

EADP-EARA-SRA Summer School 2017 Report

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This year's EADP-EARA-SRA Summer School included 24 junior scholars and seven senior scholars from across the globe and gathered at the Hotel Bergse Bossen in Driebergen, The Netherlands from 26-29 August 2017. The program began with a welcome dinner on Saturday evening. As we entered the restaurant, everyone received name tags and had time to informally network and eat our meals, to end the evening we moved our conversations to the hotel bar for welcome drinks. The next day we began the day with an introduction of The Summer School given by the organizer Susan Branje. Presentations of each day was planned in a way that combined presentations of both seniors and juniors. The first senior presentation, given by Christiane Spiel, focused on implementing interventions into public policy and practice. Following her presentation, junior scholars were asked to discuss the transfer of evidence based interventions in each of our countries/continents. Junior and senior scholars then broke out into smaller groups and junior scholars had the opportunity to share some of their research in presentations. The second senior scholar presentation was given by Craig Colder. He discussed the importance of understanding the developmental pathways to adolescent alcohol use, with a special emphasis placed on investigating the role of early sipping. Junior scholars were asked to design a study to identify potential risk and protective developmental pathways that may account for the effects of early sipping/tasting on later alcohol outcomes. The day was rounded out with another breakout session of junior scholar presentations.

The second day of the summer school began with Velma McBride-Murray's talk on the impact of discrimination and marginalization on adolescents' development. Junior scholars were asked to design an intervention or a means of prevention to avert the potential negative effects of discrimination on youth development. Then, Elisabetta Crocetti, another senior scholar, gave a presentation that explored the development of identity in adolescence. Her presentation was followed by a junior scholar activity, where scholars were asked to develop a research project to gain new insights into our own research areas by considering identity. We finished the day with break out session of junior scholar presentations and professional development roundtable discussion on various career pathways that are available upon graduation.

The third and final day of the summer school began with a methodological workshop by Manuel Voelkle. During his presentation we learned how to run continuous time modeling in R. After the workshop, we had a second professional development roundtable discussion on the effective ways of communicating research to the public. The last senior scholar presentation was given by Susan Branje on emotional variability and its role in adolescents' psychosocial development and the junior scholars were tasked to design a study that included assessments of behavioral variability. After a summary of the workshop, the Junior scholars received certificates of attendance and approximately half of the participants left for the European Conference for Developmental Psychology (ECDP) beginning that day just 20 minutes away in Utrecht, The Netherlands.

From the junior scholar's perspective, we burgeoning experts in our specific fields of study, however we are also learners. For many of us we sometimes found it challenging when scholars (both junior and senior) asked questions about our research design and methods that many of us take for granted. Given the diversity and breadth of research views and perspective, these questions were difficult and stretched our understanding of our areas of research. However, it was these hot-housed, inter-cultural/national scholarly conversations that allowed us to garner new and interesting perspectives on our research. We appreciated these illuminating discussions as they are difficult to duplicate outside of The Summer School experience/context.

The Summer School represented an unique and exceptionally enriching and rewarding experience as we were surrounded by colleagues from completely different cultures and areas of research. This context allowed us to discover both the commonalities and uniqueness in the ways we understand our research and approach problems and ideas. The Summer School unites scholars who might otherwise only have sat adjacent in the same conference presentations. The Summer School provided us with the scaffolding we needed to bridge our research worlds, both in terms of content areas of research but also cultures and countries. We were with each other for extended periods of the day, not only during the student's activities but also during social time, as well. Many of the discussions between scholars (both junior and senior) were focused on common themes of research across cultures/countries. However, also we took the time to discuss and the current political, economic and social situations in other countries besides our own and how they might impact current and future research. We also discussed various traditions of intellectual work, different ways in which doctoral degrees are organized, funded, supervised in different countries.

The experience of The Summer School not only broadened our understanding of our research but has potential to act as a foundation for the development of international collaborations among scholars. Many of us made plans to see each/meet with each other at the 2017 ECDP Conference in Utrecht and are making plans for the 2018 Society for Research on Adolescence Conference and continue the discussions started at The Summer School!

Events like The Summer School foster growth and strengthen the field of developmental psychology. The Summer School allowed us to engage in deeply enriching discussions that lead to a more full understanding of different phenomena in adolescents, at national and international levels. The junior scholars would like to thank Susan Branje and Natasha Koper for their seamless organization and coordination of this event. We would also like to thank the senior scholars for their time, insight, and wisdom that they shared with the group. Finally, we would like to thank the EADP, EARA, and SRA for aiding the in the sponsorship of this great event. We hope that The Summer School continues for many years to come. For many of us, The Summer School made a lasting impact on our lives, both professionally and personally, and has shaped us to be a contemporary scholars, engaged in cross-cultural, critical dialogues and research that enhances our understanding and knowledge in developmental psychology.