

Gender & Education Working Group

Co-chaired by SWG co-chairs: Adelina Arredondo and Christine Mayer

This session will consist of two parts: Ruth Watts' presentation on "History & Productivity of the ISCHE Gender and Education Group," and a group discussion of the proposed SWG session, "Gender, Power Relations and Education in a Transnational World" for the 2015 CISH conference, in Jinan China. Ruth Watts, a funding member of the SWG, will present a paper that examines the history of the SWG and how far it has realized its changing aims at the ISCHE conferences and in publications, especially articles appearing in *Paedagogica Historica* over the last 18 years. Gender historians in ISCHE have constantly been investigating the concept of gender realizing that it is not a stable definition but needs to be understood in context and location. The focus has mostly been on women because the latter were so often ignored in history but their concern is with the meanings attributed to 'woman' and 'man', to 'feminine' and 'masculine' in any time and place and the way this impacts on the way different individuals and groups are treated in life and education. How gender is affected and dissected by class, religion, ethnicity and other societal groupings has been investigated, as have the ways women have accepted, subverted, appropriated or rejected the dominant male culture, used educational advances to challenge the latter or even establish their own educative communities. The second part of the session will be group discussion about the SWG's proposal for a panel at the 2015 meeting of SICH (the International Committee of Historical Sciences) in China.