



British Society for  
Research into  
Learning Mathematics

[www.bsrlm.org.uk](http://www.bsrlm.org.uk)

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**Outreach Coordinator Report 2018-19**

I am currently one of the Convenors for the BERA Special Interest Group (SIG) in Mathematics Education; the other Convenor is Natthapoj Vincent Trakulphadetkrai (University of Reading).

A small group of us met at the BERA SIG in Mathematics Education as part of the BERA annual conference this September in Manchester. There were some good symposia and individual paper submissions within the SIG, but attendance was low. The number of submissions and acceptances/rejections are given below, for the last four years.

Year	Total papers submitted	Total papers accepted	Total papers rejected
2016	19	16	3
2017	15	12	3
2018	24	14	10
2019	18	12	6

The Mathematics Education SIG is small, as I understand that it has been for some time, and my impression is that few BSRLM members attended. The BERA conference is expensive (£400, not including accommodation) and takes place at a time (mid-September) which is likely to be difficult for those teaching on ITE courses. The timing also means that it is virtually impossible for school teachers to attend. It is not clear what we might do to increase participation at future BERA Mathematics Education SIGs. The opportunities that BSRLM provides for mathematics education researchers to meet and share their research, at far lower cost, to some degree makes the function of the BERA Mathematics Education SIG a little unclear. BERA is seen by some as a high-status conference (comparisons are made with AERA in the US) and also provides opportunities to network with education researchers beyond mathematics education.

We are holding a *BERA Practitioner Research in Mathematics Education* event on Saturday 7 December in London. We have 15 teachers signed up to present their research, and we are very fortunate to have Pete Wright as the keynote speaker. There will be workshops on interviewing and video-stimulated reflection, and on writing for practitioner journals.

I am continuing to work at raising the profile of BSRLM more widely by participating at a variety of events, including ResearchED and NCETM.

Colin Foster, Outreach Coordinator, Loughborough University, November 2019