Mission Statement of the Gender Standing Working Group for 2017-2022

Exploring the significance of gender in histories of education has been an ongoing project in ISCHE. The Gender SWG’s primary goal is to articulate the significance of gender in relation to the dynamics of intersectionality in local, national, regional, transnational and supra-national historical research in education. Thus studies and conceptual approaches that investigate the relationships and entanglements between the different levels is an important dimension of our agenda. Likewise, within this approach to intersectionality the SWG is proposing to extend its remit to include research into ways in which masculinities as well as femininities interact with an array of cultural markers including race, class, age, religion and nationality.

Given that educational networks are one of the oldest forms of global connectedness, we are interested in men and women educators whose lives and work crossed borders as well as networks of correspondence, and exchanges of material goods such as books and pedagogical materials. We include activism within groups and organisations whose work transcended national borders, for example, the United Nations. In that sense we are interested in connections between women educators and international feminist networks and their intersections with men who engaged in international feminist networks.

Gendering local, national, regional, transnational and supra-national histories of education invites submissions to the ISCHE 43 conference (31 August – 4 September 2022) in Milan, Italy. The conference theme “Histories of Educational Technologies: Cultural and Social Dimensions of Pedagogical Objects” complements our gender group’s mission statement. We are seeking papers that apply the lens of gender (alone or in conjunction with other cultural markers) and an international or transnational dimension to the conference theme.

Deadline, 31 January, 2022

Please submit abstract proposals through the conference electronic system by selecting the Gender SWG in the Abstracts area. Proposals will be submitted in English and explain briefly the research problem, objectives, theoretical and methodological approach, main primary and secondary sources, core arguments and main results. Proposals should be a maximum of 500 words, excluding bibliography. We recommend to additionally select as a second choice one of the thematic strands of the conference, so that in case of too many proposals for our SWG some may (collectively) be redirected to another strand. We intend to prepare an edited volume of gender focused papers.