Dias



NEWS on the 4th E-READ MEETING (Zadar, 12th to 14th September, 2016)

The 4th E-READ Meeting was held in Zadar, hosted by the University of Zadar and by the University of Osijek. It included a Management Committee Meeting and Strategic Working Groups meetings. The meeting was organized at the University of Zadar and attended by 42 participants. The agenda included:

- Voting for extra funding for the MC meeting in Lisbon, which was later done online due to the low representation from the participating countries. As is known now, E-READ did not receive the extra funding;
- Presentation of a draft version of the E-READ flyer by Adriaan van der Weel. The flyer will be ready for distribution at the meeting in Lisbon;
- Presentation of the results of the E-READ survey by Massimo Salgaro (see more information below).



E-READ SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Over 45% of the members believe that E-READ has had a positive impact on their careers
- Over 45% of the members have applied or plan to apply for research grants based on projects related to E-READ, most of them at national level
- E-READ's website and other communication tools are positively evaluated, but could be improved
- Areas suggested to work on: more communication between WG members and WGs; more joint publications; more STSM and Training Schools

Thank you to Massimo Salgaro and Pasqualina Sorrentino for their work with this survey.

WG1 Activities



Finnish, German & French) has been created. These texts will be translated into English/German to allow comparisons. They will also be used in different experiments.

3. A meta-analysis project addressing the question whether there is a difference in reading comprehension between screen and paper learning, and under what conditions, is being carried out. Until now, we have developed, discussed and tested a grid to code papers; written a coding book; and identified the keywords and databases to conduct the search. The next step will be to start independent research at the labs involved in the project.

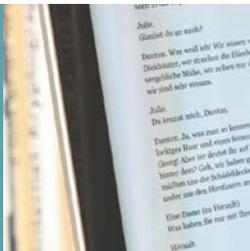
4. A workshop on using eye tracking to study e-reading took place in Turku, Finland, on 21-22 June, 2016. The meeting was combined with the Scandinavian Workshop on Applied Eye Tracking (SWAET2016).

Since the previous newsletter, WG1 has been involved in the following activities:

1. Various book chapters have been written, as part of a WG2 initiative, in which several WG1 members are taking part.

2. In the context of the Emotional Texts project, a set of emotional short texts in different languages (Spanish,

WG2 Activities



and knot together the rich perspectives offered by our various illustrious authors! We are also incredibly grateful to Franjo Pehar and Mate Juric, our local hosts in Zadar, who helped things run so smoothly. At the next E-READ meeting in Lisbon, January 2017, we will be brainstorming with WG2 members about additional projects we can organise during the remainder of the Action, as well as how our collaborative work can also continue on beyond 2018.

Members of WG2 met in Zadar in September and spent a very fruitful couple of days continuing to bring together the edited volume, "Learning to read in digital environments" (provisional title), which will be published by John Benjamins. We now have a full set of chapters and so are working to edit



WG3 Activities



of mobile reading practices among librarians and students in Denmark. The data is currently being analyzed. In the aesthetic cluster, experiments in the poem group have been conducted and data are currently being analyzed. The prose-group is planning experiments in Berlin and publication plans will be made in the new year.

The "social cluster" of WG3 has finalized focus group data collection (involving 7 countries) on the topic of preferred reading environments vs. purposes, text types, and devices. Data analysis has begun and publication writing kick-started, following a strategic meeting in Lisbon in early December. A small group of WG3/WG4 members has also run a cross-section quantitative survey

WG4 Activities



Publishing Group was held on December 3, 2016. Miha Kovac introduced the Bookmap project and twelve members

WG 4 has been working on a variety of projects and events. The research projects include: the Publishing group project; the Embodiment group project; the Design group project; the Design/ Ergonomics/ Publishing anthology project; and the m-reading survey project. Following the 4th International Conference "Publishing - Trends and Contexts" in Zagreb, a meeting of the WG4

discussed its structure as a WG4 webpage as part of the E-READ website. The plans of filling in the structure with content were outlined. The webpage should be a portal or gateway leading to the relevant data, bibliographies, publications, documents and other materials. The participants looked at the examples of existing materials and designed a metadata scheme for relevant resources. The tools and rules for data upload were demonstrated. The participants agreed to share information with a similar activity in WG3. Research questions for reading studies were formulated. The next WG4 workshop will be in June 2017 in Florence as part of the By the Book conference. Members have also been involved in other WGs activities, such as the WG3 Social Cluster Meeting in Lisbon, a meeting on "Empathy in the Digital Age" in Villa Vigoni, Italy, and the Training School in Frankfurt, on 22-24 September 2016.

STSM at Danish School of Education,
Copenhagen, Denmark
Anezka Kuzmicova, Stockholm
University, Sweden
Host: Theresa Schilhab



I spent 4 weeks (June 2016) at the Research Programme for Future Technology, Culture and Learning, at Aarhus University, working with E-READ colleagues Theresa Schilhab and Gitte Balling on a survey of mobile reading (data collection completed in November 2016; +250 respondents), as well as developing an independent research proposal on a related topic (submitted September 2016). The members of the Research Programme provided invaluable methodological input (esp. on qualitative methods). I also gave public lectures and seminars on issues central to E-READ. My thanks go especially to Theresa Schilhab and her colleagues for making my stay so very productive and rewarding.

STSM at Univeristy of Turku,
Finland
Sandhia Bansi, University of
Leiden, The Netherlands
Host: Joahanna Kaakinen



I did my STSM in the Department of Psychology at the University of Turku, Finland. My STSM was a hands-on experience and that is the best way to learn new techniques. I have seen the Ergoneers Dikablis eye tracker in action and I have developed an instruction manual for coding the data. In addition, we have used the software program FaceReader 4.0 to examine its usability in an experiment that studied the effects of stories with various emotion categories (neutral, pleasant and unpleasant) presented on different reading media (iPad or paper) on participants' valence and arousal of emotions.

STSM at Freie Universität Berlin,
Germany
Pasqualina Sorrentino,
Georg-August-Universität Göttingen,
Germany
Host: Arthur Jacobs



My STSM at the Dahlem Institute for Neuroimaging of Emotion (D.I.N.E) of the Freie Universität in Berlin was a dynamic and constructive experience. During my stay, I experienced the benefits of a mutual collaboration between natural scientists and humanists. Prof. Dr. Jacobs and Dr. Lütke were really helpful and they taught me a lot about the different types of research methods. I was delighted to take part in the STSM and I hope that the collaboration between the host university and my home institution will continue in the future.

OPEN CFP

International Scientific Conference "**Books and Screens and the Reading Brain**" will be held at Vilnius University, Lithuania, from September 27-29, 2017. The deadline is **1st March 2017**.

Peer-reviewed journal **Miscellanea Posttotalitaria** **Wratislaviensia**, CFP on Post-communist Children's Culture in Central, Eastern, and Southeast Europe. The deadline is **10th April 2017**.

NEXT DEADLINE FOR STSMs

The latest call for new STSMs is available here:

<http://ereadcost.eu/category/stsm-s/>

The deadline is **1st January 2017**.

LATEST INFORMATION ON THE WEBSITE

1. As some members have reported problems with email addresses provided on the website, we recommend using the Excel file prepared by Adam Sofronijevic and distributed on 20th September.
2. Members are asked to communicate changes in the Core Group to the website manager.
3. The new website manager is Tomislav Jakopec (tjakopec@ffos.hr). On behalf of all members, we would like to thank Adam for the hard work he put in launching and developing the E-READ website, as well as in facilitating communication within the network.
4. We would also like to encourage the members to read and spread the information about the publications emerging for E-READ (<http://ereadcost.eu/publications/>), for example the recent article "The evolution of reading in the age of digitisation: an integrative framework for reading research" by Anne Mangen and Adriaan van der Weel.

FRANKFURT TRAINING SCHOOL: How to become acquainted with experimental design, statistics and Frankfurt specialties in 3 days, by Monika Pluzyczka

Between September 22nd and 24th some of us had the opportunity to take part in the Training School in Empirical Methods for the Humanities. The Training School was organised by the International Society for Empirical Studies of Literature (IGEL), together with our COST Action E-READ and hosted by the Max Planck Institute for Empirical Aesthetics in Frankfurt am Main, located in a new modern building housing some interesting laboratories, which we visited (ArtLab, Eye Tracking Lab, EEG Lab or Acoustic Lab). The aims of the Training School were to teach early career researchers coming from the Humanities the basics of empirical research methodology and to stimulate interdisciplinary collaboration in this field.

During those intensive three days of the training school (very well organised, I must say, and for that I really love Germans), we had lectures and hands-on sessions about the basic experiment design, hypothesis testing, different forms of validity, etc. We also made an example study on the basis of a very interesting experiment conducted by Anne Mangen & Don Kuiken.

Slowly, we became ready to deal with a statistical programme, R Studio, but first we had a chance to listen to lectures about statistics errors, probability and significance testing, later followed by descriptive statistics, tendencies, dispersion and correlations test. And afterwards, we were prepared to be acquainted with the R-programme. I do not really know how successful we were using this programme because most of us are using SPSS, but I hope that we were so charming as a group that for Murali, who gave us a lecture, it was not a problem that we had so many "strange" and maybe – for him – basic questions.

Even though the Training School was so intensive, in the evenings we had some time to learn more about German traditions and specialties typical of the Frankfurt region, for example (difficult for me to eat) "hand cheese with music" (in German: *Handkäse mit Musik*, and everything sounds good in German). It was cheese with vinegar and onions -- interesting, I must admit. Luckily, we later tried *Frankfurter Green Sauce* with Schnitzel, which turned out much better. The training school was a really good experience, and it was wonderfully organised. So a big thank you to Moniek Kuijpers, who did an amazing job: she was there with us not only to give lectures but also to organize everything. Many thanks also to Anne Mangen and to all the lecturers. And thank you to all the participants of the training school for the amazing company that I enjoyed in Frankfurt.



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