

Editorial

The Early Childhood and Care sector has expanded dramatically during the last decades in all Nordic countries. Today almost all young children take part in some kind of child care before they start school. But research and development have not expanded in the same dramatic way; it is indeed a small research sector, where the base line of knowledge production takes place as master's or doctoral theses, or is published by staff at the preschool teacher education at universities and other higher educational institutions.

It is evident that we cannot wait for the research grants to come. We have to consolidate our field, and this is why this new Open Access journal is launched and presenting a first number issue with four peer reviewed articles. It is important to make this a Nordic journal. We are small countries which all have much in common in the ECEC sector and at the same time differ a lot.

Even if this first issue of *Nordisk barnhageforskning* does not present articles from all Nordic countries, we will include more of them in coming issues, of which the next will be published in the beginning of next year. We therefore invite you all to submit high quality articles on all different topics within the field of Early Childhood Education.

The language issue may be an obstacle in Nordic cooperation. Since we only publish on the net, we aim at a platform for all Nordic languages, even if we guess that English sometimes will be used as an inter lingua – which this first editorial is an instance of. We wish to give authors a chance to choose their language and

audience, and hence publish in any Nordic Language as well as English.

This journal is initiated by the Norwegian research network *Child Life*, which is constituted by *Dronning Mauds Minne Høgskole* in Trondheim, *Høgskolen i Oslo*, *Høgskolen i Vestfold* and *Universitetet i Stavanger*.

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We are very thankful to *Høgskolen i Oslo*, which generously has provided the necessary funding in order to start this journal, the journal is also produced in Oslo. We also take the opportunity to thank the article authors and the reviewers, as well as all others persons involved in the production of this first number of *Nordisk Barnehageforskning*.

On behalf of the Child Life network,
Oslo October 28th 2008

Ingrid Pramling Samuelsson
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