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Editor

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From the President

Dear EARA members,

Who could have imagined the immense changes to our daily lives since the last newsletter. This is a challenging time for everybody, characterized by concerns about the physical health of loved ones and the mental health of those we cannot visit and might be isolated during the quarantine, by grief about the people we lost, and by stress because of changes in the balance between work and family life. We have come to realize again that health and social relations are the utmost important aspects of our lives. At the same time we have experienced amazing amounts of resiliency and solidarity. Worldwide people have adapted their behavior in an attempt to prevent the virus from spreading – not only adults but also young people who have relatively less to fear themselves. We also made giant steps in online teaching and finding new ways to collaborate from home. Let's hope this embracement of digital technology decreases the physical distance between EARA members and stimulates collaboration now and in the future.

We all realize this is a particularly challenging period for youth, their families and schools as well. Although some youth might embrace the “corona-holiday” and the extended time for gaming and social media, many long for the day they can hang out with friends without restrictions and they

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can spend less time under the same roof as their parents. Even school seems to become an attractive environment after months of home-schooling. Many researchers have started to examine the impact of the pandemic on the relationships and wellbeing of adolescents and their families. Research into how the pandemic affects adolescents' lives and how they can be supported to mitigate these effects is crucial for policy makers and practitioners. We need to collaborate and coordinate our activities to optimally share our expertise and knowledge with societal partners. Moreover, it would be great to read about some of the results of these studies in the next newsletter, and to learn how across Europe adolescents are affected by the corona crisis but also find ways to show solidarity and prosocial behavior.

The pandemic affects some of the core activities of EARA in a profound way. Paula Mena Matos and her team had made many steps in the preparation of the 17th EARA conference, that was planned for September 2 to 5, 2020 in Porto, Portugal. As the corona crisis seems to stay with us for a prolonged time, and an increasing number of conferences in the current and the next year have been canceled, it became clear that the EARA conference cannot take place in Porto this year. We are however extremely happy and proud to announce that the 17th EARA conference will take place online, from 2 to 5 September 2020. I am tremendously thankful to Paula Mena Matos and her team, who have shown resilience and flexibility and are working incredibly hard to make the virtual conference a success. Soon more information on registration and procedures will be announced on the conference website. I look forward to see you all in virtual space and to be immersed in interesting talks and conversations. We hope that our future conferences in Dublin 2022 and Cyprus 2024 can continue offline, but the 2020 conference might set a good example for

making conferences accessible for those who are not able to travel.

Unfortunately, not all EARA events survived the pandemic. With much regret we had to decide to cancel this year's summer school. Although we considered some creative solutions to hold the summer school in a virtual environment, we felt the social interactions over meals and during the nights are a vital part of the summer school that cannot be captured by an online school and do not add to the experience the online conference already provides. Let's hope we will be able to meet for the 2021 school.

I want to thank you all for participating in the EARA elections. You have recently received the results of the elections. I am happy to inform you that Ingrid Schoon is the EARA President elect and Elisabetta Crocetti (Secretary), Metin Özdemir (Treasurer), and Müge Artar have been elected as council members for their second term. I warmly welcome our new elected members of the EARA council: Katariina Salmela-Aro, Jennifer Symonds, and Katharina Eckstein. Thank you for your willingness to join the council and contribute to the future of our association. A special welcome also to the new members of the EARA Young Scholar Committee: Daráine Murphy (deputy representative), Flore Geukens, Savaş Karataş, and Maria Kwiatkowska. We look forward to the fresh energy and innovative ideas you will bring to the association!

Even though they will continue to serve on the council for a few more months, I want to use my last presidential letter to thank some council members for their long-lasting commitment to EARA. I would like to express my most sincere gratitude to Rita Žukauskienė (past president), Saskia Kunnen (membership secretary), and Fabrizia Giannotta (Editor of EARA Newsletter and coordinator of the national representatives). All three have served in the EARA council since 2012 and have been very

active in the association for a very long time, thereby providing a tremendous contribution to the life of our association. Thank you so much!

Rests me to say I look forward to see you all in the digital cloud in September. Stay healthy!

Warmly,
Susan Branje
EARA President

XVII EARA conference in Oporto

Submitted by Paula Mena Matos
Ghent University (Belgium)

EARA2020 is moving online

Dear all

This conference will be different!

Due to the COVID-19 social distance and travel restrictions enforced worldwide, the conference will be held as planned, September 2 to 5, but this time in an innovative and adjusted online format.

With the help of LEADING, a professional congress organizer, we will recreate the whole participant's experience, as well as guide and assist when necessary, before, during and after the congress, in order to ensure that everything runs smoothly. Speakers and moderators may run tests with the technical staff during the two weeks prior to the event, in order to get acquainted with the best practices of the different online sessions (symposia, oral communications, posters and roundtable). We will use the

advantages of the online format and participants will be able to access all recordings of oral presentations and posters (after authors' consent) during the conference. Meanwhile, we hope to increase the time for each session shared debate and fruitful conversations. Although more distant, we may be more inclusive!

Besides an exciting scientific program, we are also working on an attractive social and cultural program. Nothing can replace the face-to-face interaction, let alone the sensory experience and the joy of conviviality, that is for sure! This will be challenging, but we hope to surprise you.

We reduced the fees and extended the early bird date to June 7th. The previous announced EARA travel awards will be converted in conference awards, supporting 50 grants of 100€ for young scholars. The conference platform is hosted in the AWS Cloud, a flexible and secure cloud computing environment. Participants will be able to mark their favorite sessions and build their own agenda, planning which sessions they want to attend.

Finally, I would like to thank all those who have supported us with this difficult decision. The Organizing Committee, my generous team, for the hard work already done and the added effort to change to an online conference. Marlies Maes and Susanne Schulz from the Young Scholars Committee who are deeply involved in the preparation of the pre-conference workshops. And a special thanks to Susan Branje for instilling enthusiasm and the Executive Council for supporting this event. We will provide guidelines to all authors and more detailed information in the coming weeks at our website.

This conference will be different! But together we hope to set up this journey and reach a nice destination!

Sincerely,
Paula Mena Matos

Updates from EARA Young Scholars

***Submitted by Marlies Maes, KU
Leuven (Belgium) and Utrecht University
(the Netherlands)***

Updates from EARA Young Scholars

Dear EARA-members,

We would like to update you on the EARA Young Scholars, the network for all EARA students and early career researchers (including postdocs and assistant professors).

Looking forward to EARA 2020

As the EARA 2020 conference is moving to an innovative online format, so are our activities! Based on the input of many young scholars, we are organizing, together with the EARA 2020 organizing committee, several pre-conference workshops. More information will be posted online soon, but we can already give you a sneak peek. For example, if you want to polish your writing skills, learn about state-of-the-art statistical models and approaches, delve into the world of R or get some hands-on experience with open science – we will have something for you! In addition to the pre-conference workshops, there will be an informative Meet-the-Editor session with editors of

relevant, highly competitive journals in the field of adolescent research who will uncover hidden tips and tricks for publishing your research. Our social activity obviously won't include a (real) beach anymore, but we are working hard to offer you an unforgettable alternative!

Committee news

We also have some committee news to share: Elina Marttinen has left the Young Scholars committee. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Elina for all of her work in strengthening our wonderful network of young scholars! Furthermore, we are very happy that Daráine Murphy, Flore Geukens, Savaş Karataş, and Maria Kwiatkowska got elected as new members of the EARA Young Scholars committee. Welcome! Our network of young scholars will be in good hands:)

Stay updated!

The monthly spotlights on recent work of EARA's young scholars together with interesting announcements, such as open vacancies, conference calls, and upcoming summer schools, are posted on our Facebook page (@earayoungscholars) and Twitter page (@EaraYoung). So, follow us and stay updated!

Your EARA Young Scholars committee,

Marlies Maes, Flore Geukens, Ioana Pop,
and Susanne Schulz

EARA Publications

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