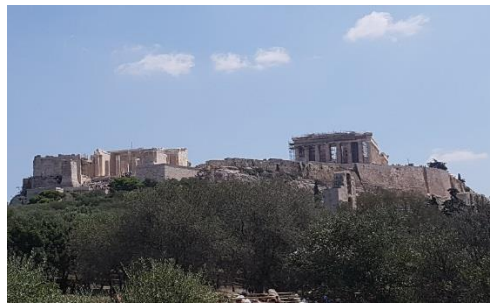


## Conference report 8th Early Career Researchers Meeting SIRG PIMD



Athens, 17<sup>th</sup> of July 2018

Before the start of the 5<sup>th</sup> IASSIDD Europe Congress in Athens, the SIRG PIMD early career researchers and senior researchers gathered during the ECR meeting. We started the day in the conference hotel and walked together to the venue of the ECRM: the Athens Conservatoire. There, we had an introduction round and we divided the participants in two groups: the seniors prepared an observation workshop with tips & tricks for the afternoon and the early career researchers had time to get to know each other and each other's research projects using posters. They all drew a picture representing their research project to talk about their research in an informal way.



The early career researchers explaining their research projects

Next, we had an inspiring and interesting workshop about publication, by Prof. dr. Juliet Goldbart: "What's the story, Morning Glory?" Getting qualitative research in learning/communication disability published. This workshop contained tips and tricks to keep in mind when submitting research for publication.



The observation workshop of Prof. dr. Juliet Goldbart

In the afternoon, we focused on the topic ‘observation’, and discussed questions such as: “How to achieve a high inter-rater reliability, given the idiosyncratic and subtle behaviors of persons with PIMD?”, “What are standards for evaluating inter- rater reliability?”, “How to discern intentional behavior from non- intentional behavior?”. Good practices and ideas concerning these issues were shared with each other and examples of observation research to illustrate this were discussed.

In addition, some early career research got the chance to present about their research and to raise questions they were still struggling with or to introduce studies they needed input on. We ended the ECRM with a workshop about participation of parents in research, including a video in which two parents talked about their motives and reasons to participate or not to participate in research. This gave us food for thought and inspired us to pay considerate attention to parent participation in future research.

To conclude the ECRM, there was a social dinner on the 18<sup>th</sup> of July to get to know each other in an informal way.



Social dinner of the Early Career Researcher

We had an inspiring meeting. We were pleased to see many familiar faces and to welcome some new researchers. For more information about the SIRG-PIMD and ECRM, including newsletters, we refer to the following websites: <https://www.iassidd.org/content/profound-multiple-disabilities> and <https://ecrmpimd.weebly.com/>. See you on the next ECR meeting?