



Discourses on Quality and Education

29 June – 1 July 2015 / St.Gallen (Switzerland)

The human right to education encapsulates not only access to educational opportunities but also access to education quality. Equally indisputable is the social and economic significance of education, from nursery to university, from compulsory schooling to vocational training and adult education.

What remains a controversial debate, however, is the definition and development of education quality: How can strengths be preserved and potential for change identified? Does excessive quality management hinder the essence of education? How can education monitoring, competency testing and large scale comparative studies be deployed for improvements at the level of individual schools and in the classroom? Is education quality best fostered through teacher education and school development?

The quality discourse itself would gain in quality, if it were not reduced to implementing bureaucratic procedures producing hollow rhetoric and simplified rankings, but rather reflects the underlying understanding and discourses on education. The keynote speakers will be addressing the discourses of quality and education from various perspectives, including effectiveness research, the examination of teaching and learning processes and critical analysis of education discourses, as well as debates on the philosophy of education. Such it is with education, “it is about everything, orientation, enlightenment, and self-recognition, imagination, self-determination and inner freedom, moral sensibility, art and happiness.“ (Bieri, 2005, p. 7 translated).

The daily work of educational researchers it is not only to determine and understand quality in education but also to question the quality of educational research. With this goal in mind, the paper sessions and symposia provide the opportunity to discuss current research projects from all areas of educational research. Through a stimulating, reflective and critical discussion on content and methodology, on research projects and new theoretical approaches – the congress seeks to contribute to creating quality in educational research.

Contributions

Whereas the keynote speakers address the conference theme, all other contributions focus on a variety of themes from all areas of educational research.

Theoretical and empirical contributions are welcome. The conference languages are German, French, Italian and English. All submissions will be peer reviewed.

Submission deadline: 01.12.2014 – 31.01.2015

Your submission

The following presentation formats are possible: single paper, symposium and poster. All submissions need to be submitted electronically using **ConfTool** (www.conftool.com/sgbf2015). ConfTool enables you to submit and manage your contributions as well as register for the conference. Please enter your abstract in the mask provided. The number of submissions is limited to 2 per person (co-authorship included).

Presentations may be held in German, French, Italian or English. The language chosen for the submission should correspond to the language of the contribution.

After a double-blind peer review of all submissions, authors will be notified about the final decision by the end of March 2015.

Paper

A paper presentation will be scheduled for a duration of 30 minutes, with **20 minutes for the presentation** and **10 minutes for questions**. Papers will be arranged by the conference committee as thematic paper sessions, including three papers for a 90 minute session. A chair will be nominated by the conference organizers to support time management and discussion in each paper session.

For a paper presentation an **abstract of max 500 words** is required. Please describe the theoretical and research context of your work, your leading question and, in the case of empirical papers, the methodology of your research and your results.

Symposium

A symposium should be planned with **3 contributions and a discussant**, but may also include 4 contributions and a discussant. A symposium chair (usually one of the presenters) should be named. The chair is responsible for the allocation of time for contributions and discussions within the symposium. A symposium lasts **90 minutes**, including all presentations and discussion. There are no other specifications for collaboration in a symposium; multilingual symposia are welcome.

Submissions include a **symposium abstract of max 250 words** and an **abstract of max 500 words for each individual contribution**. Please describe the theoretical and research context of your work, your leading question and, in the case of empirical papers, the methodology of your research and your results.

Symposia will be reviewed overall and every contribution will be evaluated on its own merits. In case of rejection of some contributions or the symposium, the remaining accepted contributions will be allocated to paper sessions.

Poster

For a poster an **abstract of max 500 words** should be submitted. Please describe the theoretical and research context of your work, your leading question and, in the case of empirical posters, the methodology of your research and – if already available – your results.

Posters must be printed as **A0 high size** (84.1 x 118.9 cm). Authors will hang up their posters on the screens provided on arrival. During the session “Meet the Poster Authors“ authors are expected to be **available for discussion next to their posters**.

For further information about the congress, please visit the [congress website](http://www.ssre2015.ch) (www.ssre2015.ch or www.sgbf2015.ch).

We are looking forward to seeing you in St.Gallen.

