Mid-Western Educational Research Association
Kingsgate Marriott Conference Center, Cincinnati, Ohio
41st Annual Meeting | Oct 24-26, 2018

Call for Proposals
Proposal Deadline: **11:59pm EDT on May 1, 2018**

mwera.org

Our Venue
The 2018 Annual Meeting of the Mid-Western Educational Research Association (MWERA) will be held at the beautiful Kingsgate Marriott Conference Center in Cincinnati, Ohio. This is our inaugural year at this scenic, stylish well-situated location. The hotel will provide us with spacious and well-equipped meeting facilities, and plenty of common spaces for networking with fellow MWERA members. Additionally, the conference center is a short walk to the Cincinnati Zoo and about ten minutes to downtown, so a short bus or Uber ride away from the Ohio River, National Underground Freedom Center, Over-the-Rhine, Cincinnati Museum Center at Union Terminal, and the Banks.

This year we invite all scholars, professionals and students, practitioners, and administrators —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 by attending MWERA!

Conference Theme
Come present and learn with MWERA this 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:

Conducting Educational Research that Matters

How can we make educational research matter even more? Schools and universities are challenged by a host of social justice issues. The news is rife with stories about culture clashes, political ideologues, and divisive language. The struggle to negotiate, resist, challenge, and/or reaffirm particular educational practices is at the heart of educational research. Unfortunately, educational research is commonly accessed solely by those in the field of education, and often only at the level of academia. It can feel like educational researchers read and write for each other, and that changes in schooling move at a very slow pace. In order to meet the needs of students, parents, teachers, school leaders, and communities, we must choose topics and develop research studies that are relevant and meaningful to contemporary schooling. Moreover, we may need to go beyond our typical publication possibilities so that what we learn is distributed in a way that can be accessed by those inside and outside of the field. Some of the current social justice concerns in education include the following:

- Charter schools
- School vouchers
- High-stakes testing and funding for testing and test preparation
- Access to technology and the corporatization of schooling
- Over-identification of students of color and English learners in special education
- Wealth disparities between schools
- Governance of curricular decisions

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- Cost of higher education
- Immigration/refugee populations
- Mental health and the opioid epidemic
- Transiency
- Socio-emotional education

How might we more effectively engage in and utilize educational research that addresses injustices in education? How might we better negotiate inequalities during the research process? How might we attend to such issues as power and representation? How might we more strategically and holistically distribute educational research findings? Come with friends and colleagues to the MWERA conference in Cincinnati in 2018 to explore these issues and more!

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

General Information

The 2018 Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Educational Research Association will be held October 24-26, 2018. We invite K-12 educators, higher educators, researchers, administrators, policymakers, and others involved in the enterprise of education to submit proposals for presentation at the meeting.

The proposal submission deadline is 11:59pm, EDT on May 1, 2018. Whether or not you are 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 2018 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. *Both membership and registration are required for attendees and presenters.*

Membership and Conference Registration materials for the 2018 Annual Meeting will soon be available on the MWERA website (**http://www.mwera.org/**) and specific questions can be addressed to specific division chairs (contact information on the following pages) or the Program Chair at **mwera2018@gmail.com**.

Ways to Participate

Presenter: Any education professional may submit a proposal for the MWERA 2018 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*.

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Attendee: 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. Please plan to attend as many sessions as possible at the conference. Not only will you learn a lot about educational research, but you also will be providing a service to your colleagues by asking questions and offering expert feedback. All persons attending the 2018 Annual Meeting are expected to be members in good standing and to pre-register for the full meeting.

Reviewers, Session Chairs, **and** *Session Discussants*: Division Chairs are seeking MWERA members to serve as Proposal Reviewers, Session Chairs, and Session Discussants. Please volunteer on the conference website. If you have specific questions, contact a Division Chair or the Program Chair. All persons participating at the 2018 Annual Meeting are expected to be members in good standing and to pre-register for the full meeting.

Questions about proposals, the electronic submission process, or the meeting in general should be directed to Division Chairs or to the Program Chair: **Laney Bender-Slack, MWERA—2018 Program Chair, Xavier University, Email:** *mwera2018@gmail.edu*

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**, 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 **11:59pm EDT on May 1, 2018**. 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.

Mid-Western Educational Research Association
Kingsgate Marriott Conference Center, Cincinnati, Ohio
41st Annual Meeting | Oct 24-26, 2018

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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 mwera2018@gmail.com.

Expectations of Presenters
All persons, including graduate students, presenting and participating at the 2018 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 October 3, 2018*. Papers not uploaded to the website by this date may be dropped from the program. Presenters must also provide complete copies, or links to complete copies, of their papers to attendees at their sessions (some form of handout is expected in most session formats). Presenters are also expected to attend sessions in order to demonstrate good-faith collegiality and professional courtesy. While adding to your CV is important, learning from your colleagues and offering feedback benefits all conference participants.

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). Please remember to bring the appropriate adapter/dongle for your computer.

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 and the organization. *As a condition of acceptance, all authors of papers accepted to the 2018 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 Division Charis and Program Chair in advance.

Session Descriptors and Format Descriptions
Session Descriptors
Please be certain to use the approved MWERA descriptors in completing your proposal. These descriptors are indicated below 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 Poster, ancillary

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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.

Research in Progress Roundtables

Research in Progress affords individual researchers, particularly graduate students and early-career scholars, the opportunity to submit evidence-based works that are not fully realized and/or completed, but have enough progression and fidelity to warrant dissemination and discussion among peers. For example, roundtable sessions on Research in Progress will be arranged to provide graduate students and/or new scholars with an opportunity to receive comments on their research in progress for feedback to enhance its potential for publication or presentation at a professional conference.

Symposium/ Panel presentation

A symposium/panel is intended to provide an opportunity for examination of specific problems or topics from a variety of perspectives. Organizers are expected to chair, identify the topic or issue, and locate the individual speakers who will participate in the session, prepare any necessary materials, and facilitate the session. It is suggested, though not required, that the speakers or the 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 Apps, 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 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 copies of handouts on which the "Best Practices" session focused.

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Content Required for Proposals
The following guidelines are required for proposals. If you have questions or concerns, please contact your Division Chair or the program chair.

Abstracts: Paper, Posters, & Other Sessions
The abstract should be 100-150 words. The abstracts of accepted papers will be published in the *MWERA 2018 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, Posters, & Other Sessions
Generally, summaries for ALL proposals should be **approximately 2500 words.**

Summaries for **Paper, Poster, and Research in Progress Roundtable** 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. ***NOTE: If you do NOT yet have full results/conclusions for your research, then you must submit a Research in Progress proposal and indicate that your data analysis is in progress.***

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

Important Deadlines

Proposal Submission Deadline:	May 1, 2018
Notification of Acceptance/Rejection:	August 1, 2018
Early Bird Registration:	October 3, 2018
Hotel Reservations:	October 3, 2018
Upload full papers:	October 3, 2018
MWERA 2018 Annual Meeting	**October 24-26 2018**

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.

Mid-Western Educational Research Association
Kingsgate Marriott Conference Center, Cincinnati, Ohio
41st Annual Meeting | Oct 24-26, 2018

Call for Proposals
Proposal Deadline: **11:59pm EDT on May 1, 2018**

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.

Chair: John Gillham
University of Findlay
Gillham@findlay.edu

Co-Chair: Eric Dimmitt
Cardinal Stritch
ejdimmitt@stritch.edu

B – Curriculum Studies
This division is concerned with curriculum and instructional practice, theory, and research.

Chair: Lynda Leavitt
Lindenwood University
lleavitt@lindenwood.edu

Co-Chair: Mary Ruettgers
Lindenwood University
mruettgers@lindenwood.edu

C – Learning & Instruction
This division is concerned with theory and research on human abilities, learning styles, individual differences, problem-solving, and other factors.

Chair: Joe Schroer
Miami University
schroeje@miami.oh.edu

Co-Chair: Angela Miller
University of Cincinnati Blue Ash
millai@ucmail.uc.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 education.

Chair: Dustin Derby
Palmer College
Dustin.derby@palmer.edu

Co-Chair: Lauren Angelone
Xavier University
Angelonel@xavier.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.

Chair: Tracey Stuckey-Mickell
Ohio State University
stuckey-mickell.1@osu.edu

Co-Chair: Cheng Lu
Miami University
Luc9@miamioh.edu

F – History & Historiography
This division is concerned with the findings and methodologies of historical research in education.

Chair: Rick Breault
Ashland University
rbreault@ashland.edu

Co-Chair: Wenting Xie
Miami University
xiew2@miamioh.edu

Mid-Western Educational Research Association
Kingsgate Marriott Conference Center, Cincinnati, Ohio
41st Annual Meeting | Oct 24-26, 2018

Call for Proposals
Proposal Deadline: **11:59pm EDT on May 1, 2018**

mwera.org

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.

Chair: Jenny Kilgore	Co-Chair: Yu Zhong
Miami University	Miami University
kilgorja@aol.com	zhongy14@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.

Chair: Tawanda Gipson	Co-Chair: Kawabena D. Ofori-Attah
Northern Illinois University	Central State University
Tgipson1@niu.edu	kofori-attah@centralstate.edu

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).

Chair: Judith Juvuncic-Heltzel	Co-Chair: Mary Bair
University of Akron	Grand Valley State University
Jaj52@uakron.edu	bairme@gvsu.edu

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

Chair: Maureen O'Conor	Co-Chair: Anne Edwards
CUNY-Hunter College	Northern Illinois University
Mwere.divj@gmail.com	aedwards8@niv.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 experiences and mentoring.

Chair: Nicole Williams	Co-Chair: Jennifer Olson
University of Findlay	University of Illinois at Chicago
Williamsn1@findlay.edu	jolson21@uic.edu

L – Educational Policy & Politics
This division is concerned with educational policy as well as political, legal, and fiscal matters related to education.

Chair: James Pippin	Co-Chair: Tracey Stuckey-Mickell
Michigan State University	Ohio State University
pippinja@msu.edu	stuckey-mickell.1@osu.edu