



GIREP 2026

PhD Summer School

The 2nd GIREP Summer School for PhD students in Physics Education Research

RETHYMNO, CRETE, GREECE, July 3rd to July 5th, 2026

The second GIREP SUMMER SCHOOL aims to embrace the collaborative and collegial atmosphere among physics educators that is so apparent at physics education conferences like GIREP, the International Research Group on Physics Teaching, for the benefit of research students in physics education research (PER). It will be held from July 3rd to July 5th, 2026, in Rethymno, Crete, Greece, as a pre-conference standalone activity, before the GIREP annual conference. It is sponsored by GIREP and the Science Teaching Lab of the Department of Primary Education, University of Crete.

The Summer school is a PER-specific event that aims to foster an international community among young and experienced researchers. The programme is planned to run from Friday afternoon through Sunday night. Working in groups of 5-6 PhD students and 3-4 experienced researchers, PhD students will take turns in presenting their work-in-progress and dilemmas, and receiving high-quality feedback from the group members. Ground rules serve to establish norms and ensure a safe place to discuss central questions of PER practice.

The Summer School will consist of two types of sessions:

1. Working-group sessions: Each session lasts 90 minutes.

- The first half of this type of session is devoted to a single PhD student presenting their work and dilemmas [either as a 45-minute presentation, or as a 15-minute presentation followed by 30 minutes of workshop activities anchored in research artifacts (e.g., bottom-up analysis of interview transcripts; analysis of respondents' data with a coding scheme, etc.)].
- The second half of the session is devoted to discussion with junior and expert researchers focused on the presenter's dilemmas.

2. Whole-group sessions, in which participants from different working groups will meet:

- Reflection sessions focused on participants' experiences and challenges as newcomers to the community.
- Plenary sessions focused on PER goals and practices.
- Social sessions focused on building strong connections among researchers.

Cost is estimated to be around 200 Euro (excluding accommodation). Lunch and dinner will be provided.

Eligibility:

PhD students should a) have at least second-year standing in their PhD studies by the time of the Summer School and have passed the PhD proposal stage; and b) They are no closer than nine months away from submitting their PhD dissertation.

Supervisors of participating PhD students are most encouraged to attend.

Other PER researchers are welcome to apply.

Organizing Committee:

- Stamatis Vokos, California Polytechnic State University, USA
- Edit Yerushalmi, Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel
- Dimitris Stavrou, University of Crete, Greece

For details & timeline please visit:

<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1593627/>

for submitting applications & the process to be followed.

Questions?

Please contact:

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