



## **Early Childhood Studies Degrees Network: Student Publishing Opportunity: 8th Call for Student Papers: June 2020 – deadline for submission is Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July**

**Objective: To support and promote the ECSDN student voice and showcase students' engagement with contemporary childhood and children's workforce issues.**

### **Dear ECSDN Member**

I hope you are all well, here is an update on the Student Publication Opportunity as well as details about the 8<sup>th</sup> call for papers.

Thank you to all ECSDN members who have encouraged and supported students so far, it is down to you that we have managed to capture and share some of the amazing work our collective students produce.

For the 7th call for papers which was in February this year, we are grateful for the help we received from Maggie Crowley from Warwick, Jo Josephidou from the Open University and Siobhan O'Connor from Canterbury. They took considerable care to read the papers and to give supportive and helpful feedback to the students to help them develop their work for publication. I am very pleased that Maggie, Jo and Siobhan are happy to help with the next round. If any members are interested in being part of the review panel, please let me know, it will be helpful to have a group of reviewers to call on, it will share the work associated with the initiative and make it more sustainable.

Most of all, thank you to the students who submitted their work, the breadth of subject and the quality of their work was excellent. There are 10 papers that will be published shortly on the ECSDN webpage. The students are always so pleased to hear that they are to be published and it really does make all the work worthwhile.

We started the student publishing opportunity in 2017 and have had 2 calls for papers each year. In light of current events, we were wondering whether to leave the second call for 2020. However, as I have had a few queries from members about the next call, and the students responded so promptly and positively to requests to attend to the minor modifications required despite being in lockdown, we have taken the decision to go ahead.

### **Details of the 8th call for papers**

We would be very grateful if you would circulate the details to your colleagues and encourage students to submit their work.

**1. The requirements are for the student publications are as follows:**

- L4 Reflection on an aspect of practice/ the role of the student practitioner: Word limit 1000-1500
- L5 View or commentary on a contemporary issue: Word limit 2000 – 2500
- L6 Report on leading practice underpinned by research: Word limit 3000 – 3500
- L7 Report on author's recent or current research findings: Word limit 4000 - 4500

**The submission deadline is Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020**

**2. Criteria for selection:**

- Relevance of topic or theme in the context of Early Childhood Studies
- Use of appropriate sources from literature
- Satisfactory quality of academic writing.
- For M level submission the work must be based on a small piece of original research. This can draw upon documentary evidence or original data. The submission must include a brief justification of research methodology used.
- All students must seek approval from their course or programme leader (or equivalent) prior to submission.
- Programme Leaders must confirm with the selection committee that they have approved the submission by signing the application (where possible) and sending the submission from their university email account. (See below for the Submission Form)

**3. Suggestions of how to encourage students to submit a paper**

Each HEI will have their preferred way of communicating with students, but here are a couple of ideas of how to encourage students to submit for publication:

- You may include in your assessment feedback that the student's work is worthy of wider dissemination
- Email students: this is an example of one used, please adapt to suit your needs:

*Dear Students*

*As we have been marking your assignments, we realise that you have produced a great deal of really interesting work. Many of your ideas and findings from your work are worthy of further dissemination. For this reason, our Centre has worked with other universities as part of the Early Childhood Studies Degrees Network (ECS DN) to create a student publication opportunity for you. Please have a think about how you can use your assignments as the basis for an article which you can then submit for consideration. If you go to the website [www.ecsdn.org](http://www.ecsdn.org) you will see the work that has previously been published. Having a peer-reviewed article published is a useful addition to your CV. So please consider taking up this opportunity.*

*The call for papers has now been launched and the deadline is **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020***

**4. Guidance for submitting papers**

**We would be grateful for your support in the following ways:**

- Please complete the submission front sheet and paste it into the start of their paper and submit as a word document (not pdf) and send to their tutor for review and confirmation. Their tutor will then forward the submission to Jackie and Helen, copying the student in to the email. Please put 'ECSDN June 2020 call for student papers' in the subject bar
- Give their paper a specific title that reflects the content of their paper
- emphasise to students the importance of following the academic conventions of referencing as used at their university
- encourage students to spell-check and check grammar
- if their paper is based on students' own research, **they must address ethical consideration**

We are looking forward to seeing more interesting work from our students. And again, thank you to all of you who have supported this so far. Please pass on any comments you may have about refinements that you think we could make to the Student Publication Opportunity.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

Best wishes

Jackie and Helen

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