



**EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR RESEARCH IN ADULT DEVELOPMENT  
(ESRAD) SYMPOSIUM 2016**

**Advances in positive adult development  
FIRST CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

**25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> May 2016, The Hague, Netherlands**

It is our pleasure to invite you to the **5<sup>th</sup> ESRAD Symposium** in The Hague, Netherlands.

This call for proposals is for all scholars and practitioners of different disciplines who are engaging in current research that is advancing our understanding of positive adult development. Positive adult development refers to development through late adolescence and adulthood that enhances human capacities or wellbeing in an enduring way. In this fifth symposium ESRAD wishes to emphasise the breadth of the field it covers by formulating a range of areas of interests. Our key areas of interest for the symposium are:

- **Dialectical thinking and adult cognitive development**
- **Wisdom – its nature and assessment**
- **Ego and identity development**
- **Major transitions during adult life**

The first symposium area of interest pertains to research and theory on development and transformations of cognition that pertain to adulthood, particularly in relation to dialectical thinking. It is the focus of our keynote speaker, Prof Michael Basseches, who will be speaking on '*Questions I've Asked about Dialectical Thinking*'. Appropriate submissions in this area can include any work on adult cognitive development or dialectical cognition, from any paradigmatic orientation or model.

In addition, submissions are invited that are relevant to any of the three other areas of interest above. Submissions regarding the nature and assessment of wisdom, may include self-report, interview and third-party nomination methods, as well as theoretic discussion of perspectives on the topic. The third area of interest looks at ego development and identity development as broadly conceived, and submissions may look at 'stage', 'phase/level', 'life story' or 'seasons' type development. The fourth area covers the experience and effects of major life

transitions in adulthood, such as becoming a parent, becoming unemployed, bereavement, retiring from work or passing through a biological transition such as the menopause. If you would like to submit a proposal that looks at an aspect of positive adult development but does not fit with the above areas of interest, we will also consider applications under a 'general' area of interest.

All these areas of interest pertain to research that looks at positive developments over time for individuals as such or in relation to group, organizational and/or cultural levels.

## **VENUE**

Hotelschool, The Hague  
Brusselselaan 2, 2587 AH Den Haag  
<http://hotelschool.nl/en>

## **SCHEDULE**

### ***25<sup>th</sup> May***

2pm – Pre-conference workshop: Scoring data using Van Rossum & Hamer's six-stage model of epistemological development.

6pm – Pre-conference drinks and informal meeting

### ***26<sup>th</sup> May***

9am to 5pm – Symposium, including keynote lecture

8pm – Conference dinner

### ***27<sup>th</sup> May***

9am to 5pm – Symposium

## **FEES AND BURSARIES**

Symposium Fee: **200 Euros**

Pre-Conference Workshop Fee: **50 Euros**

Student bursaries of **100 Euros** is available to the first 7 undergraduate or postgraduate students that register to the conference.

## **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

Prof. Michael Basseches (Suffolk University, USA)

## **SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS**

The conference organizers encourage oral presentation and poster proposals. Both theoretical and empirical proposals are welcome. Abstracts of oral presentation or poster proposals should not exceed 300 words (excluding title, tables, graphs and references). Abstracts should be submitted under the following structure:

- 1. Title**
- 2. Authors**
- 3. Area of interest**
- 4. Type: Oral presentation or poster**
- 5. Background and Aim**
- 6. Method** (*if theoretical paper; approach to theoretical analysis*)
- 7. Results** (*if theoretical paper; key conceptual points*)
- 8. Discussion and Implications**

**Author participation limit:** Please note to promote broad participation, ESRAD has implemented an author limit. Each author may appear only twice in the programme, either as first author/presenter or co-author. The author limit does not include participation as invited speaker or roles such as session chairs and discussant.

## **DEADLINES**

January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016: Deadline for submission of proposals.

February 11<sup>th</sup> 2016: Notification for acceptance of proposals.

Please submit proposals as pdf or Word document to the following e-mail address: **esradinfo@gmail.com**. Please put "ESRAD symposium abstract 2016" into the subject heading.

Oral presentations during the symposium will be allocated 20 minutes including questions and a following discussion. Powerpoint slides can be posted online on the ESRAD website (<http://www.europeadultdevelopment.org>) after the Symposium. Presentations are encouraged to be written to scientific articles and be published in the Behavioral Development Bulletin, Positive Adult Development-section.  
<http://www.apa.org/pubs/journals/bdb/>

## **CONFERENCE CHAIRS**

Eeva Kallio, University of Jyväskylä and Tampere

Oliver Robinson, University of Greenwich

## **ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

Erik J. van Rossum, Twente University

Rebecca Hamer, International Baccalaureate, The Hague

Eeva Kallio, University of Jyväskylä and Tampere

Oliver Robinson, University of Greenwich

Kristian Stålné, Malmö University

Liisa Myyry, University of Helsinki

## **REGISTRATION AND FURTHER INFORMATION**

Conference registration form and further information will be available on the ESRAD website, which will be regularly updated – <http://www.europeadultdevelopment.org/>

If any questions, please feel free to send a query to address **esradinfo@gmail.com**