Research Profile Template

Name	Rianne Jansens rjansens@ucc.ie or rianne.jansens@ltu.se
Title of study	Enhancing children's right to be heard in (re)designing public play spaces.
Supervisor(s)	Dr. Helen Lynch University College Cork Dept of Occupational Science & Occupational Therapy, Ireland Dr. Maria Prellwitz Luleå University of Technology Department of Health, Education and Technology, Occupational Therapy, Sweden Partner: Dr. Linda O'Sullivan Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, Ireland Rianne is registered in a Euroepan Joint Doctoral Progamme and co-registered betwen UCC, Ireland and LTU University, Sweden
Background/Abstract (350 words max)	According to the Convention of the Rights of the Child, children have the right to participation: they should be given adequate information, opportunities to express their views and contribute to decision-making processes on matters affecting them. Their views should be given due weight according their age and maturity. One of children's important occupations is play and the (re)design of public playspaces lends itself to bringing children's voices into this process. It's not clear to what extent children's participation is incorporated in existing guidelines, tools and policies for play and what can be considered as good practice. Knowing that some groups of children are often not represented in formal bodies, this research will investigate how seldom heard children (i.e. young children, children with disabilities or children with a disadvantaged home situation) can be reached and involved in the

(re)design process for a public playspace in their municipality e.g. which kind of participatory approaches are perceived as feasible and efficacious? What do they need to exercise their right to participation in the community?

The outcome of this work: researching how the ongoing processes of children's participation can be applied to the processes of (re)design of public play spaces potentially leads to enhancing children's right to be heard and, possibly strengthen seldom heard children to advocate themselves for play opportunities in their local municipality.

Publications (e.g. articles, conferences, etc)

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Moerman, C., Jansens, R., van der Heide, L., de Witte, L., & Heerink, M. (2016). How to Introduce a new technology into existing health care practices and evaluate its potential: experiences from the New Pals project. Paper presented at the New Friends Conference, Spain: Barcelona.

van den Heuvel, R. A. F., Lexis, M. A. S., Jansens, R. M. L., Marti, P., & de Witte, L. P. (2017). Robots supporting play for children with physical disabilities: Exploring the potential of IROMEC. *Technology and Disability*, *29*(3), 109-120. doi:10.3233/TAD-160166 (

Huijnen, C. A. G. J., Lexis, M. A. S., Jansens, R., & de Witte, L. P. (2017). How to Implement Robots in Interventions for Children with Autism? A Co-creation Study Involving People with Autism, Parents and Professionals *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 2017(47), 3079-3096. doi:10.1007/s10803-017-3235-9

Besio, S., Bulgarelli D., Iacono, I., Jansens, R. Mizzi, M., Perino, O. (2018). Becoming expert in playing with children with disabilities. The LUDI training school "Play and Toys for all". *Today's Children Tomorrow's Parents*. (47-48), 62-73

Encarnação, P. & Jansens, R. (2018) What Assistive Technologies exist to enable participation in play? In P. Encarnação, S. Ray-Kaiser, N. Bianquin (Eds) Guidelines for supporting children with disabilities' play. Methodologies, tools, and contexts. Warsaw: De Gruyter Open access: https://www.degruyter.com/viewbooktoc/product/507228

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Moerman, C.J. & Jansens, R.M.L. (2020) *Using social robot PLEO to enhance the well-being of hospitalized children: A multiple case study.* Journal of Child Health Care Jansens, R. (2020) Kinderergotherapie en ondersteunende technologie. Het lijkt wel een haat-liefde relatie?! [Paediatric occupational therapy and technology. It seems to be a hate-love relationship?!] *Ergotherapie Magazine* 2020(3).

Link to Orchid Profile/ Research gate profile/Iris profile or website

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ResearchGate: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Rianne-Jansens

Biography e.g. qualification/training/work history (200 words max)	Rianne Jansens worked as occupational therapist with children and young people with different kind of disabilities in the Netherlands after graduating at Artevelde College in Ghent, Belgium. Her interest in children with disabilities was reassured when she was giving supervision and teaching at a BSc. occupational therapy programme at Zuyd University of Applied Science in Heerlen, in the south of the Netherlands.
	After the European Master of Science in Occupational Therapy she joined part-time at Zuyd University the Research Centre of Assistive Technology in Care and discovered the how fascinating research can be, e.g., investigating the role of a robot in therapy, in play of children with disabilities. Rianne joined the COST Action (TD1309) LUDI: Play for children with disabilities as chair of workgroup about toys and technologies for play and taking part in the core group and LUDI training school.
	Being able to join the P4Play project is another great possibility in supporting research and the provision of play opportunities for all children as it such an important daily occupation in their lives.
Funding body (if relevant)	P4Play project https://www.p4play.eu/ has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 re and innovation programme under the Marie Sklodowska-Curie grant agreement No 861257