

Fall 2018



SERA Newsletter

Southwest Educational Research Association

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Tracey S. Hodges
University of Alabama

Wendi K. Zimmer
Texas A&M University

The Prez Says...

SERA Board of Directors and I look forward to seeing each of you in San Antonio for another great conference. The annual conference is a fantastic way to establish and renew collaborative relationships with scholar-practitioners in educational research, share cutting-edge research, and explore new research possibilities.

The 42nd Annual meeting of the SERA will be held at the Menger Hotel in San Antonio on February 6-8, 2019. Throughout this newsletter you will find details about the conference, including links to the annual meeting, conference information from the **Program Chair Jana Willis**, as well as information about the presidential invited address, training sessions, and awards. One highlight we are very excited about is this year's presidential speaker, **Robert Pianta**, Dean of the Curry School of Education at the University of Virginia. More information about this session is available in our Program Chair News.

The SERA repository will be up and running again this year. We will continue to offer SERA members the opportunity to upload their papers before the conference begins as well as download the papers for other presentations. Although only first authors will be able to upload and remove papers from the repository, **EVERYONE** will be able to login to the SERA repository site with the same e-mail address they used when submitting their proposals. They will then be asked to establish a unique password in order to maintain the integrity of the system and ensure that only the authors of papers can upload or delete papers from the repository. More information about the SERA repository will be communicated via e-mail. Be sure to check e-mails from the Executive Director as the conference dates get closer.



Forrest Lane
Sam Houston State
University

The SERA Early Career Faculty Mentoring Program, organized by **Michelle Peters** will continue with another session at this year's conference. The program aims to provide support for junior faculty in the form of mentoring and grants. Look for a junior faculty session in the 2019 program to find ways you can be mentored as a junior faculty member, apply for grants, or serve as a mentor if you are a more experienced SERA member.



Photo courtesy of the San Antonio
Visitors Center

We are pleased to offer the conference program as an app so that members can choose to go paperless. With the guidebook app on your Smartphone, you can easily browse through



RIGHT: Camilla Benbow presents the 2018 Presidential Address to SERA participants.

LEFT: Bruce Thompson speaks to SERA participants about writing for publication.



The Prez Says from page 1

SERA Repository

The SERA Paper Repository will open on **January 15, 2019**. The use of the Repository is optional, but we highly encourage you to upload a digital copy of your paper. This provides 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](#)

the conference program and mark the presentations/speakers/topics you want to attend as well as their respective venues. Just download the **guidebook app** (<http://guidebook.com/>) and watch for updates in your e-mail after the program schedule is finalized.

State of the Organization

Membership numbers in SERA continues to remain strong. The Board strives to ensure that SERA membership dues remain low and that the conference is a student-friendly, affordable opportunity for current and aspiring scholars to engage in the exchange of research. SERA conference has something for everyone. If this is your first SERA conference, I recommend that you attend the Navigating Through and Getting the Most from SERA Session provided by **Linda Reichwein Zientek** and **Susan Troncoso Skidmore**. If you are interested in building your research skills, make sure to attend one of the SERA training workshops. I also encourage you to attend as many paper sessions as you can that are related to your research area.

Be sure to take the time to mingle with colleagues at breakfast and conference breaks. The SERA conference offers the perfect opportunity to develop new research ideas, strengthen your existing ideas, and make connections to effectively turn your ideas into publications. I look forward to

seeing you in San Antonio!

Forrest Lane

SERA President
Sam Houston State University

"If you are interested in building your research skills, make sure to attend one of the SERA training workshops."

News from Our Program Chair

The 2019 conference begins on Wednesday afternoon, February 6, in San Antonio, at the historic **Menger Hotel**, with two ticketed training sessions. Sharon Matthews and Carly Jennings from Texas A&M University will be offering “**P.O.W.E.R.ful Hour Full**” for Promoting Outstanding Writing for Excellence in Research. Tony Talbert from Baylor University will be offering “**Close Encounters of the Third Paradigm: Mixed Methods Researchers – We’re Not Alone.**” Numerous additional workshops and presentations are planned throughout the conference on topics such as the dissertation process, academic writing, and tips and tools for conducting quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods research.

More than 260 proposals were submitted for the 2019 SERA conference. Division VI continues to be a popular avenue for dissemination of graduate student members’ “work in progress.” This division provides graduate students the opportunity to present research in progress, including dissertations or theses that have not yet been defended. All sessions in Division VI are led by discussants that have distinguished careers as researchers. Papers presented in Division VI will need to be submitted to the discussant **on or before January 8th.**

The draft program should be complete by early December and will be posted to the SERA website. Authors can check their presentation dates and times from the posted program and make travel plans accordingly.

During the conference, projectors for laptops will be provided in all presentation rooms. Presenters will need to bring their own laptop and their presentation on a flash drive. One computer per session should be used to minimize transition between presentations. Presenters will have 10-13

minutes for each presentation, with a few minutes left for questions or discussion. We recommend limiting your presentation to about 10 slides. Please note that Power Point presentations are *not required*.

Presentations are strictly limited to a maximum of 13 minutes in order for all presenters to have sufficient time to present their research. All presenters should bring 10-15 copies of *completed* papers (“in progress” papers for Division VI) for distribution during their presentation. Alternatively, presenters can submit their paper electronically to the SERA repository. The SERA website will contain the most up to date information on conference activities so please visit <http://sera-edresearch.org/> for the latest news.

We look forward to seeing you in San Antonio for the 42th annual SERA conference!

Jana M Willis
2019 Program Chair/
President Elect
University of Houston-Clear Lake



Jana Willis
University of Houston—
Clear Lake

*“The draft of the
program should be
completed by early
December.”*



Left: 2018-2019
SERA President,
Forrest Lane, and
2017-2018 SERA
President, LaVonne
Williams-Fedynich

Updated Policy on Conducting Research at SERA

No surveys, data collection, interviews, or any sort of human subjects research shall be conducted at the SERA annual meeting, or from the SERA membership, unless the research is first approved by the SERA board. SERA members in violation are subject to being removed from membership, and any SERA Board member in violation is subject to being removed from office for cause.

Mark Your Calendar for Future Conference Dates and Locations

2019 Conference

At the Menger San Antonio (San Antonio, TX)

Wednesday, February 6th—Friday, February 8th

2020 Conference

At the Arlington-Hilton (Arlington, TX)

Wednesday, February 12th—Friday, February 14th

2021 Conference

At the Menger San Antonio (San Antonio, TX)

Wednesday, February 3rd —Friday, February 5th

Pre-Conference Workshop

Close Encounters of the Third Paradigm: Mixed Methods Researchers—We're Not Alone

This interactive symposium will explore how two unique research species (quantitative and qualitative) from two distinctive galaxies (interpretivism and positivism) telling two parallel stories (narrative and numeric) can move beyond conditioned coexistence into complementary conjoining into a third paradigm known as Mixed Methods Research. Three broad topics will serve as the framework for discussion: 1. Hyphen or no hyphen? The nature and foundations of mixed methods research; 2. "Come to the edge," he said: Choosing and conducting a mixed methods design; and, 3. How do I love thee? Let me count the ways: Interpreting and reporting complementary numbers and narratives. In addition, participants will be asked to share instances and insights from their own close encounter with Mixed Methods Research.

Tony L. Talbert is the Associate Dean for Strategic Initiatives and Professor of Social/Cultural Studies Education and Qualitative Research in the School of Education at Baylor University. Tony refers to his field of research and teaching as *Education As Democracy* which integrates social/cultural, diversity, and democracy education into a focused discipline of qualitative and ethnographic inquiry examining school and community stakeholder empowerment through activist engagement in political, economic, and social issues.



Tony Talbert
Baylor University

This pre-conference workshop is \$40 through online registration or \$50 at the door.

Pre-Conference Workshop

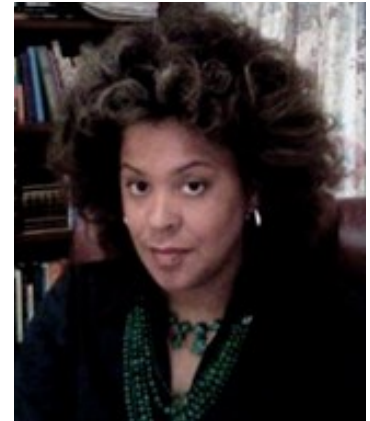
P.O.W.E.R.ful Hour Full

You know your subject matter. But do you know which writing processes are optimal for you to communicate your expertise? The ones that yield productivity, publications, and promotions? The P.O.W.E.R. system will save you years of trial and error. Pat Goodson pioneered the “Promoting Outstanding Writing for Excellence in Research” system at Texas A&M University. During this two-hour workshop based on P.O.W.E.R. principles we will survey the most effective practices from leading writers (academic and non-academic) and peak performance theory that you can apply to your writing work. Show up to this workshop with a device on which you can compose and edit text, one of your works in progress, and your top three writing goals in mind. You will leave with strategies, techniques, templates, resources, reading lists, and new accountability partners for your academic writing career.

Carly Jennings holds a Master of Science degree in Educational Human Resource Development (HRD), and teaches Sociology of Education at Texas A&M University while she pursues her doctorate of philosophy. Carly began her career in education as a bilingual high school teacher in the Republic of Panama. In addition to using P.O.W.E.R. methods to help her undergraduate students improve their writing, she has served as peer reviewer for education conferences in the United States and a European academic journal. She is experienced in the delivery of training and professional development, having worked in English and Spanish with diverse groups of learners, including college students, nannies, program administrators, classroom teachers, and university faculty.

Sharon Matthews is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the College of Education and Human Development at Texas A&M University. Sharon utilizes her classroom teaching experiences, supported by ongoing research and translation of evidence-based practices, to guide the preparation of knowledgeable and decisive preservice teachers who integrate literacy across all contexts.

This pre-conference workshop is \$20 through online registration or \$30 at the door.



Carly Jennings
Texas A&M University



Sharon Matthews
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 individuals 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 2019 would require grant recipients to submit their manuscript prior to the 2020 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 SERA Executive Director, Linda Zientek at LRZ002@SHSU.EDU by **April 1** of each year and awardees will be selected by **May 1**.



Michelle Peters

University of Houston—Clear Lake



George Moore

Sam Houston State University

Apply by April 1st!

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

SERA Bruce Thompson Outstanding Paper Award

Applicants must submit 5 single-sided copies to the SERA Executive Director, Linda Zientek. Electronic submissions are not accepted. An individual may submit only one paper on which he/she is author or co-author. The winner of the Outstanding Paper Award in the prior year is not eligible for consideration. Active officers of the SERA Executive Council, including appointed officers, are not eligible.

Award: \$1,000; present paper at AERA in 2018

Deadline: November 15, 2018 (12:00pm)

Postal/Courier Service Only

Linda Zientek, SERA Executive Director
2015 Outstanding Paper Award
Sam Houston State University
Dept. of Mathematics & Statistics
Huntsville, Texas 77341

SERA Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award

The first author must be a graduate student. Papers must be completed graduate student research (Division I through Division V); may be a condensed version of a thesis or dissertation, as well as other research; and are presented as papers or symposiums at the conference. Works in progress (Division VI) and preliminary works, such as literature reviews, class projects, proposals, are not eligible for the award.

Award: \$750.

Deadline: January 8, 2019 (by 5:00 pm)

Submit Electronically

Forrest Lane
SERA President
Forrest.lane@shsu.edu

Paper award winners will be featured in the Spring 2019 newsletter.

SERA Dean's Awards

Papers for consideration of the SERA Dean's Award must **only** be authored by graduate students. The award may be given to the first author only or to all authors. Completed graduate student research (Division I – V) and works in progress (Division VI) are eligible.

Papers can be in any form (i.e., literature reviews, explanation of statistical concepts, case studies, other), and will be judged from the perspective of how well they will further the theory of educational research.

Student recipients must be from a university that provides an award and must attend the 2019 SERA annual conference. More deans are expected to enroll soon. Students who are not enrolled in a university whose Dean of the College of Education supports this award are not eligible.

Awards: \$300 per university for two \$150 awards

Deadline: January 8, 2019 (5:00 pm)

Submit Electronically Only

Jay Raadt
SERA Graduate Student Representative
jay.raadt@unt.edu

WHO'S WHO OF SERA

Outstanding Paper Award Winner—Where are They Now?

For the past 35 years, SERA has recognized outstanding research enhancing the field of education through various outstanding paper awards. Many of the award winners joined SERA as graduate students and have record success in their academic careers. This new column serves to highlight past winners and give us a glimpse of where they are now.

In this volume, we highlight the original, 1983, Outstanding Paper Award Winners, Bill Kyle and James Shymansky.



William "Bill" C. Kyle, Jr.

University of Missouri
—St. Louis

Bill Kyle is the E. Desmond Lee Family Professor of Science Education I at the University of Missouri - St. Louis (USA). He is particularly interested in the socio-cultural, political, and economic issues associated with school reform and the prospects for equity in the process of schooling. The goals of such initiatives are oriented toward enhancing students' scientific literacy, preparing students for life in a critical democracy, self-and social empowerment, and social transformation.

Most recently, Bill was a collaborator on Project SUSTAIN, a collaborative venture amongst universities and researchers in South Africa, Malawi, Zambia, Norway and the US, with a focus upon generating knowledge and research methodologies oriented toward exploring and promoting access to a socially responsible science, mathematics, and technology education. Bill's present interests focus upon reorienting curriculum to address education for sustainable development - by drawing upon the 15 Global Challenges Facing Humanity and The Global Goals for Sustainable Development - to offer a framework for orienting STEM teaching and learning experiences with a focus on empowerment and social transformation. World leaders are hard at work creating a new development agenda. As we learn from the lessons of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), there is much optimism that substantial gains can be made toward addressing The Global Goals for Sustainable Development, launched by the United Nations in 2015. Yet, where are the voices of science educators? Why such silence? Bill offers a vision and challenge for science educators.

Bill's professional contributions have been recognized through his selection in 1980 as the author of the manuscript judged to be the most significant contribution to the *Journal of Research in Science Teaching (JRST)*; in 1981 he received the National Science Teachers Association's Gustav Ohaus Award for Innovations in College Science Teaching; in 1982 he was the recipient of the National Association for Research in Science Teaching's Patron Award for the research report judged to have the greatest significance and potential in the field of science education; in 1983 he was co-author of Southwest Educational Research Association's Outstanding Paper Award; and in 1990 the Association for the Education of Teachers in Science recognized him as the Outstanding Science Educator of the Year.

He served as Editor of *Journal of Research in Science Teaching* (January 1994 through May 1999), the official journal of NARST - A worldwide organization for improving science teaching and learning through research. In 2003, Bill's scholarship was recognized by NARST as having been the co-author of one of the 13 most influential articles published in *JRST* during its first 40 years (1963-2003). Bill is presently the Executive Director of NARST (2007 - 2018).

WHO'S WHO OF SERA

Outstanding Paper Award Winner—Where are They Now?



James A. Shymansky

University of Missouri
—St. Louis

James A. Shymansky is holder of the E. Desmond Lee Family Professor of Science Education II endowed professorship. He received his BS in Education from Bloomsburg State College, his MS in Physics from Indiana State University and his Ph.D. in Science Education from the Florida State University.

Before joining the UM-St. Louis faculty in 1997, he taught for 5 years in elementary, middle and high school in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Indiana and Florida and for 25 years at the University of Iowa.

He recently directed the "Just ASK Project," a professional development project funded by the National Science Foundation in which elementary school teachers from rural school districts in Missouri and Iowa posted videos and lesson plans on ways to are to reinforce student skills in reading and writing while learning science through hands-on inquiry.

His research has focused on how professional development activities for teachers translate into enhanced student performance. He has authored or co-authored 16 book chapters, 2 textbook series and over 80 research articles. He served as a consultant for the Education Division of National Geographic and the Oxford Science Dictionary.

James helped found the International Journal of Science and Mathematics Education, published by Springer Publishing Company of the Netherlands for which he has served as Senior Editor since 2002.

Want to nominate someone for the “Who’s Who of SERA”?

Send nominations to the SERA Executive Director, Linda Zientek.

Graduate Student News

The SERA Graduate Student Council would like to encourage your attendance and participation at the 40th SERA Conference to be held at the historic Menger Hotel in San Antonio, February 6-8, 2019. This conference continues to be one of the most student-friendly research conferences in the United States. The graduate students who attend receive research presentation and professional development experiences that help build their professional skills. They also are able to build relationships with graduate students and professors from universities around the region. This year, there will be several graduate student activities during the conference. Whether this is your first year attending, or you are a seasoned regular, we hope you will join us for these fun and enriching events.

Hotel Room Drawing

One of the perks of attending the SERA Business Luncheon as a graduate student is the opportunity to enter the drawing for \$100 toward their room night. The drawing will be held at the annual luncheon. To be eligible to win, you must be present at the luncheon, **AND you must be a registered guest at the Menger Hotel.** Please plan to attend the luncheon; the meal is delicious, the room is beautiful, and the academic networking opportunities are priceless.

Fireside Chat

Immediately following the Presidential Invited Address, we invite graduate students to stay around for a small-group, informal discussion with the speaker. This year the Presidential Invited Speaker is Robert Pianta, Dean of the Curry School of Education, Novartis US Foundation Professor of Education, Professor of Psychology, and founding director of the Center for Advanced Study of Teaching and Learning at the University of Virginia. Doctor Pianta will host the "Fireside Chat" with graduate students immediately following the presidential invited address. This is an excellent opportunity for students to discuss their thoughts and ask questions

Graduate Student Meeting

We invite all graduate students to attend the Graduate Student Meeting on February 7th, **immediately after the Fireside Chat** (check the program for meeting room and time). At the meeting, we will thank the outgoing SERA Graduate Student Council for their service, select the SERA Graduate Student Council for the coming year (SERA 2020), and elect the SERA Graduate Student Representative who will serve as a voting member of the SERA Board. Each university that is represented by five or more graduate students at the meeting is eligible for one position on the council. For universities with fewer than five graduate students at the meeting, one at-large position will be elected collectively from the universities. Serving as a campus representative is an excellent way to build your leadership skills both with the graduate students at your university and the leadership within your department. The current SERA Graduate Student Representatives have represented you very well this year. We greatly thank all of them for their service. If you believe that you might be interested in serving as a student representative for your university at SERA 2020, please contact your current representative for details.

Graduate Student Social Event

If you have attended SERA in the past, you may remember that after the Graduate Student Meeting, there is a Graduate Student Social. This year we will continue the tradition of meeting at Pat O'Briens of San Antonio, which is popular and easily accessible from the conference hotel. We look forward to meeting you and sharing a time of edifying pleasantries.

Paper Awards

There are three different categories through which student-authored submissions may receive awards.

1. The **Deans' Awards** are sponsored by individual universities. Entries must be submitted by students from a sponsoring university and only students from participating universities are eligible to win these awards. Paper submissions for the Deans' Award are due to Jay Raadt at jay.raadt@unt.edu by January 8, 2019. 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.



Jay Raadt

University of North Texas

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

Graduate Student News Cont.

If 3 or fewer submissions are received for a given university, at the discretion of the awards committee, based on their reviews of the submissions, either 0, 1, or 2 Dean's Awards may be made. All participants will be advised if no awards will be made. Also, awards will not be given for institutions at which Deans decide not to participate.

2. The **Outstanding Graduate Student Paper** is 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. The award winner will be announced at the SERA luncheon on Thursday, February 7, 2019. 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. Submissions are due to Forrest Lane at forrest.lane@shsu.edu by November 15, 2019.

3. The **SERA Bruce Thompson Outstanding Paper** is chosen from all papers submitted and is due November 15, 2018. Submission should be sent to Linda Zientek by postal service only at:

Linda Zientek

SERA Executive Director
Sam Houston State University Department Of
Mathematics & Statistics
Box 2206
Huntsville, Texas 77341

For complete submission guidelines, please see the [call for proposals](#). The SERA 2019 board is very excited about how the conference is shaping up. I look forward to meeting each of you for a very exciting time of learning and celebration in San Antonio!



Top: 2018 SERA luncheon

Bottom: Graduate students meet with Camilla Benbow for a fireside chat at the 2018 SERA conference



2019 Presidential Invited Address

Observation and Improvement of Teacher-Student Interactions: Translating Developmental Science to Educational Policy and Practice



Robert Pianta
University of Virginia

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

This presentation summarizes research on the measurement and improvement of teacher-student interactions conducted over the course of the past two decades. Starting with the theoretical bases for a focus on teacher-student interactions and relationships it will also describe research on the nature and validity of measurement systems, including descriptive results from over 15,000 pk-12 classrooms in the U.S. Findings to be presented also include investigations on the impact of teacher-student relationships on students' achievement, self-regulation, and social development. A series of experiments that improve teacher-student interaction and student outcomes will be highlighted for their implications for policy and innovation in the preparation of the teacher workforce.

Robert Pianta, PhD, is Dean of the Curry School of Education, Novartis US Foundation Professor of Education, Professor of Psychology, and founding director of the Center for Advanced Study of Teaching and Learning at the University of Virginia. Dr. Pianta's research and policy interests focus on the intersection of education and human development. In particular his work has been influential in advancing the conceptualization of teacher-student interactions and relationships and documenting their contributions to students' learning and development. Dr. Pianta has led research and development on measurement and improvement tools that help teachers interact with students more effectively and that are used widely in the United States and around the world. Dr. Pianta received a BS and an MA in Special Education from the University of Connecticut and a PhD in Psychology from the University of Minnesota. He began his career as a special education teacher and joined the University of Virginia faculty in 1986. He is past Editor of the *Journal of School Psychology* and associate editor for *AERA Open*. An internationally recognized expert in both early childhood education and K-12 teaching and learning, Dr. Pianta regularly consults with federal agencies, foundations, universities, and governments. He was named a Fellow of the American Education Research Association and received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Minnesota in 2016.

A Preview of San Antonio for the 2019 SERA Annual Meeting

Come join us in San Antonio at the Menger Hotel for our SERA 2019 annual conference from February 6 to 8, 2019. You can be assured of a very academically stimulating conference and a good time for all. San Antonio has always been a crossroads for travelers, explorers, and those on a quest for liberty. Its sights, sounds, tastes and past captivate, while friendly people, the relaxing river and superb climate entice visitors to come back for more. From its important role in Texas independence to its fusion of cultures, San Antonio is a truly unique and authentic destination.

While in San Antonio for the conference, you will have many places to visit for shopping, dining, and entertainment. The Alamo, The Riverwalk, Tower of Americas, the Buckhorn Hall of Fame and several museums such as the Witte, McNay Art Museum, and San Antonio Museum of Art are great places to site-see if this is your venue of choice. If you like to shop, make sure to take some time to stroll through La Villita for a very unique shopping experience. Are you more into the fun “party crowd” localities? You will find such places as Dick’s Last Resort, Howl at the Moon, Swigs, Pat O’Brien’s, and Dirty Nellie’s to choose from.

The Roosevelt Bar is a must see piece of history that is located in the Menger Hotel. Teddy Roosevelt enlisted his Rough Riders there and Carrie Nation chopped up the bar during prohibition. The Menger has a very extensive and

interesting history, the hotel first opened its doors in 1859 making it the oldest continuously operating hotel west of the Mississippi River.

Many famous people have stayed at the hotel such as Babe Ruth, Mae West, Roy Rogers and his wife Dale Evans, General Sam Houston, Presidents McKinley, Nixon, Reagan, Johnson, Clinton and Bush. It’s been said that the hotel has many ghosts and spirits, so don’t be too surprised to catch a glimpse of them roaming around the hotel. Cheers and see you in San Antonio!

*Welcome to
San Antonio!*



Photos provided by visitsanantonio.com



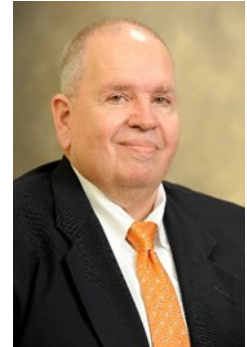
SERA Board Members and Appointments

President	Forrest Lane <i>Sam Houston State University</i>	Secretary	Lesley Leach <i>Tarleton State University</i>
President-Elect/Program Chair	Jana Willis <i>University of Houston—Clear Lake</i>	Graduate Student Representative	Jay Raadt <i>University of North Texas</i>
Past-President	LaVonne Williams-Fedynich <i>Texas A&M University—Kingsville</i>	Members-at-Large: 2016–2019	Mordecai Brownlee <i>St. Philip's College</i> Suzanne Lindt <i>Midwestern State University</i> Celia Wilson <i>Texas Wesleyan University</i>
Treasurer	Kim Nimon <i>University of Texas—Tyler</i>	Members-at-Large: 2017–2020	Sandra Acosta <i>Texas A&M University</i> Scott Bailey <i>Stephen F. Austin State University</i> Dittika Gupta <i>Midwestern State University</i>
Executive Director	Linda Zientek <i>Sam Houston State University</i>	Members-at-Large: 2018–2021	Sandra Nite <i>Texas A&M University</i> Sonya Sherrod <i>Texas Tech University</i> Marsha Sowell <i>Texas A&M University—Kingsville</i>
Executive Director Emeritus Historian	Bruce Thompson <i>Texas A&M University</i>		
Deputy Historian	Victor Willson <i>Texas A&M University</i>		
Director of Information Technology	Susan Troncoso Skidmore <i>Sam Houston State University</i>	Presidential Appointments	Michelle Peters <i>University of Houston—Clear Lake</i> George Moore <i>Sam Houston State University</i> Shirley Matteson <i>Texas Tech University</i>
Deputy Treasurer	Grant Morgan <i>Baylor 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.

Welcome to Our New Research Grants Coordinator

George W. Moore is a Professor in the Educational Leadership Department at Sam Houston State University. Before joining the faculty at SHAU, George taught science at the junior high and at the high school levels. He has taught administration courses, research methods, qualitative research, program evaluation, and proposal development. His research agenda includes Advanced Placement participation and performance, dual credit programs, college readiness, and instructional supervision.



Welcome to Our New Deputy Treasurer



Grant B. Morgan is an associate professor in the Department of Educational Psychology at Baylor University where he is also Department Chair, Graduate Programs Director and Coordinator of the Quantitative Methods programs. Morgan's primary research involves methodological investigations of advanced models using Monte Carlo methods. His methodological works have been published in *Structural Equation Modeling*, *Computational Statistics & Data Analysis*, *Methodology*, and others. He is on the editorial board of the *Journal of Psychoeducational Assessment* and regularly reviews manuscripts for *Structural Equation Modeling*, *Multivariate Behavioral Research*, *Psychometrika* and other top-tier journals. He has served for four years as a panelist for the NSF's Directorate for Education and Human Resources. Morgan is member of AERA, AERA-Division D, and was recently elected program chair for the Structural Equation Modeling special interest group. Morgan has authored nearly 90 publications and is key personnel on several current grants funded by NIH or NSF.

Looking for Volunteer Opportunities through SERA?

A great way to get involved in SERA is to volunteer. Some opportunities include serving as a proposal reviewer, division co-chair, or assisting with technology needs and services. Another great opportunity is to help with conference registration. Volunteers will welcome participants and provide various conference materials. Anyone interested in serving as a registration desk volunteer should contact Forrest Lane at forrest.lane@shsu.edu or by phone at (936)294-4287.

Welcome to Our New Faculty Mentor Program Organizer

Michelle Peters is a Professor of Research and Applied Statistics in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis at the University of Houston-Clear Lake. For the past 19 years, Michelle has instructed various statistics, mathematics, and quantitative analysis courses at both the undergraduate and graduate level. Although her research interests tend to focus on K-16 STEM formal/informal education, she also collaborates on other research studies dealing with teacher education, educational leadership, higher education, medicine, and program evaluation.



Welcome to Our New Newsletter Co-Editor



Wendi Zimmer is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Teaching, Learning & Culture at Texas A&M University. Her current research interests focus on developing methods, strategies, and interventions for enhancing digital literacy competency in pre-service and in-service teachers. Additionally, her research focuses on graduate level writing development. She conducts mixed methods research in both higher education and school settings.

2018–2019 Graduate Student Council

Julie Miller

Tarleton State University



Jennifer Perry

*Stephen F. Austin State
University*



Noah Padgett

Baylor University



John Hill

*Texas A&M University—Corpus
Christi*



Erika Zavala

Texas Tech University



Marcus Fagan

University of North Texas



Jerrell Sherman

Sam Houston State University



Katherine Vela

Texas A&M University





*Electronic ballots
coming to your
inbox soon!*

2018 SERA Election Ballot

People who were members prior to August 2018 are eligible to vote in the SERA 2018 election and will receive an electronic ballot. If you experience any difficulty accessing your ballot or have any questions concerning the election, please contact Linda Zientek at lrzientek@yahoo.com and Susan Troncoso-Skidmore at skidmore@shsu.edu.

Please take the time to cast your vote. Each vote represents a valued choice and provides you an opportunity to have your voice heard. **Polls will open on October 16th and close at 11:59 p.m., U.S. central daylight time on November 1st.**

Candidates Selected for the Ballot

Position	Candidate	Institution
Program Chair	Grant Morgan	Baylor University
Secretary	Lesley Leach	Tarleton State University
Member-at-Large	Ryan Glaman	Tarleton State University
Member-at-Large	Patricia Huskin	Texas A&M University—Kingsville
Member-at-Large	George Moore	Sam Houston State University
Member-at-Large	Michelle Peters	University of Houston—Clear Lake
Member-at-Large	Juanita Reyes	Tarleton State University

About the HARE Electoral System

SERA elections use the Hare system. This system reallocates votes in races with more than 2 candidates until each position obtains a majority of the votes cast. Sometimes this system is also called the "Instant Run-off Voting System." For example, if 3 candidates were running for one office, and the first round rankings were:

Geri	Sue	Bob	Voter		Geri	Sue	Bob	Voter
3	1	2	"A"	<p>Because no candidate received 5 or more of the 9 first place votes, Voters "A's", "B's", "D's", and "I's" ranks for the last-place candidate, Sue, would be reallocated to the remaining candidates, and Sue would be eliminated as a candidate, as follows:</p> <p>At this point, Bob has a majority of the 9 votes, and would be elected, even though Geri had more first place votes than Bob in the initial round of vote counting.</p>	(2)		(1)	"A"
3	1	2	"B"		(2)		(1)	"B"
1	3	2	"C"		1		2	"C"
3	2	1	"D"		(2)		1	"D"
1	3	2	"E"		1		2	"E"
2	3	1	"F"		2		1	"F"
1	3	2	"G"		1		2	"G"
1	3	2	"H"		1		2	"H"
3	2	1	"I"		(2)		1	"I"
4	2	3	First place votes		4		5	First place votes

**Join us at the Menger Hotel
San Antonio, TX
February 6-8, 2019**

Important Dates:

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| • Conference Registration Deadline (pay by check) | 10/05/2018 |
| • Conference Registration Deadline (pay by Paypal) | 10/12/2018 |
| • 2019 Election Ballot Opens | 10/16/2018 |
| • 2019 Election Ballot Closes | 11/01/2018 |
| • Proposal Disposition Decisions sent to 1st Authors | Early November |
| • SERA Bruce Thompson Outstanding Paper Award Submission | 11/15/2018 |
| • DRAFT of Conference Program Available | Early December |
| • Graduate Student Paper Award Submission | 1/8/2019 |
| • Dean's Award Submission | 1/8/2019 |



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