

MINUTES OF GSN in ESSE 2018

Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic

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Convened by Işil Baş, Florence Binard, Renate Haas and María Socorro Suárez Lafuente, the ESSE Gender Studies Network met in room 213, Komenského Náměstí, Masaryk University, Brno from 15:00 to 17:00 on August 30, 2018. The meeting was meant as a get-together of all ESSE members interested in a gender perspective within and from the association. After a short introduction to and by the founding members, Renate Haas gave an account of what had been done since Galway-16 and summarized the next actions to be taken. The floor was then open to the discussion of the following items:

1/ Increasing the visibility:

New ESSE members present were invited to join the GSN, and in particular the networking and publicity potential of the Directory was highlighted.

In response to SAES's call for more joint international workshops at its annual conferences, Florence Binard co-organizes a session bringing together sagef and GSN under next year's general topic "Exceptions". The conference will take place in Aix-en-Provence on 6-8 June 2019: <http://saesfrance.org/congres-annuel-de-la-saes-2019-aix/>. Florence Binard invites GSN members to submit proposals.

It was agreed that the GSN should become more visible in the social media, especially in Facebook and Twitter. Katerina Kitsi and Amy Wells (amy.wells@unicaen.fr) volunteered to work towards establishing social media profiles.

2/ Organizing of Seminars and Summer Courses in Gender Studies:

Participants had a long discussion about the form of possible courses and their target audience. It was agreed that online courses through Skype and certificate courses in summer schools are the best options. A working committee formed by Nevin Yıldırım Koyuncu (nvin2.koyuncu@gmail.com) and Simonetta Falchi (simonettafalchi@gmail.com) will investigate the idea and come up with an agenda about the issue.

3/ Participation in ESSE 2020 Doctoral Symposium:

Florence Binard volunteered to get in touch with Lachlan Mackenzie about encouraging the ESSE board to add a slot to doctoral symposia to make gender studies more visible and inspire more graduate work in the field which is under threat in many parts of the world. This would also contribute to ESSE's endeavours towards more interdisciplinary

and crossdisciplinary work. Florence Binard and Sylvia Mieszkowski will pursue the inclusion of gender in the next ESSE Doctoral Symposium.

4/ Other:

The current situation regarding the threats to the field, gender issues, and academic freedom was characterized in detail by members from Hungary and Turkey. It was agreed that a statement should be prepared by the GSN to be presented at the General Assembly. This should support both the colleagues in these countries and academic freedom in general, and should encourage ESSE to take further action in support of gender studies by not only creating a slot dedicated to European interdisciplinary gender studies in the doctoral symposium but also by inviting an interdisciplinary plenary speaker from the field of gender studies to the next ESSE conference.