

Annual report from the Nordic network "Communicative relations" to the
Nordic leadership forum of deafblindness 2019

Members: Ulrica Broddstedt / Anne-Marie Janko (Sweden)

Anne Nafstad / Lynn Skei (Norway)

Pia Haugaard / Sanne Brink (Denmark)

Maria Creutz – Project Manager / NWC (Sweden)

The main purpose of the network is to spread the knowledge of the theories / models from the book "Communicative Relations."

The purpose of the network is to contribute to the development of knowledge-based practices through case studies. The case studies should exemplify the development of communicative relationships in a dialogical perspective.

The network wishes to cooperate with other Nordic networks within the deafblind field and also with national network groups that exists.

The network wishes to keep a constant focus on strengthening the Nordic cooperation. Not only between the Nordic networks but all the way to the individual national networks/groups. We believe this is the best way to spread competence and knowledge.

Meetings of the network:

- D. 27-28 Feb. 2018 in Aalborg.
- D. 22-23 Aug. 2018 in Gothenburg.
- D. 28-29 Nov. 2018 in Gothenburg.

This is how we proceeded: The first day the network works according to the agreed agenda. On the second day, the Nordic network is invited to a national network day where we collaborate with video analysis from practice examples.

The Networks tasks:

- The network wrote an application to participate with a workshop at the Deafblind International 17th World Conference in August 2019. The headline/theme was: A diversity perspective on communication in the field of deafblindness – updated guidelines based on recent fieldwork. Unfortunately, this was denied.

In collaboration with NWC, the network has contributed with the plan for a follow-up course to “Communicative relations”.

The course will take place in Copenhagen in March 2019 and two of the members of the network, Anne Nafstad and Lynn Skei, will be responsible for parts of the teaching.

- We're in the writing process of an article for the “Journal of Deafblind Studies on Communication.” An article that will consist of a theoretical part and an empirical part. The request of the article was given to the network after the workshop at the pre-conference to the European Conference.

The network contributes to a collaboration between Statped and Højskolen Sør-øst, USN (Norway) in a Master study. The study is called “*Relasjonelle tilnærminger til atypisk kommunikation*” and began in January 2019.

The future plans for the Network:

- In June 2019 the network will start a longitudinal case study, which initially concentrates on one case person. It is a case study in which the theories from "CR" will help to quality assure and evidence-base the knowledge that will be collected and where, based on work questions, we elaborate the theories behind "CR". What will the theories teach us, are they useful in relation to the study question and are there new knowledge that can also contribute to the study and the work documented over time?
- To film footage / "TED Talks", where academic concepts are discussed / tried to be explained in relation to "Communicative Relations." These will eventually be found on NVC's webpage.
- To widespread knowledge of the newly started group on FaceBook, where the activities of the network and other useful knowledge can be shared.

Next meeting:

- June 4th to June 5th in Oslo. A work meeting over the course of two days, exclusively for the network.

Sanne Brink, CDH
Aalborg, March 2019