

Professional Trip Report

My presentation titled Unveiling the Multifaceted Nature of the Teaching Profession: Preservice Teachers' Perspectives through Photo Elicitation Interviews marked a significant milestone in my doctoral journey. As this study is also a related part of my dissertation, I had invested considerable time and effort in developing its theoretical and methodological foundations under the supervision of my supervisor, Dr. Erika Kopp. This prior preparation not only enhanced my confidence but also ensured that the delivery went smoothly. I was gratified to see the presentation unfold as planned and to witness great interest and positive reception from the chair and the audience.

The presentation itself was a rewarding experience, but the question-and-answer session proved to be the most intellectually stimulating aspect of the event. Engaging with questions from scholars with diverse perspectives and experience required me to respond spontaneously, which challenged me to articulate my arguments more clearly and defend my methodological and theoretical choices. Audience members brought perspectives from different cultural, professional, and disciplinary contexts, which allowed me to view my research through new and sometimes unexpected lenses. In doing so, I realized how much I have grown as a researcher—not only in terms of knowledge but also in terms of confidence and my identity as a researcher. Being able to hold my ground in front of experienced scholars reassured me that I am developing into an independent researcher with a distinct voice in the field of teacher education.

This conference, organized by the Association of Teacher Education in Europe (ATEE), was a particularly meaningful academic platform because of its international nature. I had the privilege of meeting scholars from a wide range of countries, including the United Kingdom, the United States, the Netherlands, Poland, the host country (Ireland), Finland, as well as more geographically distant contexts such as Japan, China, and Singapore. Each interaction highlighted how teacher education is both a universal concern and yet also shaped by unique national, cultural, and institutional contexts. These interactions broadened my understanding of how educational researchers outside of Hungary conceptualize and approach their phenomena of interest. I gained insights into the diversity of research tools and methodological frameworks being employed internationally, which has enriched my own perspective and future research directions. Furthermore, as the ATEE conference has the ceremony of presidency handover, I had the great opportunity to discuss with the editors of D1 journals and numerous distinguished scholars who have published in D1 journals and even received Editor's Choice awards. I also had the privilege of engaging in scholarly discussions with the former president of the Association of Teacher Educators (USA) and members of the editorial board of the Journal by Association of Teacher Educators (USA), including Goodson, the Dean of the College of Education at Kansas State University.

Beyond intellectual exchange, a particularly rewarding aspect of the conference was the opportunity to establish professional networks. I was able to engage in meaningful conversations with fellow researchers, some of whom (China, Finland, the UK, Ireland) expressed strong interest in collaborating with me on upcoming projects. These connections are not only

invaluable for future academic collaboration but also for fostering a sense of belonging within the global community of teacher education researchers.

I attached the photo and a short video during my presentation at the conference along with conference participation certificate. In my presentation, I also added a note that the conference participation was subsidised by the Talent Support Council of ELTE Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest.