The 2018 BERA conference was held in Newcastle, at Northumbria University. There was a strong presence of philosophy of education both within the Philosophy of Education Special Interest Group and within other BERA SIGs. Janet Orchard was appointed as co-convenor of the SIG alongside Richard Davies.

Attendance at the Philosophy of Education SIG events was good and we organised several symposia with colleagues with a more empirical agenda. These ‘mixed’ symposia were particularly well attended.

In 2018 SIG members supported a day conference with colleagues from a range of disciplines within education. This was focussed on ‘the role of the body in education’. It was organised in association with PESGB and Warwick University and saw attendance for a range of practitioners working in, and beyond school, as well as educationalists.

We are in the middle of the reviewing process for BERA 2019 (at the University of Manchester, 10th – 12th September). At the point of writing this we have no idea about the number of papers submitted to the SIG or the likely acceptance rate. However, every year we say it is always good to have more submissions at future conferences, and even at this early stage we would encourage you to think about submitting an abstract for BERA 2020 (the deadline will be late January 2020).

We are in the process of organising two day conferences for later this year. The first is in collaboration with the Religions and Values SIG responding to the recent Commission on Religious Education. The second is on the topic of the ‘knowledge turn’ in schooling which is likely to be held in London. More details will be circulated as they become available.

Richard Davies and Janet Orchard
SIG co-convenors 2018-9