

Mid-Western Educational Research Association

Hilton Orrington Hotel, Evanston, Illinois

40th Annual Meeting | Oct 18-21, 2017

Call for Proposals

Proposal Deadline: May 15, 2017



Our Venue

The 2017 Annual Meeting of the Mid-Western Educational Research Association (MWERA) will be held at the beautiful Hilton Orrington Hotel in Evanston, Illinois. As in prior years, the Orrington provides us with excellent service, comfortable and beautifully decorated guest rooms, spacious and well-equipped meeting facilities, and plenty of common spaces for networking with fellow MWERA members. Additionally, our venue is located in the welcoming Northwestern University community and within walking distance of various restaurants and small shops so you can relax and enjoy yourself while not in sessions.

This year we invite all MWERA members—old and new, professionals and students, school practitioners and researchers—to join us in a friendly and collegial atmosphere as we connect around the issues and problems that are important to us as educational professionals. There will be opportunities to learn, reflect, make new connections, and renew old acquaintances. Prepare to be energized after attending MWERA!

Conference Theme

Come and INNOVATE with MWERA this year!!! For our 40th conference year, we have an exciting program of workshops, invited speakers, and peer-reviewed scholarly works presented in a variety of session formats. This year's program theme is:

Innovation in Education and Research

Sir Ken Robinson, a well-known thinker and speaker on innovation, highlighted what is most likely a fairly common sentiment in our educational enterprise,

"[Innovation] ...means challenging what we take for granted, things that we think are obvious. The great problem for reform or transformation is the tyranny of common sense. Things that people think, 'It can't be done differently, that's how it's done.'" (Robinson, K., 2010. TED Talk. https://www.ted.com/talks/sir_ken_robinson_bring_on_the_revolution)

As we move into a world of new industries, new labor market needs, and new problems to learn about and solve, we often find ourselves struggling to reform what we do in education and research just to discover that no real change has been made at all. Reforming an enterprise is not the same as transforming it. To effect true and lasting change, transformation is what we need—transformation through innovation, creativity, and thinking out of the proverbial box.

So to celebrate our 40th conference, we will focus on *Innovation in Education and Research* in our program of invited speakers and events. We enthusiastically invite submissions of proposals that feature innovative approaches, creative ideas, and new ways of thinking about old problems. Some possible areas of focus are, but are not limited to (NOT an exhaustive list):

- innovative teaching, learning, and research processes and methods
- innovative solutions to improve student support, access to education, addressing individual differences
- creativity in educational administrative processes, policy creation, and professional development of educators
- novel uses of ubiquitous technology tools in education and research
- cutting edge technology trends in education and research
- teaching innovation and creativity to students
- transforming (instead of reforming) the teaching and learning endeavor

Keep in mind, though the primary programming will center on this theme, ***we encourage the submission of proposals on any topic related to education and research.*** We value diversity in our presentation program, so please do submit your proposal even if it does not address this year's theme.

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As we celebrate the 40th MWERA Annual Meeting, and in light of our theme on innovation, we will introduce a new session format, held in the style of the "lightning talk," that allows for presenters to give very short presentations on innovative teaching or research practices. Read on to learn more about this format, our other exciting plans, and how you can be part of this year's conference!

General Information

The 2017 Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Educational Research Association will be held October 18-21, 2017. We invite K12 educators, higher educators, researchers, administrators, policymakers, and others involved in the enterprise of education to submit proposals for presentation at the meeting. Our theme is *Innovation in Education and Research*, but we welcome all proposals related to education. The proposal submission deadline is May 15, 2017. If you are not planning to submit a proposal to present, please consider attending to enhance your professional development by attending sessions and/or becoming more involved with the MWERA organization leadership or the MWER journal. We welcome participation from all sectors of education.

Attendance at the Annual Meeting

The 2017 Conference Program will consist primarily of presentations selected through a blind peer-review process. In addition, there will be invited speakers and symposia; panel discussions; special sessions for graduate students, new faculty, and new members; as well as the Friday keynote luncheon and other social events open to all attendees.

All sessions listed in the Conference Program will be open to anyone who has registered for the Annual Meeting; however, enrollment may be limited for some workshop sessions and business meetings are intended for members. Tickets for the Friday luncheon and speaker are available to all pre-registrants but **ticket availability is not guaranteed for late or on-site registrants**.

Membership and Conference Registration materials for the 2017 Annual Meeting will soon be available on the MWERA website (<http://www.mwera.org/>) and can be obtained by contacting the Program Chair at mwera2017@gmail.com.

Ways to Participate

Any education professional may submit a proposal for the MWERA 2017 Annual Meeting, whether or not that person is currently a member of MWERA. However, before the Annual Meeting, all presenters MUST be members in good standing with MWERA (that is, non-members must join MWERA as soon as they are notified that their proposal was accepted). To promote broader participation in the program, no one person should appear as a presenter on more than three proposals.

Division Chairs are also seeking MWERA members to serve as proposal reviewers, Session Chairs, and Session Discussants. Please contact a Division Chair or the Program Chair if you are willing to serve. Finally, you can participate simply by attending the conference and/or encouraging your colleagues and students to participate in any way (please share this Call for Proposals with others). All forms of participation are necessary to ensure a successful Annual Meeting!

Questions about proposals, the electronic submission process, or the meeting in general should be directed to the Program Chair:

Tracey A. Stuckey-Mickell
MWERA—2017 Program Chair
Department of Educational Studies
The Ohio State University
322 Ramseyer Hall
Columbus, OH 43214
Phone: 815-690-1435 (cell)
Email: mwera2017@gmail.edu

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Guidelines for Submitting a Proposal

While it is desirable for proposals to address the theme of the Annual Meeting, it is not required. Proposals **MUST be submitted electronically** over the Internet, using the submission process available through the Meeting website (proposals may **NOT** be mailed or e-mailed to the Program Chair or to Division Chairs). Specific instructions for submission can be found at the MWERA website:

<http://www.mwera.org>

Deadline for Proposal Submission

All proposals must be submitted no later than **midnight EST on May 15, 2017**. All proposals that are submitted by this deadline are guaranteed to be reviewed. Submissions will then be forwarded to Division Chairs, who will coordinate a number of volunteers in a system of blind review of proposals (i.e., proposals should be submitted without author identification). Please inform your division chairs (contact info can be found at the end of this call) if you plan to submit more than one proposal to a division.

Criteria for Proposal Review

Appropriate criteria, depending on the format and type of scholarly work being presented, have been developed and are used for the blind review process. These criteria include:

- A. Topic (originality, choice of problem, importance);
- B. Relevance of the topic to the Division and to MWERA membership (it does NOT have to address the theme of the conference);
- C. Contribution to research and education;
- D. Framework theoretical/conceptual/practical rationale, literature review, grounding);
- E. Analyses and interpretations (significance, implications, relationship of conclusions to findings, generalizability, or usefulness); and
- F. Overall written proposal quality (clarity of writing, logic, and organization).

Papers presented at MWERA are expected to be **original scholarship** conducted by the author(s) that has not previously been presented at any other meeting or published in any journal. Further, it is a violation of MWERA policy to promote commercially available products or services (except as exhibits) that go beyond the limits of appropriate scholarly or scientific communication. Individuals who wish to display educationally-related products or services should contact the Program Chair at mwera2017@gmail.com.

Expectations of Presenters

All persons, including graduate students, presenting at the 2017 Annual Meeting are expected to be **members in good standing** and to **pre-register for the full meeting**. Presenters whose papers have been accepted to a session with a Session Chair and/or Session Discussant are **expected to upload a completed version of their conference paper** through the MWERA website **no later than September 27, 2017**. Papers not uploaded to the website by this date may be dropped from the program. Presenters must also provide complete copies of their papers to attendees at their sessions (some form of handout is expected in most session formats).

LCD projectors and screens will be provided by MWERA in presentation rooms. **Presenters needing additional computer or audio-visual equipment must make their own arrangements** for such equipment (rental from the hotel may be possible at the presenter's own expense).

MWERA reserves the right to reproduce and distribute summaries and abstracts of all accepted proposals, including making such works available in a printed Program Abstract, through the MWERA website, and in press releases promoting the Annual Meeting

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and the organization. *As a condition of acceptance, all authors of papers accepted to the 2017 Annual Meeting explicitly grant MWERA the right to reproduce their work's summary and/or abstract in these ways.* Such limited distribution does not preclude any subsequent publication of the work by the author(s).

Authors of accepted proposals assume the ethical and professional responsibility to appear at the Annual Meeting and to participate in their presentation or assigned session. When circumstances preclude the author(s) from doing so, it is the responsibility of the author(s) to arrange a suitable substitute and to notify the Program Chair in advance, or as soon as possible.

Session Descriptors and Format Descriptions

Session Descriptors

Please be certain to use the approved MWERA descriptors in completing your proposal. These descriptors are located on the "Annual Meeting Information" tab of the MWERA website (<http://www.mwera.org/information.html>) and as part of the submission process.

Paper Presentation

Paper sessions are intended to allow presenters the opportunity to make short, relatively formal presentations in which they summarize their papers to an audience. Three to five individual papers dealing with related topics are grouped into a single session running 1 hour 20 minutes. Each paper presentation is allowed approximately 15 minutes (depending on the number of presentations in a given session) to present the highlights of the paper. In addition, a Session Discussant is allowed approximately 10-15 minutes, following all papers, for comments, synthesis, and/or constructive feedback. A Session Chair moderates the entire session. Presenters are expected to provide complete copies of their papers to all interested audience members.

Poster

Poster sessions are intended to provide opportunities for interested individuals to participate in a dialogue with both the presenter(s) and other interested individuals. Presenters are provided an area in which to display a small, table-top Poster, ancillary handouts, or other table-top A/V materials. Interested individuals are free to move into and out of these poster presentations as they wish. Presenters are expected to make available complete copies of the paper on which the poster was focused.

Symposium

A symposium is intended to provide an opportunity for examination of specific problems or topics from a variety of perspectives. Symposium organizers are expected to identify the topic or issue, identify and ensure the participation of individual speakers who will participate in the session, prepare any necessary materials for the symposium, and facilitate the session. It is suggested, though not required, that the speakers or symposium organizer will provide interested individuals with one (or more) papers relevant to, reflective of, or drawn from the symposium.

Workshop

Workshops are intended to provide an extended period of time during which the workshop leader helps participants develop or improve their ability to perform some process (e.g., how to provide clinical supervision, using the latest features of the Internet, or conduct an advanced statistical analysis). Organizers may request from 1½ to 3 hours, and are responsible for providing all necessary materials for participants. Most workshops are scheduled for Wednesday afternoon, although others may be scheduled throughout the conference.

Alternative Session

The form, topics, and format of alternative sessions are limited only by the imagination and creativity of the organizer. These options are intended to afford the most effective method or approach to disseminating scholarly work of a variety of types. Proposals for alternative sessions must include a brief rationale for the alternative being proposed and will be evaluated on their appropriateness to the topic and audience, their ability to meet the limitations of time, space, and expense for MWERA, and the

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basic quality or value of the topic. The organizer of alternative sessions is responsible for all major participants or speakers, developing and providing any necessary materials, and chairing the session.

Best Practices Forum

The “Best Practices” sessions provide opportunities for individuals or groups to present “best” or “promising” practices impacting both K-12 and higher education. These sessions highlight unique and innovative programs that have demonstrated promise for improving and enhancing educational practice. Presenters will be grouped by similar topics to facilitate discussion among the groups and audience. Presenters are expected to make available complete copies of the paper on which the “Best Practices” session focused.

Panel presentation

Panel presentations would be a group of presenters (3 to 5) that have been organized by a session chair (or two or more co-chairs) around a theme of their choice. Panels would be more flexible than paper sessions. The panelists could discuss a topic as a group rather than giving individual papers with active engagement of the audience. Panels could be scheduled for 50-60 minutes including the time for audience participation.

The Flash Session (New This Year!!!)

In celebration of our 40th conference year and our theme of innovation, we have decided to introduce a new session format—the Flash Session. The Flash Session is designed to be a type of “lightening round” session where presenters give VERY brief (5 minutes, max!), primarily visual presentations about innovative practices, methods, processes, or tools they are currently using in their teaching, learning, research, administrative, or policy-related activities. These highly visual sessions are run in the style of the Pecha Kucha Night presentations (for sample presentations in the Pecha Kucha format, see: <http://www.pechakucha.org/watch>). Read the guidelines below to learn about the structure of the presentations and if you are interested in presenting in this special session, please contact the 2017 Program Chair at mwera2017@gmail.com for more information.

- **Format:** Highly visual - the presenter shows 15 images and speaks for no more than 20 second for each image.
- **Content:** Focus on innovative products, processes, or tools for which there are visuals to display to the audience while explaining. *For example: A software program or app that you want to share; a unique coding scheme for qualitative data; a novel application of computer-based data analysis process; student samples for an innovative class project.*
- **Session Structure:** We will have one **75-minute session** in which to hold **ten (10)** Flash Session presentations. There will be an introduction to the session and we will close the session by giving the audience a chance to share their reactions.

Content Required for Proposals

The following guidelines are required for proposals. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the program chair.

Abstracts: Paper, Proposals, & Other Sessions

The abstract should be 100-150 words. The abstracts of accepted papers will be published in the *MWERA 2017 Annual Meeting Abstracts publication* and may be available on the MWERA website. Use clear, precise language, which can be understood by readers outside your discipline.

Summaries: Paper, Proposals, & Other Sessions

Generally summaries for ALL proposals should be **approximately 2500 words**.

Summaries for **Paper** and **Poster** proposals should explicitly address as many of the following as appropriate, preferably in this order: (a) objectives, goals, or purposes; (b) perspectives and/or theoretical framework; (c) methods and/or techniques (data source, instruments, procedures); (d) results and conclusions; and (e) educational and/or scientific importance of the work.

Summaries for **Symposium, Workshop, Alternative Session, Best Practices Forum, and Research in Progress** proposals should explicitly address as many of the following as appropriate, preferably in this order: (a) descriptive title; (b) objectives, goals, and

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purposes; (c) importance of the topic, issue, or problem; (d) explanation of the basic format or structure of the session, with a brief rationale for the format; (e) listing of the presenter(s), by number, not name, for blind review (e.g., "Presenter 1"), with an explanation of each person's relevant background and role in the session; and (f) anticipated audience and kind of audience involvement. Limited program space may be available for these types of sessions.

Summaries for **Flash Session** proposals should explicitly address as many of the following as appropriate, preferably in this order: (a) descriptive title; (b) overview of goals and/or purpose; (c) importance of the topic, issue, or problem; (d) listing of the presenter(s), by number, not name, for blind review (e.g., "Presenter 1"), with an explanation of each person's relevant background.

Important Deadlines

Proposal Submission Deadline:	May 15, 2017
Notification of Acceptance/Rejection:	July 31, 2017
Early Bird Registration:	September 20, 2017
Hotel Reservations:	September 20, 2017
Upload full papers:	September 27, 2017
MWERA 2017 Annual Meeting	October 18-21 2017

MWERA Distinguished Paper Award

Each year the State and Regional Educational Research Association (SRERA) special interest group of American Educational Research Association (AERA) invites its member state and regional affiliates to each present one distinguished paper at the annual spring AERA meeting. These papers are automatically accepted for presentation and do not undergo additional review. MWERA will recognize one overall distinguished paper from its exemplary proposals to submit for presentation at the next AERA Annual Meeting. The award recipient is expected to present the paper at AERA and will receive a \$150 stipend to defray the cost of registration.

Division Chair Contact Information

If you want to make an inquiry about the work of the MWERA divisions, below is the contact information for the Division Chairs. Also, if you plan to submit a proposal and you are unsure about the division to which it should go, please feel free to contact the division leadership or the Program Chair.

A - Administration, Organization, & Leadership

This division is concerned with research, theory, development, and the improvement of practice in the organization and administration of education.

Rashmi Sharma
Univ of West Florida
rsharma@uwf.edu

Rachel Roegman
Purdue University
rroegman@purdue.edu

B - Curriculum Studies

This division is concerned with curriculum and instructional practice, theory, and research.

Yuhan Zhao
Miami University
zhaoy14@miamioh.edu

Nan Li
Miami University
lin2@miamioh.edu

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C - Learning & Instruction

This division is concerned with theory and research on human abilities, learning styles, individual differences, problem solving, and other cognitive factors.

Joe Schroer

Miami University

schroerje@miamioh.edu

D - Measurement & Research Methodology

This division is concerned with measurement, statistical methods, as well as both quantitative and qualitative research methods, as applied to educational research.

Ting Li,

Miami University

lit@miamioh.edu

Dustin Derby

Palmer College of Chiropractic

dustin.derby@palmer.edu

E - Counseling & Human Development

This division is concerned with the understanding of human development, special education, and the application and improvement of counseling theories, techniques, and training strategies.

Angeline Stuckey

Educational Psychologist, Retired

edpsychwriter@gmail.com

F - History & Historiography

This division is concerned with the findings and methodologies of historical research in education.

If interested in this division, please contact the 2017 Program Chair at mwera2017@gmail.com

G - Social Context of Education

This division is concerned with theory, practice, and research on social, moral, affective, and motivational characteristics and development, especially multicultural perspectives.

Jenny Kilgore

Miami University-Ohio

kilgorja@aol.com

Jinghua Zhang

Miami University-Ohio

zhangj27@miamioh.edu

H - Research, Evaluation, & Assessment in Schools

This division is concerned with research and evaluation to improve school practice, including program planning and implementation.

Hans Muehler

Naperville Central High School

muehler@gmail.com

I - Education in the Professions

This division is concerned with educational practice, research, and evaluation in the professions (e.g., medicine, nursing, public health, business, law, and engineering).

If interested in this division, please contact the 2017 Program Chair at mwera2017@gmail.com

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J - Postsecondary Education

This division is concerned with a broad range of issues related to two-year, four-year, and graduate education.

Gary Daynter

Western IL Univ

GT-Daynter@wiu.edu

Maureen O'Connor

Hunter College

moconor@hunter.cuny.edu

K - Teaching & Teacher Education

This division is concerned with theory, practice, and research related to teaching at all levels and in-service and pre-service teacher education, including field experience supervision and mentoring.

Nicole V. Williams

Univ of Findlay

williamsn1@findlay.edu

John C. Gillham

Univ of Findlay

gillham@findlay.edu

L - Educational Policy & Politics

This division is concerned with educational policy as well as political, legal, and fiscal matters related to education.

If interested in this division, please contact the 2017 Program Chair at mwera2017@gmail.com