International pre-conference for junior researchers in Groningen

There are still a few places left!

In the last week of August the international EARLI SIG 18 & 23 conference is organized in Groningen. This is a conference on the themes educational effectiveness, educational improvement, and accountability. A special pre-conference is organized for JURE members (junior researchers) of the EARLI SIGs 18 and 23 attending the main conference on the day before the conference (August 28th, 2018). There are still a few places left to attend the pre-conference by junior researchers (PhD-students and postdocs) from the BSS Graduate School and ICO.

During this day there are two small group workshops of three hours from which the participants can choose. For each workshop a maximum of 20 participants is set. The first workshop, provided by Jessaca Spybrook (Western Michigan University), is focused on designing adequately powered cluster randomized trials. The second workshop, provided by George Leckie (University of Bristol), is focused on three-level, cross-classified and multiple membership multilevel models. At the end of the day there will be an informal "meet the professors session" to ask all your questions on careers in science. Attending this session are Pamela Sammons (Oxford University), Sally Thomas (Bristol University), Daniel Muijs (Ofsted), Christine Rubie-Davies (The University of Auckland). The program timeline and the full workshop descriptions are presented below. The pre-conference will be held at the Harmony Complex of the University of Groningen. Please see the website for more information.

To cover the expenses of the pre-conference we ask a registration fee of 20 euro for EARLI-members and 40 euro for non-EARLI-members. PhD-students and graduate school junior researchers from the faculty of Behavioural and Social Sciences of the university of Groningen could pay their registration fee by providing their project number. Other PhD-students of the University of Groningen could pay their registration fee by providing a company number + their project number. ICO PhD-students (from other universities) can transfer their registration fee to the University of Groningen, IBAN: NL87ABNA0401717801. Citing 514001 EARLI 2018 + the full name of the PhD student.

Registration for this pre-conference for the ICO and BSS Graduate School junior researcher is possible by filling in this form

We hope to see you there!

JURE Pre-conference program

Tuesday 28/08/2018	
10.00 – 10.30	Welcome and coffee
10.30 – 11.00	Opening
11.00 – 12.30	Workshop 1 or 2 (part 1)
12.30 – 13.30	Lunch
13.30 – 15.00	Workshop 1 or 2 (part 2)
15.00 – 15.30	Coffee break
15.30 – 17.00	Meet the professors

Optional having dinner together

Workshop 1: Designing Adequately Powered Cluster Randomized Trials: A Hands-On Workshop

Jessaca Spybrook, PhD

Western Michigan University

Cluster randomized trials, for example studies with students nested within schools with treatment randomly assigned at the school level, are becoming common designs to test the effectiveness of educational interventions. In order to yield high-quality evidence of the effectiveness of the intervention, the study must be designed with adequate statistical power to detect a meaningful treatment effect. The purpose of this workshop is to describe statistical power calculations for the main effect of treatment for 2-level CRTs. Further, I will introduce power calculations for moderator effects, or differential treatment effects for 2-level CRTs. The focus will include the conceptual framework for the calculations as well hands-on practice with the free software programs PowerUp! and PowerUp!-Moderator.

Workshop 2: Multilevel Modelling: Three-level, Cross-Classified and Multiple Membership Models

Dr George Leckie

Reader in Social Statistics

Centre for Multilevel Modelling, School of Education, University of Bristol

Multilevel modelling is now standard in quantitative educational research, but most researchers continue to only consider two-level analyses even when this is inappropriate. This intermediate course moves beyond standard two-level analyses to consider multilevel models for data with more complex three-level, cross-classified, and multiple-membership structures. Like two-level models, these more advanced models can be viewed as extended linear regressions where the intercept and regression coefficients are all potentially allowed to vary across clusters. However, we now have

multiple sources of clustering and this introduces new model specification, estimation, software, and interpretation challenges. In this course, we will introduce each class of model and their challenges and we will illustrate them with applications which extend standard two-level students-within-schools analyses of continuous student achievement. Thus, in our three-level application we will additionally account for clustering by classrooms, recognizing that students from the same classroom have more similar outcomes than students from different classrooms. In our cross-classified application we will instead account for students' residential neighbourhoods, recognising that not all students from the same neighbourhood attend the same school; a three-level model is not appropriate. In our multiple membership application we will allow for pupil mobility between schools and will therefore respect the entire sequence of institutions attended, not just the final one. We will provide electronic materials so that participants can replicate the presented analyses after the course in the MLwiN and Stata statistics packages.