

Call for applications for ERME TOPIC CONFERENCES in 2018

ERME Topic Conferences (ETC) are conferences organised on a specific research theme or themes related to the work of ERME as presented in associated working groups at CERME conferences. Their aim is to extend the work of the group or groups in specific directions with clear value to the mathematics education research community.

Rationale

The idea of ERME Topic Conferences takes us right back to the stage at which the founders of ERME conceptualised the association and declared the goals for it, increasing the opportunities for cooperation, collaboration and communication among European and extra-European researchers in mathematics education. They would be led by ERME members who have been working group leaders at (at least) two conferences and who have research credentials in the thematic areas proposed. They would build explicitly on European research in mathematics education and attract participation from researchers from Europe or beyond who work explicitly in these thematic areas.

The fact that this is a European initiative does not mean that all participants have to be European. However, ETC must be held in Europe and build on European research while valuing wider perspectives. They may have an interdisciplinary or multifaceted nature, bringing together participants that usually attend different Thematic Working Groups in CERME. The preparation of the ETC should follow a procedure similar to the preparation of the Working Groups at CERME, using similar guidelines, with possible adaptations. Besides the communication and collaborations that may evolve from this activity, the expected result of the ETC is to produce a set of refereed proceedings, under the name of ERME, that may be available online or in print or both and that contributes, by itself, to the advancement of knowledge in our field. These initiatives should take place during the year in which CERME does not take place.

The preparatory work will be done by the enthusiastic team of group leaders who have proposed the conference. They should convince the Board that they have a serious research agenda and that an ETC can be valuable in furthering the agenda. The Board's job will be to ensure that the conference maintains a high scientific standard and upholds the spirit of ERME.

Practical issues

- 1) ETC may be proposed by an Organizing Committee (OC) that includes at least two CERME Thematic Working Groups leaders (or co-leaders, if the leader agrees) from one or more groups which have been a stable activity (18 members or more) in the last 3 CERME conferences.
- 2) The OC, in their proposal, should indicate a location and tentative date with a local team (LC) to do the organisation (of course, these two groups, OC and LC may overlap partially or totally).
- 3) The proposal will include a short abstract on the theme, brief description of the state of the art, ETC leaders, IPC/ LC, structure of ETC, percentage of expected young researcher participants (from 10% to 20%).
- 4) The ETC must aim for only a small number of selected participants, to be selected from

responses to a call for abstracts. The proposal should specify the limit.

5) The ETC must have an International Program Committee (IPC), representing at least 5 European countries (to ensure a minimum of diversity). Two members of the Board should join the IPC for the ETC, but they may attend the ETC or not (this is to ensure that the ETC is set up in accordance with ERME principles).

6) The initiative will be funded from resources found by the proposers and will not involve the ERME finances.

7) At least electronically, peer reviewed proceedings should be issued, the HAL Archive is the natural place for it as it also collects all CERME proceedings.

8) After the ETC, the ETC Program Committee can consider to select some of the contributions and elaborate them into an edited volume in the ERME series published at Routledge.

9) The ERME Board has to give agreement for any ETC to take place under the ERME name. The ERME Board will check the program structure in order to ensure the CERME spirit of communication, cooperation and collaboration rather than only presentations.

Call for applications

This paper is also a call for application, issued to all ERME members with a deadline for applications on March, 31, 2017 to the ERME Board (therese.dooley@dcu.ie AND prediger@math.uni-dortmund.de). Successful ETCs can be repeated on the base of a new application. The application must contain:

- The members of the International Program Committee.
- Title and place of the ETC.
- Planned program structure (subject to reconfirmation after the submission of contributions) and intended number of active contributions. Make explicit how the CERME spirit of communication, cooperation and collaboration rather than only presentations.
- Draft of the call for contributions.