



11th Annual SANORD 2018 Conference of

*“Academic Citizenship: Recognition, Resilience or  
Resistance?”*

# Report

15 – 17 August 2018

University of Jyväskylä, Finland

# The 11th International SANORD conference

## 15 – 17 August 2018 Jyväskylä, Finland



The 11<sup>th</sup> International SANORD conference was organized by the University of Jyväskylä (JYU), Finland on 15-17 August, 2018. The conference venue was held at Agora Building, Mattilanniemi campus.

The theme of the conference was *Academic Citizenship: Recognition, Resilience or Resistance?* with the following sub-themes:

1. South-North partnerships for sustainable development
2. Promoting human development, health and well-being
3. Academic partnerships and decolonization of knowledge
4. Education for social justice, equity and equality
5. Innovations and digital solutions for education and societies
6. Teaching and teacher education
7. Arts and culture in human development and education
8. Partnerships between educational institutions and communities

### Statistics

The SANORD 2018 conference attracted a record number of delegates to Jyväskylä – 199 registered participants (65 from Finland, including international students and staff at Finnish universities and organisations) from 15 different countries and over 40 different institutions and organizations.

The call for papers for Jyväskylä conference was announced at Victoria Falls Conference in Zimbabwe in December 2017. The JYU scientific committee received altogether 155 proposals via online submission system and by email. Only 1 submission was rejected as the proposal was not in line with the conference theme.

### Submissions

Academic paper	108
Policy and/or practice paper	22
Symposia	2
SIG	6
Workshop or panel session	17
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	155

- Out of all submissions, the conference programme included:
  - 4 keynote speakers
  - 1 keynote speakers' panel
  - 68 paper presentations
  - 2 symposia
  - 3 Special Interest Group (SIG) Meetings
  - 10 workshops or panel sessions

**Conference fee (early bird until 31 May; late registration from 1 June)**

- Delegates from Nordic countries: 410 Euro (early bird), 460 Euro (late registration)
- Delegates from Southern African countries: 310 Euro (early bird), 360 Euro (late registration)
- Students: 150 Euro (early bird), 170 Euro (late registration)
- Non-SANORD members/others: 510 Euro (early bird), 560 Euro (late registration)

Jyväskylä conference received 4 000 Euro grant from UniPID FinCEAL+ and 9 000 Euro grant from The Federation of Finnish Learned Societies. In addition, the City of Jyväskylä organised a welcome reception for the conference delegates at the City Hall.

**Conference Programme**

Taking into account sustainable development goals and environmental considerations JYU conference organizing committee decided not to print abstract book but instead a shorter conference book containing general information, keynote speakers and programme. The abstracts, conference programme together with the participant list were available on the conference website [www.jyu.fi/sanord2018](http://www.jyu.fi/sanord2018).

14 conference assistants (mainly MA and PhD students) were recruited to help with the conference preparations and during the conference days. In return, the students received 2 ECTS credits for their studies.

Several meetings and events took place prior to the conference.

SANORD Partner days were organized in University of Turku (UTU), University of Tampere (UTA), and University of Eastern Finland (UEF) on 13 August.

The Finnish Institute for Educational Research (FIER) organized a pre-conference *on The Fifth Summer School on Higher Education - Theories and theoretical concepts in the higher education research process* on 13-14 August. The University of Eastern Finland (UEF) also held a pre-conference *on Teachers, students and (academic) citizenship* on 14-15 August with His Excellency Mr. Bonny Haufiku, the Ambassador of Republic of Namibia to Finland acting as the keynote speaker. Both events took place in Ruusupuisto Building.

- SANORD Contact Persons Meeting was held on August 14 at 16.00-19.00 in Ruusupuisto Building
- SANORD Board Meeting was held on August 15 at 9.00-12.00 in Agora Building
- SANORD Council Meeting was held on August 17 at 13.30-15.30 in Agora Building

The conference morning started with presentation *Introduction to Finnish education system* by the Head of Teacher Education Dr Sirpa Eskelä-Haapanen. After the introduction, the delegates had an opportunity to visit local primary schools in Palokka, Halssila, Normaalikoulu and Keljonkangas. In the morning, there were also presentations of Finnish SANORD member universities - University of Turku (UTU), University of Tampere (UTA) and University of Eastern Finland (UEF) on their key focus areas. Several Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings were also held in the morning.



Rector Keijo Hämäläinen, University of Jyväskylä, invited vice chancellors and rectors at Rector's lunch meeting before the conference opening session. 14 delegates representing higher education institutions from Nordic countries and Southern African region were in attendance.

In the conference opening ceremony, Rector Keijo Hämäläinen provided welcoming remarks on behalf of the University of Jyväskylä, followed by forewords from Professor Eva Åkesson, SANORD board chairperson and Umesh Bawa, SANORD director. Local VOX Aurea children's choir also performed at the opening and was given a standing ovation by the delegates. The opening session was chaired by the conference chair Professor Marja-Kristiina Lerkkanen.

### Keynote speakers

**Mr Pekka Haavisto**, Member of Finnish Parliament. Wednesday 15 at 14.00–15.00.

**Prof Sabelo Ndlovu-Gatsheni**, University of South Africa: *The Changing Idea of the University and the Fate of Academic Citizenship in Africa*. Thursday 16, at 9.00-10.00.

**Prof Elina Lehtomäki**, University of Oulu, Finland: *Fixing the most powerful tool: recognition, co-creation and use of knowledge*. Thursday 16 at 13.00-14.00.

**Dr Jacqueline Jere-Folotiya**, University of Zambia, Zambia: *Promoting early literacy development through indigenous languages*. Friday 17 at 9.00-10.00.



Keynote speakers' panel chaired by Vice Rector Professor Marja-Leena Laakso was organized in the afternoon of 15 August 2018. The expert panelists shared their views on academic citizenship.

Several social activities were organised during and around the Conference:

- Guided walking tour in the spirit of Alvar Aalto on 15 August 2018
- Welcome reception hosted by the City of Jyväskylä in the evening on 15 August 2018
- Boat cruise and Conference Dinner at Savutuvan Apaja 16 August 2018. Her Excellency Ms Carmine J Smid, the Ambassador of South Africa to Finland commemorated the legacy of Nelson Mandela marking his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Some 40 brave delegates also tried the Finnish sauna and a dip in a lake after dinner.
- Farewell drinks and church boat rowing at Hotel Alba on 17 August 2018. Church boat rowing attracted a boatful of rowers on Lake Jyväsjärvi.



## Programme

Wednesday 15 August 2018

8:00-17:30	Registration	Agora lobby
8:30-9:00	Presentation on Finnish education system, University of Jyväskylä, Dr Sirpa Eskelä-Haapanen	<b>Ag Auditorio 1,</b> Martti Ahtisaari hall
9:00-10:30	Visits to schools	Buses leave outside Agora at 9
9:00-12:00	SANORD Board meeting	Ag D121
10:30-12:00	Presentations by University of Eastern Finland, University of Tampere and University of Turku	<b>Ag Auditorio 1,</b> Martti Ahtisaari hall
10:30-12:00	Panel and SIG meetings	
12:00-13:00	Lunch	Restaurant Piato
13:00-14:00	Opening ceremony and welcoming remarks	<b>Ag Auditorio 1,</b> Martti Ahtisaari hall
14:00-15:00	Keynote I Mr Pekka Haavisto, Member of Finnish Parliament	<b>Ag Auditorio 1,</b> Martti Ahtisaari hall
15:00-15:30	Coffee break	Agora lobby
15:30-17:00	Keynote speakers panel discussion	<b>Ag Auditorio 1,</b> Martti Ahtisaari hall
17:15-18:45	Guided walking tour	Start: Agora lobby End: Town Hall
19:00-20:30	Welcome Reception hosted by the City of Jyväskylä (doors open at 18:30)	Town Hall, City Center Address: Vapaudenkatu 32

Thursday 16 August 2018

9:00-10:00	Keynote II Professor Sabelo Gatsheni-Ndlovu, University of South Africa, South Africa	<b>Ag Auditorio 1,</b> Martti Ahtisaari hall
10:00-10:30	Coffee break	Agora lobby
10:30-12:00	Parallel paper sessions and workshop I	
12:00-13:00	Lunch break	Restaurant Piato
13:00-14:00	Keynote III Professor Elina Lehtomäki, University of Oulu, Finland	<b>Ag Auditorio 1,</b> Martti Ahtisaari hall
14:00-15:00	Parallel paper sessions and workshops II	
15:00-15:30	Coffee break	Agora lobby
15:30-17:00	Parallel paper sessions, workshops and symposium III	
18:30-	Boat cruise and conference dinner at Restaurant Savutuvan Apaja. Also traditional sauna available after dinner. Towels are provided but bring your swimming costume.	Departure from Harbour at 18:30. Returning to city center by buses leaving at 21:30, 22:00, 22:30 and 23:00.

Friday 17 August 2018

9:00-10:00	Keynote IV Dr Jacqueline Jere-Folotiya, University of Zambia, Zambia	<b>Ag Auditorio 1,</b> Martti Ahtisaari hall
10:00-10:30	Coffee break	Agora lobby
10:30-12:00	Parallel paper sessions, workshops and symposium IV	
12:00-12:30	Closing ceremony and presentation of SANORD 2019	<b>Ag Auditorio 1,</b> Martti Ahtisaari hall
12:30-13:30	Lunch	Restaurant Piato
13.30-15:30	SANORD council meeting	<b>Ag Auditorio 1,</b> Martti Ahtisaari hall
15:30-	Farewell drinks and church boat rowing	Hotel Alba

### Lessons learned

This was the first time SANORD conference was organised in Finland, and we at JYU were very happy and honored to be welcoming SANORD delegates to Jyväskylä. We were looking forward to enhance networking and foster partnership across multidisciplinary groups among higher education institutions from the Southern and Nordic regions. We started actively promote and market SANORD 2018 conference through various networks.



The Conference organizing committee was expecting to host approximately 150 conference delegates in Jyväskylä. To our surprise and delight, we received around 200 delegates from 15 different countries.

We were extremely happy how the conference went (including the weather!) and the positive atmosphere during the conference days. This was also shared by the conference delegates. According to the survey, the

conference received overall mark of 4.45/5.

*"Thank you very much for the interesting and well organised conference! " "The conference organisation and the reception were excellent and the discussion were lively. The entertainment by the Choir was fantastic and I wish they were recorded and sold on DVD. The evening receptions at the City Hall and at the Hotel Alba (aka Savutuvan Apaja) were well planned. I wish you all the best in your endeavors."*

What was best in the conference -*"keynote speakers", "Sharing knowledge with colleagues from other parts of the world", "Interaction with colleagues during the conference" and "Meeting guests from other institutions and networking."* We also received special thanks for organizing sauna and church boat rowing for more adventurous delegates!



While we were very pleased with the high number of delegates coming to Jyväskylä, it also presented a challenge to us how to allocate time slots for all registered presenters. This affected the conference programme which had many parallel sessions. This was also commented by few





delegates in their feedback of the City of Jyväskylä survey.

*"In my opinion, i think the conference was a successful one. Nevertheless, i believe the time given for discussions and questioning was quite limited and for that matter did not allow most people to express their views about the subject discussed for both the keynote addresses and the*

*parallel sessions. Unfortunately, time allotted to participants for the parallel presentations were not adhered to in some cases and for that matter others had fewer time doing their presentation."*

SANORD network meetings also required their own time slots. In hindsight, if we had an extra half day at our disposal, the programme would have been more flexible and the delegates had time to reflect the presentations and change locations between the different sessions. However, by the time the high number of delegates was confirmed in July, there was little we could do to change the programme structure.

We would like to thank the delegates for making our conference a success and warmly welcome you again to Jyväskylä! We look forward to SANORD 2019 hosted by the University of Botswana, in Gaborone, Botswana.

#### **Jyväskylä Local organizing committee**

Marja-Kristiina Lerkkanen, Professor, Faculty of Education and Psychology (chair)

Jani Ursin, PhD., Senior researcher, Finnish Institute for Educational Research (vice chair)

Johanna Kivimäki, Head of Unit, UniPID

Taru-Maija Heilala-Rasimov, Conference coordination

Pia Krimark, Conference secretary, Faculty of Education and Psychology

#### **JYU Scientific committee consisted members from all 6 faculties**

Anna Grönlund, Head of Internationalisation

Hanna-Leena Pesonen, Professor, Dean, Head of Corporate Environmental Management

Hanna Posti-Ahokas, PhD., Researcher, Faculty of Education and Psychology

Hannu Savolainen, Professor, Faculty of Education and Psychology

Jani Ursin, PhD., Senior researcher, Finnish Institute for Educational Research (vice chair)

Johanna Kivimäki, Head of Unit, UniPID

Jussi Välimaa, Professor, Director of Finnish Institute for Educational Research

Mari-Anne Okkolin, PhD., University teacher, Faculty of Humanities and social sciences

Marja-Kristiina Lerkkanen, Professor, Faculty of Education and Psychology (chair)

Marja-Leena Laakso, Professor, Faculty of Education and Psychology (vice rector)

Pekka Toivanen, lecturer, Faculty of Humanities and social sciences,

Pekka Virtanen, PhD., Lecturer, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Pia Krimark, conference secretary, Faculty of Education and Psychology

Teppo Eskelinen, PhD., Lecturer, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Tuula Tuhkanen, Professor, Environmental technology

The Jyväskylä scientific committee and Rector Keijo Hämäläinen would like to thank SANORD Central office, The Federation of Finnish Learned Societies, UniPID FinCEAL+ and the City of Jyväskylä for their guidance and support in organizing the SANORD 2018 conference.