E-READ

EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

EREAD

Newsletter #3

We would like to welcome all new colleagues who joined E-READ since its launch in 2014. According to the new website, the network now consists of 120 members. We wish you fruitful and successful collaboration on joint projects. Justyna, Kersti and Patrícia (Newsletter Team)

The E-READ COST website (http://ereadcost.eu) was redesigned, migrated to a

completely new platform and launched in March 2016. The new platform is mobile friendly (responsive) and enables easier navigation and search through its content. The website offers numerous valuable resources on different aspects of reading, news about upcoming meetings and training schools, and a database of the E-READ COST members. In addition, it enables the development of the content, for example by adding new pages with research data and statistics, as well as a bibliography. As the forums have been suspended due to low usage, our new communication strategy focuses on more engaging channels, such as Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn and the Newsletter.
Adam Sofronijevic and Vesna Vuksan

E-READ Dissemination Group Meeting
(Brussels, 25 February, 2016)

The meeting was devoted to defining the dissemination strategy and other related questions concerning the promotion of E-READ.

Structure of dissemination
The positions already covered are as follows:
Dissemination manager: Miha Kovač
PR manager: Maria Perifanou
Website manager: Adam Sofronijevic
The meeting proposed to establish the function of a SLO Coordinator for internal use and external outreach communication in social media. This position is to replace the SLO for EU citizens. Maria Perifanou and Zoran Velagic agreed to share it.

E-READ newsletter
It was also decided that the newsletter will be published twice a year, in June and December. Justyna Deszcz-Tryhubczak has taken the role of the newsletter manager in collaboration with Patricia Dias and Skans Kersti Nilsson. Adriaan van der Weel will be the English editor of the website and the newsletter. Miha Kovač announced that a new Web sub-page is being developed by the Publishing and Reading sub-group of WG4. The sub-page provides a database on statistics on publishing, libraries, reading and media consumption. Linked to the E-READ webpage, this material will be an important tool for the working group members, the research community, and journalists. A general leaflet about E-READ is being designed to disseminate to organizations involved in reading promotion in the EU countries.

Communication guidelines

The new E-READ webpage has been made available. It will include a PowerPoint to present E-READ at conferences and a list of related dissemination conferences to be attended. Members are encouraged to embed the E-READ link in their personal academia.edu page.

Joint stakeholder event

The meeting also explored possibilities for research collaboration between E-READ and Leibniz Gemeinschaft related to the use of digital media in universities and schools. It was proposed that a joint meeting in Berlin should be organized in spring 2017.

WG1 Activities

Since the Szeged meeting, WG 1 has been involved in the following activities:

1. Various book chapters are written these days, as part of a WG2 initiative in which several WG1 people take part.

2. A metacognition training school took place in Haifa, Israel, on February 2016. Apart from the pictures printed here, information has also been posted on Facebook.

3. A meta-analysis project is taking place. It addresses the question whether there is a difference in reading comprehension between screen and paper learning, and under what conditions.

4. A workshop on using eye tracking to study e-reading will take place in Turku, Finland, in June 2016. It is organized in collaboration with the SWAET conference (http://swaet2016.utu.fi/).

Training School at Haifa, Israel

WG2 Activities

At the close of the Szeged meeting, WG2 members began planning chapters for an edited volume summarizing current knowledge and presenting new research findings on the influence of technology on various aspects of reading development. The chapters include explorations of how digital technologies are used, the influence of different dimensions of information design on young readers, investigations of the cognitive, motivational and emotional aspects of digital reading across different populations, and the influence of digital technologies on education, instruction and

assessment. WG2 members wrote and submitted a proposal to the publishers that was then approved for publication. Then, in March of 2016, WG2 members assembled in Berlin for a very productive writer's workshop, impeccably organized and hosted by Sascha Schroeder. Chapter authors met in a large group to discuss their ideas and identify areas of overlap/common themes and then split into individual chapter meetings in which they finalized their outlines and began writing. The meeting was very productive and we all enjoyed our time working together and getting to know one another better. The authors are now hard at work writing their chapters and we have a meeting planned for September in which a guest reviewer will comment and offer feedback on the chapters, which will then be revised and submitted for publication.

WG3 Activities

Since the second WG meeting (Szeged, October 2015), Working Group 3, "Experiential and Emotional Aspects of Reading", continues to approach its task in two main subgroups and from two distinct perspectives: 1) the perspective of studying reading in the lab vs. 2) the perspective of studying reading outside the lab (or in semi-controlled settings).

Subgroup 1 (coordinated by Arthur Jacobs and Gitte Balling) has been busy selecting, preparing and annotating textual stimuli (a poetic vs. a prosaic literary text) for a series of experiments comparing reading experience, in a 2x2 between-subject design, across genres and the print vs. screen divide. In these experiments, differences in reading experience will first be measured through self-report instruments. Pending significant effects on the self-report measures, further rounds will include eye tracking and psychophysiological measures as well. Pilot tests are currently being run for the poetry condition in psychology labs in Berlin (supervised by Arthur Jacobs), Catania (supervised by Renata Gambino, Grazia Pulvirenti, and Daniela Giordano), and Szeged (supervised by Orsi Papp-Zipernovszky). Pilot tests for the prose condition will follow soon. The next meeting will be held in conjunction with the MC meeting in Zadar (HR), 12-14 September 2016. Activity in subgroup 2 (coordinated by Anezka Kuzmicova) includes a collaborative review of existing digital (vs. print) reading behaviour surveys across the countries represented (project coordinator: Niels Bakker), with the aim of preparing a joint publication and, eventually, developing a new cross-national survey tool. An H2020 funding bid that is currently being prepared for 2017 (project coordinators: Katrin Tiidenberg and Meltem Baturay) should also contribute to this. This subgroup has also set up focus group interviews exploring students' preferred reading environments, in nexus with different reading devices, materials, and purposes (project coordinator: Anezka Kuzmicova). Data have been collected in eight different EU countries and moderators are currently finalizing their data reports. Further steps in this project are pending salient response patterns across countries. The next meeting will be held in Amsterdam, in the autumn of 2016

WG4 Activities

WG4 has already held or planned several meetings to encourage cross-disciplinary exchanges of ideas and collaborations. The meeting 'Reading to do' was held in October 2015, at the Department of Typography & Graphic Communication, University of Reading and organized by Alison Black, Ann Marcus Quinn (University of Limerick) and Sue Walker (University of Reading). The aim was to define the type and text design for e-reading, gather together literature and highlight research questions. In March 2016, the WG4 embodiment subgroup held a strategic meeting in Copenhagen, at Future technology, Culture and Learning, University of Aarhus, organized by Theresa Schilhab. The aim was to facilitate joint scientific publications, e.g. a review paper and an anthology on embodiment in reading primarily from the ergonomics perspective of WG4. Upcoming events include the following. In June 2016, in Florence, Italy, the WG4 publishing subgroup will meet for discussing reading and publishing research methodology; and in October 2016, a symposium inviting experts on embodied cognition will be held in Middelburg, the Netherlands, organised by Michael Burke.

Training School in Empirical Methods for the Humanities

E-read is collaborating with The International Society for Empirical Studies of Literature (IGEL) to organize the Training School in Empirical Methods for the Humanities, aimed at teaching early career researchers coming from the Humanities the basics of empirical research methodology. The participants will learn to design and set up an experiment; to decide on measuring devices and statistical tests, to use statistical procedures to explore data and conduct basic inferential tests, and to report results. The training school is going to rely on the mentor system in which every participant will cooperate with a researcher who is a member of our IGEL/E-READ community and has similar research interests. The researcher will mentor the participant before and after the school to conduct and report the experiment developed during the training.

STSM at University of Navarra, Pamplona, Spain
Patrícia Dias
Project: "Multi-screening, Communication and Reading Experiences"
Host: Javier Serrano

"University students (aged 18 to 25) rarely engage in immersive reading experiences on mobile devices; they prefer the laptop or paper. Mobile devices are often mixed with other media and activities, and they are the favourite support for skimming while on the move, while engaged with something else at the same time, and when bored – news, blogs, social networks."

The first round of STSMs planned for 2016 is as follows:

#Anezka Kuzmikova
Host: Theresa Schilhab, Danish School of Education, Copenhagen, DK

#Sandhia Bansi
Host: Johanna Kaakinen, University of Turku, FI

#Sarah Eilers
Host: Johanna Kaakinen, University of Turku, FI

http://ereadcost.eu

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Join our **Facebook closed group** (https://www.facebook.com/groups/eReadCOST/) to communicate with the E-Read COST community.
Like our **Facebook page** (https://www.facebook.com/ereadcost/) and publish any good news (new publications, upcoming events related to e-read COST) that you would like to spread to a wider audience!
Join our professional **Linkedin group** E-Read COST (https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8456377) and invite any interested colleagues to join our discussions!

Next deadlines for STSMs:
01.09.2016
01.01.2017

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