

Mid-Western Educational Research Association

33rd Annual Meeting Call For Proposals Proposal Deadline: *May 1, 2010*

October 13-16, 2010
The Westin Great Southern Hotel, Columbus, Ohio

Cynthia Campbell, Program Chair
mwera2010@niu.edu

The 2010 Annual Meeting of the Mid-Western Educational Research Association (MWERA) will be held in Columbus, Ohio, with an exciting program of invited speakers, workshops, and peer-reviewed papers presented in a variety of session formats. The 2010 program will center upon this year's theme: Advancing Educational Policy and Decision-Making Through Research and Assessment, and will feature dynamic speakers of interest to both researchers and practitioners. Teachers, administrators, and other school personnel are especially invited to come and share their school-based research and experiences at the 2010 MWERA conference.

We will be meeting at the historic Westin Great Southern Hotel in Columbus. The hotel has excellent meeting facilities, and the location is only a short walk from the quaint shops of the German

Village and one block from the Columbus City Center. The hotel has recently undergone a major renovation, including the improvement of all guest rooms, wireless Internet, meeting spaces, and other amenities. Columbus is home to numerous theaters, a symphony, wonderful restaurants, Ohio State University athletics, shopping, and fun nightlife!

If you are looking for a place to sit down and chat with colleagues from schools and universities about your ideas and perspectives, the Mid-Western Educational Research Association provides that opportunity with its supportive and collaborative environment. Both new and veteran educational researchers, practitioners, and students from across North America return annually to MWERA to renew acquaintances, make new contacts, and engage in exciting conversation in a collegial atmosphere.



Come and be a part of MWERA in 2010!

General Information

The 2010 MWERA Annual Meeting will be held **Wednesday, October 13 through Saturday, October 16** at the Westin Great Southern Hotel in Columbus, Ohio. This year's theme, *Advancing Educational Policy and Decision-Making Through Research and Assessment*, examines multi-disciplinary approaches for investigating and addressing complex issues in education. The current era of data-driven decision making and evidence-based practice underscores the need for increased dialogue among researchers and practitioners, with research informing practice and practice informing research. In this way, bi-directional communication can both enhance the effectiveness of practice and advance the boundaries of research.

Attendance at the Annual Meeting

The 2010 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 a 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 October 2010 Annual Meeting will be published in the Summer 2010 *Mid-Western Educational Researcher*, are available on the MWERA website, and can be obtained by contacting the Program Chair.

Ways to Participate

Any education professional may **submit a proposal** for the MWERA 2010 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 **encouraging** colleagues and students to participate in any way (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:

Cynthia Campbell, PhD
MWERA—2010 Program Chair
Department of Educational Technology,
Research and Assessment
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, IL 60115
Phone: 815-753-8471
Fax: 815-753-9388
Email: mwera2010@niu.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** 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 1, 2010**. 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).

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; (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 present **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.

Expectations of Presenters

All persons, including graduate students, presenting at the 2010 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 13, 2010.*** 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 and the organization. *As a condition of acceptance, all authors of papers accepted to the 2010 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.

Content Required for Proposals

Abstract

The abstract should be 100-150 words. The abstracts of accepted papers will be published in the *MWERA 2010 Annual Meeting Abstracts* book, and may be available on the MWERA website. Use clear, precise language, which can be understood by readers outside your discipline.

Summary

Summaries for **Paper** and **Poster** proposals should be **approximately 2500 words, or about 4-6 pages in length** and 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**, and **Best Practices Forum** proposals also should be **approximately 2500 words, or about 4-6 pages in length** and 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 Dates

Proposal Submission Deadline	May 1, 2010
Notification of Acceptance	July 20, 2010
Hotel Reservations	September 13, 2010
Join MWERA	September 13, 2010
Annual Meeting Registration	September 13, 2010
Papers Uploaded to MWERA website	September 13, 2010
MWERA 2010 Annual Meeting	October 13-16, 2010

Session Descriptors for Proposals

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.

Session Format Descriptions

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 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.

Division Chair Contact Information

A - Administration, Organization, & Leadership

This division is concerned with research, theory, development, and the improvement of practice in the organization and administration of education. *Division Chair: Judy Zimmerman*, Bowling Green State University, 511 Education Building, Bowling Green, OH 43403, judithz@bgsu.edu

B - Curriculum Studies

This division is concerned with curriculum and instructional practice, theory, and research. *Division Chair: Bridget Stuckey*, Northern Illinois University, 2526 Alpha Court West, DeKalb, IL 60115, bstuckey@ccc.edu

C - Learning & Instruction

This division is concerned with theory and research on human abilities, learning styles, individual differences, problem solving, and other cognitive factors. *Division Chair: Greg Montalvo*, Western Illinois University, Educational and Interdisciplinary Studies, GP-Montalvo@wiu.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. *Division Chair: Xin Liang*, University of Akron, 301H Zook Hall, Akron, OH 44325, liang@uakron.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. *Division Chair: Tracey Stuckey-Mickell*, Moraine Valley Community College, 459 Yorkshire Square, Bolingbrook, IL 60440, stucmickell@yahoo.com

F - History & Historiography

This division is concerned with the findings and methodologies of historical research in education. *Division Chair: Nathan Myers*, Ashland University, 401 College Ave, 228 Schar Ed. Bldg, Ashland, OH 44805, nmyers@ashland.edu

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. *Division Chair: Lina Zhang*, Miami University, Room 200 McGuffey Hall (EDP), Spring St., Oxford, OH 45056, zhangl2@muohio.edu

H - Research, Evaluation, & Assessment in Schools

This division is concerned with research and evaluation to improve school practice, including program planning and implementation. *Division Chair: Beverly Dretzke*, University of Minnesota, Center for Applied Research and Educational Improvement, 1954 Buford Ave, St. Paul, MN, dretz001@umn.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). *Division Chair: Chris Simpson*, Ohio University, Athens, OH, 45701, simpsonc@oucom.ohiou.edu

J - Postsecondary Education

This division is concerned with a broad range of issues related to two-year, four-year, and graduate education. *Division Chair: Sharon Stevens*, Western Illinois University, 1 University Circle HH 115, Macomb, IL 61455, SR-Stevens2@wiu.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. *Division Chair: Angeline Stuckey*, Northern Illinois University, 2526 Alpha Court West, DeKalb, IL 60115, astuckey@niu.edu

L - Educational Policy & Politics

This division is concerned with educational policy as well as political, legal, and fiscal matters related to education. *Division Chair: Jeff Abbott*, Indiana University Purdue University Fort Wayne, 2101 E. Coliseum Blvd, Neff Hall 250K, Fort Wayne, IN, abbottj@ipfw.edu