

Spring 2017



SERA Newsletter

Southwest Educational Research Association

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The Prez Says...

Thanks to everyone for making the 40th Annual SERA Conference in San Antonio a huge success! We had over 264 sessions, including workshops, innovative sessions, and/or symposiums, presented by over 350 presenters. Sessions were well attended and many praises were heard about the quality of the research presented. Our Wednesday training session provided participants with sought-after training on best practices in research design. Thank you to our scholarly trainer, **Forrest Lane**.

I am not sure how many of you realize that the SERA conference is organized solely through volunteers. None is paid for their service. Consequently, it is my privilege to recognize the



Prathiba Natesan (left) presents a plaque of the 2017 Program to LaVonne Williams-Fedynich (right)

exceptional service of so many dedicated volunteers, beginning with our past-president, **Prathiba Natesan**, who provided excellent leadership, which enables SERA to continue to thrive as a supportive scholarly organization. Behind the scenes at each conference providing leadership and organization, are **Linda Zientek** – Executive Director, who provided a supportive environment for scholars, including student scholars, to develop their scholarship for almost two decades.

The 12 Division Co-Chairs deserve special recognition for all their efforts including managing division proposals, sending proposals out for review, writing acceptance letters, compiling and forwarding reviewer comments, and serving as primary points of contact on proposal submissions. The Division Co-Chairs were: **Mordecai Brownlee, Tommy DeVaney, Robert Elliott, Dittika Gupta, James Hardy, Tonya Jeffery, Don Jones, Lesley Leach, Nara Martirosyan, Lori Petty, Martha Tapia, and Ken Young**. The work of Division Chairs is facilitated when so many of the membership agree to serve as proposal reviewers. I encourage you to continue to serve in this capacity. I would also like to thank the 15 discussants, who shared their research expertise with the Division VI work-in-progress presenters. Discussants included **Liana Alanis, Jack Bradley, Sue Bradley, Mordecai Brownlee, Julie Combs, Marybeth Green, Dittika Gupta, Jim Hardy, Laura Isbell, Bill Jasper, Don Jones, Suzanne L. Lindt, Shirley M. Matteson, George Moore, Grant Morgan, Gil Naizer, Nate Session, Lori Petty, Emily Reeves, Jan Williams, Victor Willson, Monica Wong-Ratcliff, and Ken Young**.



Photo Courtesy of the San Antonio Convention & Visitors Bureau

EDITOR:

Tracey S. Hodges
University of Southern Mississippi

[Continued on Page 2](#)

*SERA appreciates
the support of local
institutions!*

THANK YOU!

Many thanks to the University of Texas at San Antonio's College of Sciences and **Dean George Perry** for arranging the use of the of the Institute of Texan Cultures as the venue for our reception, and to **Kathleen Mittag** for assisting in securing the support of UTSA.

SERA Repository

The SERA Paper Repository is now open. The use of the Repository is optional, but we highly encourage you to upload a digital copy of your paper. This provides both documentation of your effort and is a great way to access the papers presented by other members at this year's conference.

You can access the repository by going directly to the SERA website or by clicking on the following link:

[Repository Link](#)

*"Thank you to the
invaluable assistance
of Shirley Matteson,
without whom the
program would not
have been finalized!"*

The Prez Says from page 1

I served as the local arrangements chair for the two events we hosted this year. I want to extend a special thank you to **Kathleen Mittag** for serving as my co-chair of the 40th Anniversary Celebration that we hosted at the Institute of Texan Cultures (ITC). She was instrumental in securing the ITC facilities and the menu for all of that wonderful food we enjoyed. The University of Texas at San Antonio also deserves a special thank you for assisting us in procuring the facilities at ITC.

The audio-visual committee headed by **Ken Young, Julie Combs** and **Sandra Acosta** efficiently distributed and collected all the projectors before and after each session. **Lesley Leach** provided the SERA membership with the useful guidebook app so that members could opt out of a printed program. Thank you to **Forrest Lane** for supervising the registration desk and to those who served at the registration desk. Members were greeted warmly as they picked up their registration materials and were cheerfully directed to the appropriate session rooms.

Thank you to **Mordecai Brownlee** and **Grant Morgan** for preparing the instructions for the session chairs as this helped to keep sessions running on time. Thank you to **Lesley Leach** and **Celia Wilson Scott** who ensured that photos were taken of graduate student presenters during the conference. Thank you to **Jana Willis** for facilitating the mentorship initiative and grants. Thank you to **Mary Margaret Capraro**, who once again

served as the official "SERA Trinket Maven" and procured the official SERA umbrellas for conference attendees. She also assists in the printing of the large posters of the session times and locations. **Susan Troncoso Skidmore**, Director of Information Technology, deserves a huge thank you, as she was the individual that made sure our technology ran smoothly. I hope that all of you will continue to serve SERA, and that new members will volunteer and become an active part of our organization.

The 41st annual conference will be held on February 14th–16th, in New Orleans at the Hotel Monteleone. Planning is underway and information on the conference and on submitting proposals is provided later in this newsletter. I hope to see you all in New Orleans!

LaVonne Williams-Fedynich
President
Texas A&M University-Kingsville



SERA supports graduate students

News from Our Past President

SERA turned 40 this year and its SERA 2017 conference was a great success! I hope you had a wonderful time connecting with fellow SERA members, trust that you benefitted from the sessions you attended, and enjoyed our 40th anniversary celebrations. We appreciate everyone who presented their research and shared their expertise through workshops, paper presentations, symposiums, and innovative sessions. It is the contributions of our members that make this conference so wonderful, and without your time, effort, and scholarly contributions, none of this would be possible.

I want to take a moment to thank a few of the many people who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make the conference run efficiently and smoothly. Kudos and thank you to the Program Chair and current President, **Lavonne Williams-Fedynich**, and also to our local arrangements chair, **LaVonne Williams-Fedynich** who was responsible for planning and organizing the schedule, rooms, and food. Very special thanks to Shirley Matteson who served as the consultant for the program. Thank you also to Executive Director **Linda Zientek** who maintains the focus and vision of SERA. Thank you to **Ali Foran** for her leadership of

graduate student awards and activities, and to **Mary Margaret Capraro**, our “SERA Trinket and Poster Maven.” Special thanks also go to **Lesley Leach** for making the SERA program app available again this year.

I would also like to thank the anonymous reviewers who judged papers for the Bruce Thompson Outstanding Graduate Student Paper, which was awarded to **Peter Boedeker** from the University of North Texas. Please make plans to attend and present at SERA 2018 in New Orleans next year. Our President-Elect, **Forrest Lane**, and the local arrangements chair, **Sonya Carr**, along with the SERA Board, are planning a great event at the historic Hotel Monteleone.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Prathiba Natesan
Past President
University of North Texas



Prathiba Natesan
University of North Texas

“SERA turned 40 this year and its SERA 2017 conference was a great success!”



Graduate students enjoyed a fireside chat with Li Cai



The 2017 luncheon was well attended!

2017 SERA Bruce Thompson Outstanding Paper Award



Peter Boedeker
University of North Texas

Congratulations to **Peter Boedeker**, University of North Texas, who was selected as our 2017 Outstanding Graduate Student Paper and SERA Bruce Thompson Outstanding Paper awardee for this paper entitled “A Comparison of Bayesian and DerSimonian and Laird Estimation in Meta-Analysis.” This is quite a prestigious award for our graduate students. We applaud your exemplary efforts!

Paper Summary: The random-effects meta-analysis model is appropriate in the context of educational research for consolidating the quantitative results of multiple studies. In the paper, the author (1) differentiates the fixed and random-effects meta-analysis models, (2) introduces DerSimonian and Laird and Bayesian estimation methods, and (3) compares the

bias and interval capture rates of the two techniques in the random-effects meta-analysis model. To accomplish (3), a simulation study is conducted over various conditions of true effect size (Hedges' g), true heterogeneity, number of studies per meta-analysis, and sample size per group. As a result, it is recommended that Bayesian estimation with uninformative priors be used with the posterior mode as the parameter estimate when estimating the parameters of

Peter Boedeker will present his findings at the Distinguished Paper Session at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association.

Congratulations to the 2017 SERA Dean's Award Winners



Eighteen papers were honored at this year's annual SERA meeting..

Reflections from the Executive Director

Thanks to everyone for helping to create a great conference! We had a great meeting in San Antonio. The sessions were well attended and members celebrated SERA's 40th anniversary at a party held for members at the Institute of Texan Cultures. Many thanks to the University of Texas at San Antonio's College of Sciences and Dean George Perry for arranging the use of the of the Institute of Texan Cultures as the venue for our reception, and to Kathleen Mittag for assisting in securing the support of UTSA. Kathleen is a retired UTSA Professor and past-recipient of the John Hedl SERA Lifetime Service award. We extend our thanks also to LaVonne Williams-Fedynich for organizing the reception.

Our current President Prathiba Natesan entertained the group with an excerpt from a piece called the *Varnam*. Prathiba is a three-time Indian national champion of Bharatanatyam and is the chairperson/founder of Eyakkam dance company - a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization. While at the party, members reminisced about past conferences and met the next generation of SERA members. I thought one faculty member's comments helped capture why SERA is such a special conference. This person stated that attending SERA was "like attending a reunion." We are proud of the supportive culture SERA has created over the past 40 years.

SERA also takes pride in their support of graduate students and faculty. The conference in San Antonio had many interesting speakers and wonderful sessions. The Presidential Invited Speaker at the 40th SERA annual meeting was **Li Cai**, University of California-Los Angeles. In his keynote address, Dr. Cai provided reflections on and experiences of working as a methodologist in interdisciplinary research teams. Dr. Cai then participated in a fireside chat with graduate students. The graduate students took advantage of the opportunities that were afforded to them, which included sessions about dissertation tips, mixed-method research, quantitative and qualitative research, and selecting

research topics. Graduate students also had an opportunity to attend a session on how to set up a vita and what to expect when applying for jobs. Those sessions were just a few of the opportunities that were provided.

People with whom I spoke with were looking forward to the 2018 SERA Conference. The **2018 meeting** will be held in **New Orleans** at the historic **Hotel Montelone**. New Orleans is an interesting town with many attractions. We look forward to another great turnout in New Orleans! Based on survey result from a couple of years ago, we are planning a ticketed training session on Wednesday. More information will be provided at a later date.

The Presidential Invited Speaker in San Antonio will be **Camilla Benbow**, Dean of Education and Human Development at Vanderbilt University's Peabody College. Dr. Benbow will also host an informal "Fireside Chat" with only graduate students, which is an opportunity for graduate students to raise any questions that they might like to discuss with the invited speaker.

The SERA Board looks forward to seeing you and your colleagues in New Orleans and hopes that you enjoy the many opportunities to learn from and develop collaborations with colleagues at the SERA Conference.

Linda Reichwein Zientek
Sam Houston State University
SERA Executive Director



Linda Zientek
Sam Houston State
University



Graduate students participated in over 100 presentations this year!

2017 Dean's Award Recipients

The SERA Deans' Awards are presented to students from participating universities. Congratulations to all 2017 winners!

Low-Income Gifted Students' Perspectives on Achievement Motivation

Kaytlyn McBride, Baylor University
Corina R. Kaul, Baylor University

Increasing Self-Efficacy and Preparing Students for Post-Secondary Education

Robin D. Wilson, Baylor University

Negotiating Technology Integration at the District Level: An Exploratory Study

Abbey Matatall, Stephen F. Austin State University
Codi Freeman-Fowler, Stephen F. Austin State University
Susanna Campbell, Stephen F. Austin State University

Stemming the Tide: Literacy Challenges at a South Texas Title I School

Carmen Cruz, Stephen F. Austin State University
Laura Dacus, Stephen F. Austin State University
Katherine Parrish Whitbeck, Stephen F. Austin State University

Experiences of Select Higher Education Doctoral Students Who Persisted to Graduation

Amber Sechelski, Sam Houston State University
Rami I. Alsakran, Sam Houston State University
Cassandra D. Boyd, Sam Houston State University
Brian R. Flores, Sam Houston State University
Kim R. Ingram, Sam Houston State University
R. Blake Tritico, Sam Houston State University

Academic Advisors' Experiences with Emotional Labor in Forming Relationships with Students

Amber Sechelski, Sam Houston State University

The Reporting of Effect Sizes in the School Psychology Review

Kelsey Ragan, Texas A&M University
Ana d'Abreu, Texas A&M University

The Effects of Value-Added Teacher Measures in Teacher Evaluation on Teacher Job Satisfaction and Autonomy

Kim Wright, Texas A&M University
Samantha R. Shields, Texas A&M University
Katie Black, Texas A&M University
Manjari Banerjee, Texas A&M University

Establishing and Maintaining Dual Credit and Certification Programs in High School Career and Technical Education

Chantel Schulz, Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi

Using Simulations to Improve Nursing Competency and Transition to Nursing Practice: A Quantitative Study

Julie Fomenko, Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi

Overcoming Mismatch Between Student and University Learning Expectations in Higher Education Partnerships

Tala Karkar Esperat, Texas Tech University
Charity G. Embley, Texas Tech University

Factors Contributing to Student Success in an Introductory Biology Course

Lesla N. Presley, Texas Tech University

Self-Efficacy of Pre-Service STEM Teachers: Traditional University Versus UTeach University Models

Andrew Lowry, University of Houston—Clear Lake

Influence of a District Leadership Development Program on 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Year Principals

Eric Tingle, University of Houston—Clear Lake

The Game of Learning: Using Game Theory for Educational Research

Jay Raadt, University of North Texas

A Comparison of Confidence Intervals and Bayesian Highest Density Intervals in Meta-Analysis

Peter Boedeker, University of North Texas

Digital Natives and the Law: A Look into How a Casual Comfort with Technology Can Lead to Bigger Legal Problems

Sharon Manson, Texas Wesleyan University

Current Trends in Education: Technology's Impact on Teaching in K-16 Education

Carolyn Ikens, Texas Wesleyan University

Congratulations to our 2017 Graduate Student Research Grant Winner!



Gang Zhu
Texas A&M University

This dissertation focuses on Chinese and American student teachers' knowledge, emotional, and ethical dimensions of identity constructions in teaching practicums. The purpose of this international study is to compare and contrast the Chinese and American student teachers' identity constructions in a story constellations approach. Meanwhile, this dissertation will showcase six Chinese (n=3) and American (n=3) student teachers' professional identity formation trajectories in the shifting landscapes. First, regarding identity formation related to knowledge, this study situates student teachers' identity shaping at the intersections of subject matter knowledge and teacher knowledge (This part is to be published as a book chapter). Second, for the emotional aspect of professional identity formation, this research initially found that the Chinese student teachers experienced eagerness and anxiety at the beginning of the teaching practicums, shock and embarrassment amid student teaching, and guilt and regret toward the end of the practicums. Third, this research identified four paired ethical dilemmas that the Chinese participants were entrapped: (1) tensions between classroom authority and the ethic of caring; (2) acting as a community member or an 'outsider'; (3) working as an office assistant or a 'real teacher'; (4) conflicting pedagogies regarding teaching different tracks of students. (This part has been accepted by an international Tier-1 journal). Right now, this study is investigating the American student teachers' knowledge, emotional, and ethical dimensions of identity constructions in teaching practicums. Finally, implications for teacher education in both China and the U.S. will be discussed.

Ask the SERA Historian...

SERA graduate student member Priscilla Farktoasthoustonhousen writes in to ask the SERA Historian:

"Dear Dr. SERA Historian: At the SERA annual luncheon, lottery drawings are held to award free room nights in the conference hotel to 15-20 students present at the annual SERA luncheon. I can sort of figure out why one requirement for free room night eligibility is presence at the luncheon when the lottery drawings are conducted. But why is there a second eligibility requirement that students be officially registered in the conference hotel (for example, as opposed to unofficially sleeping in a friend's hotel room closet or bathtub, or staying in another hotel)? Thank you in advance for your insightful explanation."

Dr. SERA Historian responds:

Well, Priscilla, there are two reasons:

1. When SERA contracts with the conference hotel for meeting room space and hotel room nights, SERA contracts that a certain number of hotel room nights will be booked by SERA members in exchange for free or reduced cost meeting room space. If

the contracted number of room nights are not booked by SERA members, then SERA must nevertheless itself pay for those unused room nights. This can easily cost many thousands of dollars. This has sadly happened in the past. So SERA tries to do everything it can to motivate people to stay in the conference hotel.

2. The mechanism by which SERA pays for the room nights is to pay the hotel to credit the bills of the room night winners directly, rather than issuing numerous checks to the winners. This insures that (a) room night winners indeed are registered in the hotel and (b) the SERA Treasurer doesn't have to write 15-20 additional checks beyond the dozens of checks she already has to write (e.g., to the hotel for food, to numerous Dean's award winners, outstanding paper winners, the invited speaker for travel expenses). Furthermore, tragically the SERA Treasurer has profound chronic carpal tunnel syndrome, and is already barely able to write the checks she already has to write.

Bruce Thompson

SERA Historian and Executive Director Emeritus



Bruce Thompson
Texas A&M University

Past Graduate Student Representative Report



Alexandra "Ali" Foran
Texas A&M University

*"Dig deep into your
passions, and let those
passions shine
through in all you
do."*

Another great year of SERA has come and gone. Thanks to the wonderful contributions of our graduate students, the 2017 conference was a huge success. I, both personally and on behalf of all of the graduate students, would like to thank the SERA Board for the immense amount of work that they each contributed to create such a supportive environment in which students can come and share their work with fellow researchers. Their hard work does not go unnoticed.

Congratulations to all of the Dean's Award recipients. A special thank you to the universities who show support to their students through the participation in such awards. The following institutions graciously provided this year's funding: **Baylor University, Sam Houston State University, Stephen F. Austin State University, Texas A&M University - Commerce, Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi, Texas A&M University, Texas Tech University, Texas Wesleyan University, University of Houston - Clear Lake, and University of North Texas.** There were over 30 papers submitted, and the authors of 18 papers from nine universities received awards.

The evaluation of such papers and organization of various duties throughout the conference were accomplished beautifully by the members of this year's **Graduate Student Council**, including **Rachel Renbarger**, Baylor University; **Kristi Lewis**, Lamar University; **Rachael Wilcox**, Sam Houston State University; **Erin Childress**, Stephen F. Austin State University; **Cindy Hopkins**, Texas A&M - Corpus Christi; **Samantha Meister**, Texas A&M University; **Terrance Youngblood**, Texas Tech University; **Sharon Manson**, Texas Wesleyan University; and **Peter Boedeker**, University of North Texas. These individuals did an outstanding job of representing their university through communicating SERA news to others, requesting and confirming Dean's Award funding, encouraging conference participation, reviewing Dean's Award papers, taking photographs during the

conference, and promoting graduate student events.

My final bit of thanks goes to our incredible and lovely Graduate Student Advisors. **Celia Wilson Scott** and **Leslie Leach** continue to serve as outstanding support to the graduate council and to the graduate student representative, in particular. I cannot express my gratitude for their resources and encouraging words of support enough. Thank you, Celia and Leslie!

Congratulations to **Peter Boedeker**, from the University of North Texas, who will be serving as the Graduate Student Representative for 2017-2018. Peter is both a hard worker and a person of good character, and I am confident that Peter will be an excellent leader to the graduate students throughout the next year. We can all look forward to an excellent SERA 2018 with Peter leading the Graduate Student Council and representing graduate students well.

As you continue in your academic adventures, I wish you all the very best in your research and learning. Dig deep into your passions, and let those passions shine through in all you do. I hope to see you all next year with new and exciting research to share!

Thank you for letting me represent you this past year.

Sincerely,

Alexandra "Ali" Foran
Texas A&M University

SERA Research Grants

Two research grants are available to SERA members.

The **SERA Early Career Research Grant—Assistant Professor** is available to those individual who meet the following criteria:

- An assistant professor employed at a 4-year institution in a tenure-track position
- Attended and presented at SERA within the last three years
- Collaborate with a designated mentor. Applicants are encouraged to collaborate with a mentor through the SERA Mentoring Initiative.

The **SERA Early Career Research Grant—Doctoral Candidate** is available to those individuals who meet the following criteria:

- A doctoral candidate who has defended a dissertation proposal approved by the dissertation committee.
- Attended and presented at SERA within the last 3 years.

Both SERA Research Grant awards provide up to \$1,000 for 1-year projects and may be awarded each year. Institutions may not charge indirect or overhead costs on these awards. Application requirements are listed on the SERA website.

Funding restrictions

Previous award winners cannot reapply for the same award in subsequent years. SERA Board Members (either elected or appointed) are not eligible.

Evaluation criteria

The evaluation criteria will include: Quality of literature review, relevance of the topic, relevance of research questions, the strength of the methodology section, and quality of writing. An additional criterion will be whether or not the analytic methods fit the research questions.

Reporting requirements

All Research Grantees will be required to submit a SERA proposal and send a copy of the proposal to the Executive Director. In order to receive the final grant funds (see funding disbursement), a manuscript, in article format with the quality for submission to a peer-reviewed journal, must be submitted by the first day of the February Annual Conference the following year. For example, an award made in 2017 would require grant recipients to submit their manuscript prior to the 2018 annual conference.

Funding disbursement

Grantees will receive \$250.00 upon award selection and up to \$750.00 after presenting at the next February SERA Annual Conference (receipts must be submitted). Travel expenses to conferences may not exceed 30% of award total. The award amounts will not be channeled through institutions; thus, there are no overhead or indirect costs.

Application Deadlines

Proposals for Research Grants will be once a year. Proposals must be submitted to the Jana Willis at willis@uhcl.edu by **April 1** of each year and awardees will be selected by **May 1**.

SERA Research Grant awards provide up to \$1,000 for 1-year projects may be awarded each year.

Apply by April 1st!

Professional Development Webinars

SERA is pleased to offer a series of professional development webinars to our membership. These webinars are FREE and can be accessed by going to the following link on the day of the webinar:

<https://lamar.adobeconnect.com/sera/>.



“Matching Methods to Improve Quasi-Experimental Design”

Tuesday, March 28, 12 p.m.—1 p.m. (CST)

Forrest Lane

Sam Houston State University

About the Presenter

Forrest Lane is an assistant professor in the Department of Educational leadership at Sam Houston State University. He holds a Ph.D. in Educational Research from the University of North Texas. He is the author of more than 40 peer-reviewed publications and presentations and serves on the editorial board of the *Journal of Student Affairs Research and Practice* and the *Journal of the First Year Experience and Students in Transition*. His research interests include methods to improve quasi-experimental design and student development in college.

[Click here to register.](#)

*SERA provides
professional
development
webinars on topics
of interest to the
membership!*



“Experimental Research: Some Tips for Success”

Tuesday, April 25, 12 p.m.—1 p.m. (CST)

Dan Robinson

University of Texas at Austin

About the Presenter

Dan Robinson is a Director of Research and Measurement at the University of Texas at Austin. Dr. Robinson has published over 100 articles, books, and book chapters, presented over 100 papers at research conferences, and taught over 100 college courses. He was named as one of the most published authors in educational psychology journals from 1991-1996, 1997-2002, 1991-2002, 2003-2008, and 2009-2014, *Contemporary Educational Psychology*, 1998, 2004, 2010, 2016.v His research interests include educational technology innovations that may facilitate learning, team -based approaches to learning, and examining trends in article published in various educational journals. Dr. Robinson was a Fulbright Specialist Scholar at Victoria University, Wellington, New Zealand in 2011 and will be a Fulbright Scholar at Waterford Institute of Technology in Ireland in 2017.

[Click here to register.](#)

Graduate Student News

Greetings to all graduate student members of the Southwest Educational Research Association! As the current Graduate Student Representative and on behalf of the SERA Board of Directors, thank you for helping to make the 40th Annual SERA Conference a success. The success of this conference is in large part due to you as the graduate student volunteers, presenters, and attendees, so thank you for your continued support of SERA!

During the conference, the new SERA Graduate Student Council was selected and the previous leadership stepped down. I would like to thank the 2016-2017 Graduate Student Representative **Ali Foran** (Texas A&M University) for her year of service to the SERA Board of Directors and the graduate student membership. For the last year, Ali has represented the interests of all graduate students in the SERA community and has served as our voice on the SERA Board of Directors. Her work in support of SERA graduate students and assistance with the annual conference was noticed and appreciated! Additionally, I would like to thank the 2016-2017 SERA Campus Representatives for their service: **Erin Childress** (Stephen F. Austin State University), **Cindi Hopkins** (Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi), **Kristi Lewis** (Lamar University), **Sharon Manson** (Texas Wesleyan), **Samantha Meister** (Texas A&M University), **Rachel Renbarger** (Baylor University), **Rachael Wilcox** (Sam Houston State University), and **Terrance Youngblood** (Texas Tech University).

The new Graduate Student Council for the 2017-2018 year was selected at the annual conference and these new members have already begun their term of service. I am excited to welcome **Chris Eckford** (Sam Houston State University), **Charity Embley** (Texas Tech University), **Julie Fomenko** (Texas A&M, Corpus Christi), **Carolyn Ikens** (Texas Wesleyan University), **Rachel Martin** (Texas A&M, College Station), **Mandolen Mull** (University of Texas, Tyler), **Jay Raadt** (University of North Texas), **Rachel Renbarger** (Baylor

University), **Asia Smith** (Stephen F. Austin State University), and **Neelu Tajani** (University of Houston). Additionally, I am happy to announce that **Celia Wilson**, Associate Professor at Texas Wesleyan University, and **Lesley Leach**, Associate Professor and Doctoral Program Coordinator at Tarleton State University, are continuing in their roles as Graduate Student Council Co-Advisors.

The 41st Annual SERA Conference will be held February 14-16, 2018 in New Orleans, and it is never too early to start preparing! The annual conference is an excellent opportunity for graduate students to network with other members from across the region, present current scholarship in a supporting environment, and learn from other presenters through workshops and presentations. Division 6 provides graduate students a venue for feedback on works-in-progress and outstanding graduate student work may be submitted for a Dean's Award and/or the Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award. More details on these are included in the call for proposals. As we move through the spring semester and into the summer, I encourage all graduate student members to think about projects and papers currently in development that might be appropriate for presentation at SERA next year. I hope to see all of you in New Orleans!

Peter Boedeker
SERA Graduate Student Representative
University of North Texas



Peter Boedeker
University of North Texas

"Division 6 provides graduate students a venue for feedback on works-in-progress."

Ali Foran (podium) with Celia Wilson and Lesley Leach (left) recognize this year's winners of the Dean's Award at the 2017 SERA business meeting luncheon.





Forrest Lane
Sam Houston State
University

“Several great workshops and training sessions are being planned to support members’ professional needs.”

SERA Annual Meeting: San Antonio, TX

The SERA Executive Board is pleased to announce that the 41st Annual SERA conference will be held at the Hotel Monteleone in New Orleans. The 2018 SERA Conference will begin on Wednesday, February 14, 2018 and conclude on Friday, February 16, 2018.

The SERA conference is a great outlet to exchange research ideas and network with other scholars in your field and across the region. We encourage you to submit a proposal and present at the 2018 conference. Proposals are due on September 24, 2017. Complete details are available within the 2018 Call for Proposals which can be found at the end of the newsletter and on the SERA website: <http://sera-edresearch.org/>

Several great workshops and training sessions are being planned to support members’ professional needs. The 2018 Presidential Invited Speaker will be **Camilla Benbow**, Dean of Education and Human Development at Vanderbilt University’s Peabody College. All registered participants are invited to attend this session. Graduate students will also have the opportunity to participate in a Fireside Chat with our Presidential Invited Speaker immediate following her address.

Faculty are encouraged to participate in the **SERA Early Career Faculty Mentoring Initiative**. The purposes of this initiative include: (a) furthering scholarly research, (b) supporting career advancement, and (c) enhancing leadership opportunities for members who are junior faculty. This initiative plays a vital role in expanding the SERA membership and providing future leaders and we are grateful **Jana Willis** for her leadership. If you are seeking a mentor or are interested in serving as a mentor, please complete the application found on the SERA Website by clicking on the link in the Early Career Faculty Mentoring Initiative section: <http://sera-edresearch.org/>.

I would like to thank **Jana Willis** for directing our **SERA Research Grants Program**. This program awards a doctoral student and an assistant professor at a 4-year institution up to \$1000 for 1-year projects. Grant proposals are due April 1, 2017. Grant awardees will be notified by May 1, 2017 and present at the 2018 annual conference. A video overview outlining the grant proposal guidelines is available on the SERA webpage: <http://sera-edresearch.org/>.



Photo Courtesy of the New Orleans Convention & Visitors Bureau

I also want to extend a special thank you to **Sonya Carr** who has been hard at work securing arrangements for our annual meeting in New Orleans. The local arrangements chair negotiates our hotel rates and room accommodations, and handles all the logistical challenges normally associated with hosting a large meeting, including the wonderful luncheon menu. I also want to recognize the efforts of **Lesley Leech, Celia Wilson, and Peter Boedeker** who will undertake the huge task of photographing the conference events, with special emphasis on photographing graduate students. Our conference would not be successful without your help.

The Hotel Monteleone is a favorite of those of us who have been SERA members for a number of years. Located in the French Quarter, the Hotel Monteleone is walking distance from a number of great options for food, jazz, and drinks. It is a truly wonderful venue and we look forward to your participation at the 2018 conference in New Orleans.

Forrest Lane
President-Elect and Program Chair
Sam Houston State University

2018 Presidential Invited Address



Camilla Benbow
Vanderbilt University

*Dr. Benbow will
also hold a
“fireside chat” for
graduate students!*

Camilla Persson Benbow is Patricia and Rodes Hart Dean of Education and Human Development at Vanderbilt University’s Peabody College. She has led Peabody, one of the nation’s leading colleges of education and human development, since 1998. A prominent scholar of talent identification and talent development, Dean Benbow also co-directs the Study of Mathematically Precocious Youth, a longitudinal study examining the developmental trajectories of more than 5,000 individuals now in its 45th year. She is particularly interested in developing intellectual talent and excellence in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Dean Benbow began her academic career at Johns Hopkins University following completion of her doctorate in education in 1981 before moving to Iowa State University and later Vanderbilt. She has served on the National Science Board, as vice-chair of the National Mathematics Advisory Panel, and on the board of the American Psychological Foundation. She is a past trustee of Fisk University. A fellow of the American Psychological Association and the American Educational Research Association, she has received the David Imig Award from the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (2010), the President’s Award from the National Association for Gifted Children (2009), and the Distinguished Alumna Award from Johns Hopkins University (2008). In 2004, she received the **Lifetime Achievement Award from the MENSA Education and Research Foundation.**

SERA Board Members and Appointments

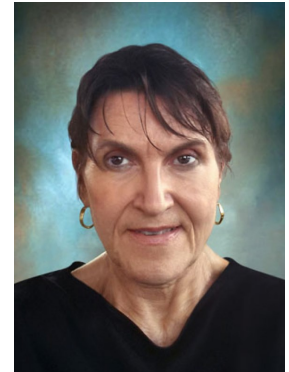
President	LaVonne Williams-Fedynich <i>Texas A&M University— Kingsville</i>	Secretary	Leslie Leach <i>Tarleton State University</i>
President-Elect/ Program Chair	Forrest Lane <i>Sam Houston State University</i>	Graduate Student Representative	Peter Boedeker <i>University of North Texas</i>
Past-President	Prathiba Natesan <i>University of North Texas</i>	Members-at-Large: 2015–2018	Grant Morgan <i>Baylor University</i>
Treasurer	Kim Nimon <i>University of Texas—Tyler</i>		Forrest Lane <i>Sam Houston State University</i> Ken Young <i>Lamar University</i>
Executive Director	Linda Zientek <i>Sam Houston State University</i>	Members-at-Large: 2016–2019	Mordecai Brownlee <i>St. Philip's College</i>
Executive Director Emeritus Historian	Bruce Thompson <i>Texas A&M University</i>		Suzanne Lindt <i>Midwestern State University</i> Celia Wilson <i>Texas Wesleyan University</i>
Deputy Historian	Victor Willson <i>Texas A&M University</i>	Members-at-Large: 2017–2020	Sandra Acosta <i>Texas A&M University</i>
Director of Information Technology	Susan Troncoso Skidmore <i>Sam Houston State University</i>		Scott Bailey <i>Stephen F. Austin University</i> Dittika Gupta <i>Midwestern State University</i>

Individuals are nominated by the membership each fall to serve on the SERA board. All current members are eligible to vote and receive an electronic ballot. SERA elections use the Hare system and selected candidates serve a three-year term beginning at the end of each annual meeting.

The SERA board welcomes the following new board members-at-large to serve a three-year term beginning in 2017: Sandra Acosta, *Texas A&M University*, Scott Bailey, *Stephen F. Austin University*, and Dittika Gupta, *Midwestern State University*.

Welcome to Our New Board Members

Dr. Sandra Acosta is an assistant professor of bilingual education in the Department of Educational Psychology at Texas A&M University. She has an extensive background in Texas public schools both as a teacher, administrator, and bilingual assessment specialist. Her research focuses on biliteracy and educational leadership, specifically teacher instructional leadership. Dr. Acosta has worked on multidisciplinary teams as an expert in issues related to bilingualism and biliteracy. Her publications include a primer on action research and autoethnography for health professionals.



Scott Bailey serves as Assistant Professor in the Principal Preparation Program and Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership at Stephen F. Austin State University. He also works as a Professional Service Provider, assisting local schools that did not meet state standards to develop targeted intervention plans. Prior to the university, he worked in public schools for 14 years as a teacher, assistant principal, curriculum director, and principal. His research interests focus on leadership development, instructional practices, and ensuring equity and access for all students. His latest publication is the book, *Preparing Educators for Online Learning: A Careful Look at the Components*.

Dittika Gupta is an assistant professor at Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, TX. She is a former high school mathematics teacher and received her PhD from the Baylor University, Waco in 2014. Currently, Dittika serves on the college research committee and is a part of two cross-university research groups. She is actively involved in undergraduate research through EURECA and her research interests include interdisciplinary teaching, lesson study, children's mathematical thinking, and teacher preparation.



2017–2018 Graduate Student Council

Jay Raadt
*University of North
Texas*



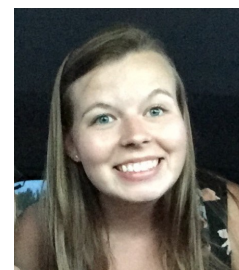
Rachel Martin
Texas A&M University



Asia Smith
*Stephen F. Austin State Univer-
sity*



Rachel Renbarger
Baylor University



Julie Fomenko
*Texas A&M University—Corpus
Christi*



Christopher Eckford
*Sam Houston State
University*



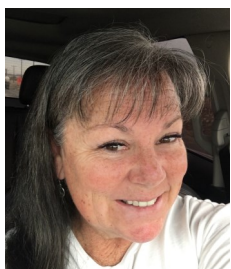
Mandolen Mull
University of Texas at Tyler



Charity Embley
Texas Tech University



Carolyn Ikens
*Texas Wesleyan
University*



Neelu Tajani
University of Houston



Preview of 2018 Conference—New Orleans, LA

We are looking forward to welcoming you to the 2016 SERA Annual Meeting at the historic Hotel Monteleone. The Hotel Monteleone, our conference hotel, was founded in 1887 and has been offering hospitality in the French Quarter for over 127 years (<http://hotelmonteleone.com/>).

There are many reasons to look forward to your visit. In addition to the numerous professional opportunities that await during the conference, New Orleans is an award-winning destination with outstanding cuisine, music, art and architecture as well as a rich history and culture.

Want to explore this wonderful city? There are so many free things to do:

GET JAZZED. Stroll along Bourbon or Frenchmen, where jazz pours out onto the street or duck into a few clubs for the full experience.

DIVE DEEPER INTO OUR MUSICAL HERITAGE. After you've heard your fair share of jazz, learn about its roots at the New Orleans Jazz National Historic Park (916 N. Peters).

BROWSE ART. It seems like you can find art in every corner of New Orleans—the galleries on Julia and Royal Streets, the Mid-City and Bywater art markets, Jackson Square vendors and so much more.

EXPERIENCE OUR PARKS. Walk among the centuries-old oaks of City Park, picnic in picturesque Audubon Park or enjoy views of the Mississippi River at Woldenberg Park.

IMMERSE YOURSELF IN NEW ORLEANS HISTORY. Stop by The Historic New Orleans Collection (533 Royal) for a crash course on the city's history that spans almost 300 years.

VIEW FRENCH QUARTER ARCHITECTURE. You can spy wrought-iron balconies, a cornstalk fence, and hidden courtyards.

TAKE YOURSELF ON A LITERARY TOUR. See where Tennessee Williams (722 Toulouse), William Faulkner (624 Pirate's Alley), Truman Capote (711 Royal), Thornton Wilder (623 Bourbon), Walker Percy (1820 Milan) and Anne Rice (1239 First) lived.

BE MOVED BY OUR SPECTACULAR CHURCHES. The large Catholic population of New Orleans gave rise to breathtaking churches such as St. Louis Cathedral, St. Augustine and Our Lady of Guadalupe.

SAVOR YOUR SENSES. Savor the smells of more than 1,400 restaurants as you walk the streets of the French Quarter and Riverfront.

*Adapted from 30 Free Things To Do – Every Reason to Choose New Orleans, New Orleans Convention and Visitors Bureau, March 2015.

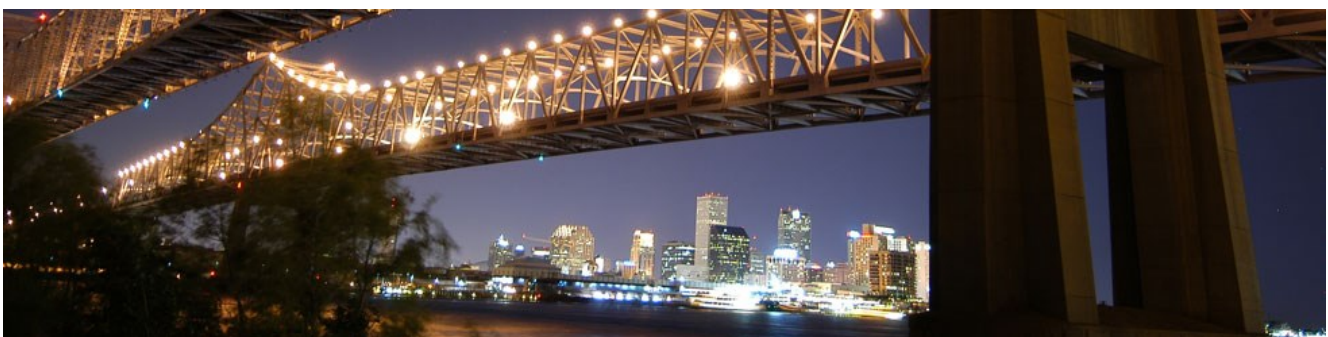


Photo courtesy of New Orleans Convention and Visitors Bureau

**Join us at the Hotel Monteleone
New Orleans, LA
February 14-16, 2018**

Important Dates:

- Research Grant Award Submission Deadline 4/1/2017
- Conference Proposal Submission Deadline 9/24/2017
- Conference Registration Deadline 10/12/17
- Graduate Student Paper Award Submission Deadline 1/8/2018
- Dean's Award Submission Deadline 1/8/2018
- SERA Bruce Thompson Outstanding Paper Award Submission
Deadline 2/15/2018



Photo courtesy of New Orleans Convention & Visitors Bureau

SOUTHWEST EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE 2018 ANNUAL MEETING FEBRUARY 14 - FEBRUARY 16, 2018 HOTEL MONTELEONE NEW ORLEANS

Program Chair:

Forrest Lane
Sam Houston State University
Educational Leadership, Box 2119
Huntsville, TX 77341-2119
(936) 294-4287
forrest.lane@shsu.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

The 41st Annual Meeting of the Southwest Educational Research Association will be held

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14 THROUGH FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2018

at the Hotel Monteleone • 214 Royal St • New Orleans, LA 70130

Tel: (504) 523-3341 • Fax: (504) 681-4491 • <http://hotelmonteleone.com/>

General Proposal Guidelines

Both members and non-members may submit proposals for consideration. **Only original work** that has not been previously (a) published, or (b) presented at SERA, or (c) presented at another professional meeting, is eligible for consideration. If a portion of the work has been previously presented, but not published, and the new original contribution is substantial, the work is eligible for consideration, but only if the prior work is explicitly acknowledged. For example, one year a student presented a paper explaining the precepts of computing "clinical significance," and the next year wrote a paper reporting a meta-analysis of clinical significance tests reported in a given literature. The primary focus of the second paper was the meta-analysis, the prior presentation was explicitly referenced, and the second paper was a co-winner of the SERA Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award. Questions regarding the "originality of work" requirement may be addressed to the Program Chair. *The general principle is that SERA is not a venue for reporting work already reported either elsewhere, or previously.* Proposals for papers, tutorials, symposia, innovative format sessions, and graduate student seminars will be considered for inclusion in the program and should be submitted electronically to the SERA website at: <http://sera-edresearch.org/>

Submit **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2017.**

Proposals are invited on topics from all disciplines related to education.

Authors and co-authors are required to register for the annual meeting and principal authors are expected to present their papers in person. If circumstances prevent principal authors from doing so, they must designate a substitute to make their presentations. Each contributor may participate as principal/first author in no more than three (3) sessions.

All authors and co-authors must preregister and pay registration fees for the annual meeting by the October deadline. Registration fees include the annual member dues. Include as co-authors only persons who have made a substantial contribution to the paper. All persons who benefit from the presentation of papers at the annual meeting (i.e., all authors and co-authors) are expected to contribute to our scholarly community by helping to pay association conference expenses (i.e., register/pay annual dues).

Current SERA membership is NOT a requirement for proposal submissions. Instead, what is required is that all authors and **all** coauthors must register and pay the registration fees for the conference for which the presentation is being submitted. The SERA Registration web pages are typically opened in late August, and payments must be received (not sent; received) by the October deadlines posted on the SERA Home Page.

All meeting rooms at the annual conference will be equipped with an LCD projector with a VGA cable (3-row 15-pin connector) and a projector screen. **Presenters are responsible for providing working computers and VGA adapters for their computers if needed.** Also, wireless internet is NOT provided, so presenters should either bring presentations on a flash/thumb drive or have capability of providing a wireless hotspot if your presentation is stored on a virtual space. **Presenters must supply all other audio-visual equipment. Participants are advised to bring their own laptop computers.**

PLEASE NOTE that conference registration and payment *RECEIPT*** are ***STRICTLY required*** within roughly one month (i.e., By OCTOBER 5th for check or Purchase Order payments and by OCTOBER 12, 2017 for PayPal payments) of the proposal submission deadline in order for proposals to be considered.**

First, registration must be completed on-line at <http://sera-edresearch.org/>

Second, payment may be made either using the SERA Registration web site and its Pay Pal features, which includes a credit card option, or by postal mailing a check or purchase order **BY THE PAYMENT RECEIPT OCTOBER DEADLINE** to the address indicated on the conference registration form.

Any persons who have all of their proposals rejected may request a conference registration refund by contacting the Treasurer. All such requests for refunds must be received by December 5, 2017, and must include (a) a postal mailing address, (b) a copy of the proposal rejection(s) and (c) a copy of the SERA registration form. Conference registration payment by all authors/co-authors is a condition for proposal review, includes annual dues, and is not otherwise refundable unless all an individual's proposals are rejected. **The proposals of any persons not completing both conference registration and payment BY THE OCTOBER DEADLINE will be rejected.**

Persons submitting proposals will be notified of the disposition of their proposals by the end of November. The DRAFT program will be posted on the SERA website in early December, and the final program will be posted in January.

THE FIRST SESSION WILL START ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2018 AT ROUGHLY NOON.

Implicit Permission to Take and Use Photograph

During the annual meeting photographs are taken of presenters and participants in public spaces (e.g., meeting rooms, hallways, at the luncheon), which may then be displayed during the annual meeting, in SERA newsletters, or on the SERA website. **THE SUBMISSION OF A PROPOSAL IS DEEMED A GRANT BY ALL AUTHORS TO SERA TO USE SUCH PHOTOS FOR NONPROFIT USES.**

PROPOSALS

ALL PROPOSALS for inclusion in the program must be submitted electronically using the link posted on the SERA website: <http://sera-edresearch.org>. Proposals should be no more than two (2) single-spaced pages in length.

The program chair, in conjunction with the president, will accept workshops according to the space available in the conference program. Because Innovative Session and Workshop formats both require substantial program time, only a very **limited number** of proposals for these two formats may be accepted.

1. Proposals for Paper Sessions

Paper sessions are organized around topic areas selected by the Program Committee. Participants will each be given between 11-13 minutes to present papers in summary fashion. To propose a paper for a paper session, authors should prepare a summary including (a) a statement of the problem, (b) perspective(s) or theoretical framework, (c) methods and procedures, (d) results and conclusions, and (e) the educational or scientific importance of the study. Where feasible, sessions will be organized around themes to promote discussion and audience interaction. Session Chairs are typically one of the presenters from that session, so please be sure to check the program ahead of time to determine who is chairing a given session. An asterisk (*) next to a presenter's name in the conference program indicates selection as the session chair.

2. *Proposals for Symposia*

A symposium consists of a set of paper presentations organized by the symposium organizer. As with paper sessions, all symposium papers must be written, and must be distributed to the audience in paper form, or submitted to the SERA Paper Repository, or both. The difference between Paper Sessions and Symposia is that papers in Paper Sessions are grouped by the Program Chair, while the papers in Symposium Sessions are grouped by the organizer. It is the responsibility of symposia organizers to identify topics, solicit speakers, and, if appropriate, provide discussants for symposia sessions. Organizers must designate a chairperson in the proposal (typically the organizer). Being a presenter does not preclude a person from also serving as chair. The organizer is also responsible for notifying other symposium presenters of the disposition of the proposal. The summary should include the following information: (a) objectives of the symposium; (b) summaries of the point of view or conclusion(s) to be drawn from each presenter; (c) a statement regarding the scientific or educational importance of the symposium; and (d) a list, on a separate page, of the symposium presenters (including a discussant, if appropriate) and their institutional affiliations. The submission system requires that *each symposium paper has a title and a given set of authors*.

3. *Tutorials/Training Sessions*

Tutorials or Training Sessions provide an opportunity to provide instruction and/or information on a specific topic to the audience in approximately 50 minutes. To propose a tutorial/training session, authors should prepare a summary to include (a) a statement of the topic, (b) perspective(s) or importance of the topic, (c) information about the topic, and (d) how it might be applied to a research project.

4. *Proposals for Innovative Format Sessions*

Proposals for sessions employing innovative formats will be considered. Proposals for structured debates on specific, controversial issues are encouraged. Persons wishing to submit a proposal for an innovative format presentation should explain how the format will be structured and what topics or issues will be discussed. A list of presenters should be included on the cover sheet. The organizer is responsible for notifying all presenters of the disposition of the proposal.

5. *Student Division for RESEARCH IN PROGRESS (Division VI Only)*

To encourage participation by students, research proposals can be presented, including theses or dissertations still in the developmental stage and not yet defended. Authorship on Division VI proposals are *limited to students and should not include a faculty co-author*. In these sessions, a distinguished researcher will provide feedback to students. Proposals should include (a) a statement of the problem, (b) the significance of the study, and (c) a description of the proposed methods and procedures. Students whose SERA presentation proposals are accepted should send a copy of their research proposal to the session discussant **on or before January 8, 2018**.

NOTE: Research that will be completed prior to the conference is ***not*** appropriate for Division VI seminars. **Of course, graduate students may submit proposals for presentations not suitable for Division VI to any of the other five divisions, based on a match of presentation topic to the division's coverage.**

Remember:

- There is a **limit of 3 submissions** by a principal/first author.
- There is a **limit of 7 coauthors** per submission.
- All authors/co-authors and workshop, symposia, and innovative session presenters must register for the annual meeting.
- The Program Committee may exclude any proposal that does not meet the guidelines specified in this publication.
- Presenters are expected to bring **10-15 copies** of their papers to the annual meeting for distribution to the audience, **OR** upload a digital copy of the paper to the SERA Paper Repository website. More information about the Repository will be disseminated in the Fall.
- All meeting rooms at the annual conference will be equipped with an LCD Projector, but you must bring your own laptops. Presenters are encouraged to put their presentations on a flash drive and all the presenters load their presentation onto one laptop before the session begins. **Presenters must supply all other audio-visual equipment.** For instance, mac users may want to bring their own dongle. SSD laptops may require a HDMI-VGA cable.

PLEASE NOTE that conference registration and payment ***RECEIPT*** are required within one month (i.e., BY THE OCTOBER DEADLINE) of the proposal submission deadline.

PAPERS

The SERA annual meeting is intended as a venue in which presenters have written **an actual prepared paper, which is made available to interested members**. In other words, SERA is *NOT* a venue for extemporaneously delivering off-the-cuff remarks. In short, the primary communication medium of the conference is in the form of exchanging written, formal, archival scholarly papers, and not oral.

Most papers have 10-18 pages of narrative, references, and many have tables and/or figures. All papers should have a cover page listing the title, authors, and a note at the bottom saying, "**Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwest Educational Research Association, New Orleans, LA February (date), 2018.**" Also, please, in the *UPPER RIGHT CORNER* of your cover page, type the Session Number in which the paper is being presented (e.g., "T2.3", "W1.4", "F3.1"), as indicated by the conference program posted to the web in December prior to the annual meeting.

Many previous SERA papers from the past 40 years of conferences are available as ERIC "ED" documents. If you want to see some actual previous papers. You can go to <http://www.eric.ed.gov/ERICWebPortal/search/extended.jsp> and search on "Southwest Educational Research Association" as a KEYWORD, and then in the ED/EJ box click on ONLY ED (which are non-journal articles, and mostly conference papers). Most of these will have a link to the PDF version of the SERA paper.

If you know the ERIC "ED" "accession number" for the PDF file, you can also go to: <http://www.eric.ed.gov/ERICWebPortal/basicSearch.do> and type the accession number as the SEARCH TERM to get the PDF file. Here are 3 sample recent SERA papers: ED499991, ED499990, and ED500497.

Submit proposals online at: <http://sera-edresearch.org/>

Proposals should be submitted to only one division. The program committee reserves the right to reject all proposals that appear to be "duplicate" submissions by the same author(s). Please feel free to contact one of the following division chairs if you have questions.

Program Division Chairs

I. Educational Administration, Policy, Leadership, & Program Evaluation

Ken Young

Lamar University

ken.young@lamar.edu

James Hardy

University of Texas Arlington

jimhardy@uta.edu

II. Instruction, Learning & Cognition

Laura Isbell

Texas A&M University – Commerce

Laura.Isbell@tamuc.edu

Dittika Gupta

Midwestern State University

dittika.gupta@mwsu.edu

III. Methodology, Measurement & Evaluation

Tommy De Vaney

Southeastern Louisiana

tdevaney@selu.edu

Lesley Leach

Tarleton State University

leach@tarleton.edu

IV. Teachers & Teacher Education

Bob Elliott

Eastern New Mexico University

Robert.Elliott@enmu.edu

Lori Petty

Mary Hardin-Baylor University

lpetty@uhmb.edu

V. Special Populations & Counseling

Nara Martirosyan

Sam Houston State University

nxm021@SHSU.EDU

Monica Wong-Ratcliff

Texas A&M University – Kingsville

Monica.Ratcliff@tamuk.edu

VI. Graduate Student Seminars for Work in Progress

Mordecai Brownlee

St. Philip's College

mbrownlee3@alamo.edu

Martha L. Tapia

Berry College

mtapia@berry.edu

POSSIBLE DESCRIPTORS

Following is a list of *suggested* terms you may use to describe your proposal:

Achievement	Early Childhood	Learning	Reading
Adult Education	Education	Learning Styles	Reflective Thinking
Arts	Educational Reform	Mathematics Education	Research Methods
At-Risk Students	Effective Schools	Minority Recruitment	Schools
Attitudes	Efficacy	Minority Retention	School Environment
Classroom Management	English Education	Multicultural Education	School Improvement
Clinical Issues	Evaluation	Novice/Expert Studies	School Restructuring
Cognition	Exceptional Education	Parent Education	Science Education
College Students	Field Experience	Parent Involvement	Self Perception
Computer Education	Finance	Performance Assessment	Social Sciences
Constructivism	Gender Issues	Policy	Statistics
Critical Thinking	Gifted Education	Post Secondary	Student Motivation
Culture	Higher Education	Education	Student
Curriculum	In-service Education	Preschool Education	Violence/Conflict
Development	Instruction	Preservice Education	Teacher Characteristics
Discipline	International Education	Principals	Technology
Drug Education	Language	Private Schools Professional	Tests
		Development	Vocational Education

Submit all materials electronically (to be received by SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2017)
using the SERA website:
<http://sera-edresearch.org/>

2018 SERA BRUCE THOMPSON OUTSTANDING PAPER AWARD

Authors are encouraged to submit five (5) single-sided copies of the paper submitted for presentation at the 2018 annual meeting to the SERA Executive Director, Linda Zientek, by **NOON, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2018**. The winner of the BRUCE THOMPSON OUTSTANDING PAPER AWARD will be announced in the newsletter, present the paper at one of the sessions of Outstanding Papers from the State and Regional Research Associations at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, and be recognized at the luncheon during the next year's SERA annual meeting. Because of the 2018 conference date, the paper might actually be presented at the 2019 AERA conference. A stipend of \$1000 to help defray the costs involved in attending the AERA meeting will be awarded to the winner.

Rules for Outstanding Paper Award Competition:

- Five (5) single-sided hard copies of the presented paper (i.e., NO electronic copies) must be submitted to the Executive Director for consideration. MEMBERS INTERESTED IN ENTERING THE COMPETITION ARE **STRONGLY** ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT THEIR 5 SINGLE-SIDED COPIES AT THE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DESK DURING THE ANNUAL MEETING, OR **MAIL THE PAPER COPIES PRIOR TO THE ANNUAL MEETING**.
- The Executive Director must **receive** completed papers on or before the deadline. Late papers are **not** eligible for consideration. At the discretion of the Executive Board, an award may not be made if fewer than 3 meritorious papers are submitted for competition, or if the award committee deems that no award should be made. Should this occur, all participants will be advised that the award will not be made.
- An individual may submit only one paper on which the member is a co-author. Papers with any common co-authors will not be considered.
- Papers will not be considered for the award unless all co-authors have paid preregistration fees by the October deadline for payment receipt.
- Persons who authored the SERA Outstanding Paper in the immediate prior year are not eligible for award consideration in the following year.
- **Active officers of the SERA Executive Council, including appointed officers, are not eligible for this competition.**

*Send completed papers for 2018 SERA Outstanding Paper Award
by POSTAL/COURIER SERVICE ONLY to:*

**LINDA ZIENTEK, SERA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
2018 SERA OUTSTANDING PAPER AWARD
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPT. OF MATHEMATICS & STATISTICS
BOX 2206
HUNTSVILLE, TEXAS 77341
lrzientek@shsu.edu**

2018 SERA OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

An award of \$750 and a certificate will be given for the best paper presented by a graduate student member at the annual meeting. For a paper to be eligible, **the work must be completed before the annual meeting** and then presented in a paper or symposium session. Student authors should **electronically** submit completed copies of their papers to the SERA President to be **RECEIVED BY MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2018**. The award winner will be announced at the SERA luncheon on Thursday, February 15, 2018. Please note that the Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award competition is for **completed** graduate student research (i.e., **ONLY Division I through V papers**), and may include theses or dissertations, as well as other graduate student research. Students who present thesis or dissertation research should submit a **condensed version** of the work, not the full thesis or dissertation. **Work in-progress** presented in graduate student seminars (i.e., only Division VI) is **not** eligible for this award, nor are preliminary works, such as literature reviews or class projects and proposals.

Rules for Graduate Student Paper Award Competition:

- The SERA President must **receive** completed papers on or before the **January 8, 2018**, deadline. Late papers are **not** eligible for consideration.
- If multiple authors write the paper, the first author must be a graduate student.
- Papers will not be considered for the award unless all co-authors have preregistered by the October deadline for payment receipt.
- At the discretion of the award committee, an award may not be made if fewer than 3 meritorious papers are submitted for competition. Should this occur, all participants will be advised that the award will not be made.
- Graduate students must indicate their student status on the title page of the paper.
- The Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award competition is for **completed** graduate student research.

*Send completed papers for 2018 Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award
by E-MAIL ATTACHMENT ONLY to:*

LaVonne Williams-Fedynich
Texas A&M University-Kingsville
lavonne.fedynich@tamuk.edu

2018 SERA DEANS' AWARDS FOR EXCEPTIONAL GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH

Approximately fifteen \$150 awards and certificates will be given for graduate student research papers based on their contribution to educational research.

Dean's awards will be given to students from universities that choose to participate in this opportunity. There are at most two awards given per participating university. The respective Dean of the College of Education for each university sponsors these awards. An e-mail will be sent to members in the Fall announcing the final list of participating universities.

Eligibility: To be eligible, a student must be from one of the participating universities and must attend the 2018 SERA annual meeting. Student authors should **electronically submit** completed papers to the SERA graduate student representative to be:

RECEIVED BY Monday, January 8, 2018.

Submission Criterion: These awards are for completed graduate student research or research work in-progress (i.e., papers submitted to **any** division, I through VI). Papers can be in any form; literature reviews, explanations of statistical concepts, case studies and will judged from the perspective of how it will further the theory of educational research.

The awards will be announced at the SERA luncheon on Thursday, February 15, 2018.

Rules for the Deans' Awards Competition:

- The SERA graduate student representative **must receive** completed papers on or before the January 8, 2018 deadline. Late papers are not eligible for consideration.
- The paper must be authored **only** by graduate students.
- If multiple authors write the papers, the choice can be made for the award to be given to the first author or split among all the authors.
- At the discretion of the awards committee, an award may not be made if fewer than 3 meritorious papers are submitted for competition from that university. Should this occur, all participants will be advised that the award will not be made. Also, awards will not be given for institutions at which Deans decide not to participate.
- If you do not receive a receipt confirmation via E-mail **by January 8, 2018**, please contact the graduate student representative immediately.

*Send completed papers for the 2018 Deans' Awards
by E-MAIL ATTACHMENT ONLY to:*

**Peter Boedeker
SERA Graduate Student Representative
University of North Texas
Peter.Boedeker@unt.edu**