

CV

Basic Information

Mia (Helena) Heikkilä

Born on April, 5th 1975 in Kristinestad, Finland

Finnish and Swedish citizen

Parental leave: September 2008-March 2009, January 2011 – December 2011

Education, continuing education and degrees

- 2016 Docent in Education, Mälardalen University, Sweden
- 2015 Doctoral supervision course, Mälardalen University, Sweden
- 2014 Teaching and learning in university pedagogies 10 credits and Educational qualification portfolio 2.5 credits, Mälardalen University, Sweden
- 2006 PhD in Education, Faculty of Social Sciences, Uppsala University
- 2000 Master in Music Education, Royal College of Music, Stockholm
- 1999 Master in Education, including primary school teacher exam, Faculty of Education, Åbo Akademi University

Work experience

- 2021-09-01 – Guest professor, Dalarna university, Falun, Sweden
- 2019-09-24 – Associate professor in early childhood education, Åbo Akademi University, Vasa, Finland (tenure track professorship)
- 2019-08-01 - Head of Subject and Head of Study Programme in ECE teacher training, Åbo Akademi University, Vasa, Finland
- 2018-04-01 – 2019-09-23
Research leader for early childhood education (equivalent to pre-school education), Faculty of Education and Welfare Studies, Åbo Akademi University, Vasa, Finland.
- 2011- 2020 Senior Lecturer in Education at the Department of Preschool Education at the School of Education, Culture and Communication, Mälardalen University
- 2016-2018 Research fellow in didactics at the Department of Preschool Education at the School of Education, Culture and Communication, Mälardalen University.
- 2013 Senior Lecturer in Education (30% of full-time) at the Department of Education, Communication and Learning, University of Gothenburg, 01/01/2013 - 2013-06-30

Language skills

Swedish (mother tongue) Finnish (second mother tongue) , English (excellent knowledge), German (basic skills) , Understands and communicates in Norwegian and Danish

3 Research and other scientific activities

- 2021 Höskolestiftelsen and Svensk-Österbottniska Samfundet
Lärare som stöder barns resiliens (LSR) – inom småbarnspedagogik i corona- och post corona tider (Teachers Supporting Resilience (TSR) - in corona and post corona Early Childhood Education and Care context)
Initiating and executing the application, 70 000 euro
- 2021 Early Childhood Education Leadership Program, 2021-2023, led by the Centre for Lifelong Learning at Åbo Akademi University, in cooperation with University of Helsinki, 450 000 euro
Active co-writer and co-designer of application
- 2020-2024 Planning and executing a web based Early childhood teacher training program 2020-2024 from the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture (part of a national project). planning 20 000, executing: 386 173 euro, supplementary financing; 216 000 euro. In total: 622 173 euro
Complemented funding: Svenska Kulturfonden, 165 000 euro
Brita Maria Renlunds stiftelse, 165 000 euro
- 2019 Develop new early childhood education settings specifically formed for teacher education students' internship/practice, Funding for 18 months from the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture, 209 000 € (responsible applicant together with the faculty's dean). Initiating and executing the application
- 2018 Funding for 18 month's research and development project *Stjärnklart ('Starlit')* in cooperation with the Centre for Lifelong Learning at Åbo Akademi University, (EUR 235,000; Funder: Finnish National Agency for Education.)
Initiating and executing the application
- 2017-2019 Research and development project *Normmedvetna rum för lek och lärande* (dnr 2016-04194) (Norm-critical space for play and learning) VINNOVA (Swedish Innovation Agency); 2,5 million SEK, Mälardalen University
Initiating and executing the research application.
- 2014-2016 Interactive evaluation researcher and assignment as content supporter for Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions network called "More men to preschool". I followed the process, analysed empirical material (mainly interviews) and held workshops, final report in June 2016.
Initiated by the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions

Assignments (a selection of)

- 2021- Member of the Steering committee of the doctoral programme in educational sciences, Faculty of Education and Welfare Studies, Åbo Akademi University
- 2021 Expert concerning gender segregation in education, Swedish Agency for Gender Equality

- 2021 Keynote: National Agency of Education, Finland, 2021: on Children's play interaction in ECEC with a special focus on inclusion and exclusion strategies
- 2020- Member of the Scientific Committee of the Swedish Gender Equality Agency
- 2019- Member of the Gender Equality Board Faculty, Åbo Akademi University

4 Teaching and supervision

Uppsala university 2002-2006

(at the former Department of Education as well as Department of Teacher training).

Swedish National Defence College 2007

(military officer training /civil servant training)

University of Gothenburg 2013

(ECEC teacher training programme)

Mälardalen University 2012-2018

(ECEC teacher training programme)

Åbo Akademi University 2018 -

Courses and Ongoing 7 PhD students

Experience in education planning and education administration

- 2019-2020 Initiating and leading the process of a total revision of Early childhood education teacher's training programme including a revision of the master's programme in Early childhood education at Åbo Akademi University
Developing a master's seminar in ECEC
- 2020-2021 Creating and detailed planning of two master's courses (and teaching both)
Theories of play and learning in early childhood education
Norm-critical perspectives in educational settings
Student's evaluation is available.
- 2020-2021 In charge of planning and executing the development of the Early childhood education teacher's training programme from campus based to online based, together with project manager