



# SERA Newsletter

Editor:

Kim Nimon, University of North Texas

Southwest Educational Research Association - <http://www.sera-edresearch.org/news>

## Fall 2010

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**A research association serving educators, researchers, and professors of education.**

## The Pres Says ...

The SERA board looks forward to seeing each of you this year in San Antonio for another wonderful SERA Conference. We hope you enjoy this opportunity to share research findings and form collaborations with researchers in your field.

The 2011 SERA Annual Conference will be held at the Menger Hotel on *February 2-5* in San Antonio. This is the 34th SERA Conference. The newsletter contains more details about the conference, including annual meeting arrangements, conference information from the Program Chair Bill Jasper, and information about the presidential invited address, training sessions, and awards.

**State of the Organization.** The membership in the organization has been increasing over the past 10 years. Currently, there are 377 SERA members. The 2010 annual conference was attended by 373 members, and 223 of the members are graduate students.

**Tips on How To Get The Most Out of The Conference.** Every conference has its own unique style. The SERA Conference is known for and proud of its reputation of helping to facilitate camaraderie between faculty and graduate students and is known as a graduate-student friendly conference. Here are some tips on how to get the most out of the conference. We suggest that if this is your first SERA conference that you attend the *Navigating Through and Getting the Most from SERA* session provided by Kathleen Mittag and John Hedl on Thursday morning during the annual meeting.

Regardless of whether or not this is your first SERA conference, we recommend that you attend as many sessions as possible. Take time between sessions to talk further with presenters if you have questions or comments about a presentation. Let people know of your interest and ask people if they know of others at the conference who are conducting research in your same area. This is an excellent way to form multiple university collaborations and inter- and intra-state collaborations. Also, take time in

the evening to visit with colleagues and visit the sites in San Antonio.

Graduate students can get the most out of the conference by attending the sessions specially designated for and limited to graduate students, such as the "fireside chat" with the Presidential speaker. And be sure to visit the room specifically set up for graduate students to meet other graduate students. The graduate-specific sessions are held on Thursday afternoon. This provides graduate students an opportunity to bond with graduate students from universities across the Southwest region. In 2010, as program chair, I worked closely with the graduate student representative to format sessions targeted for graduated students that were concentrated together and in the same room. This same format is being planned for the 2011 program. The fireside chat with the keynote speaker immediately follows the keynote address, which is then immediately followed by a session specifically for graduate students, such as *Helpful Hints for Preparing an Effective Curricula Vita*. Then the graduate student meeting concludes the afternoon sessions with the graduate student evening event immediately following.

**What Is New?** This year we had a new proposal system, which proved to be successful. In addition, we are holding the hotel at a different hotel than past conferences held in San Antonio. Links to the historic Menger Hotel and information are provided in the newsletter. Our keynote speaker will be Dr. James McLean who is a Professor and Dean of the College of Education at the University of Alabama. Two excellent training sessions will be provided: (a) *Fundamentals of Submitting Research Grants for Federal Funding* and (b) *An Introduction to Multivariate Statistics*. Please review the details for these training sessions in the newsletter.

Again, we look forward to seeing you in San Antonio.

**Linda Reichwein Zientek**  
SERA President  
Sam Houston State University

## Program Chair

The 2011 SERA Conference begins on Wednesday afternoon, February 2nd with a ticketed training session on submitting research grants for Federal funding, and we are pleased to have Dr. Peggy McCardle, Chief of the Child Behavior and Development (CDB) Branch of the National Institute for Child Health and Development (NICHD) and Dr. Deb Simmons, Professor of Special Education at Texas A&M University to share their expertise with us.

Dr. Jim McLean, Professor and Dean of the College of Education at the University of Alabama, is the Presidential Invited Speaker, and his presentation is titled "What My 40+ Year Career in Educational Research Has Taught Me: With Hints for Young Scholars." On Thursday, February 3rd, the SERA Luncheon will be followed by Dr. McLean's address, and then he will have a fireside chat with graduate students. Other graduate student activities are scheduled for Thursday afternoon and evening.

Our Executive Director, Bruce Thompson, will conduct the second ticketed training session on an Introduction to Multivariate Statistics on Friday afternoon, which will be continued on Saturday morning.

Many additional workshops are planned during the conference, on topics such as how to publish, writing curriculum vitas, how to get the most out of attending SERA, using data bases for research, and an introduction to the APA 6th Edition manual.

A record number of 349 proposals were submitted for our SERA 2011 Conference in San Antonio, and Division Chairs are managing the review of these proposals. I am particularly excited about the high number of graduate student work-in-progress proposals submitted to Division VI. Accepted Division VI graduate student papers

will be scheduled together, with an experienced researcher (called a discussant) who will lead the discussion on research that is in progress. Once notified of acceptance, it will be the responsibility of Division VI graduate students to send their papers to the discussant in January, prior to the conference.

Acceptance decisions on papers will be completed by the end of October and authors will be informed accordingly. I anticipate posting the program on the SERA Website in early December, so authors can check their proposals and the draft schedule for presentation times and dates.

During the conference, projectors will be provided. Presenters will need to bring a laptop and also have their presentation slides on a memory stick. To keep the sessions moving on schedule, one computer should be used for all of the presentations in a session. Presenters should plan on a short summary of their work, and will have 10-13 minutes for their presentation, and a few minutes for questions and discussion. If one presenter takes too long, then other presenters will not have enough time for their presentations, as only 15 minutes per paper are allocated during each session. My advice is to limit your number of slides to around 10, providing the highlights of your research. Some presenters do not use Power Point, which is fine.

The SERA website will contain the latest information on conference activities, so visit it at <http://www.sera-edresearch.org> frequently to stay up to date.

Plan to attend all of the exciting events of our 34th Annual SERA Conference in San Antonio!

**Bill Jasper**

*Program Chair/President-Elect  
Sam Houston State University*

## Join SERA

To join SERA, please contact Vince Paredes ([vparedes@sifassociation.org](mailto:vparedes@sifassociation.org)).

## Graduate Student News

Howdy, fellow graduate students! While the fall semester is keeping us all busy, the spring semester and SERA 2011 is quickly approaching! The Graduate Leadership Council (GLC) has been renewing the participation of the Deans' Awards for graduate student papers. We have also been busy planning fun-filled networking events for the evening portion of the conference. Please read below for the many exciting events being planned.

### Staying Connected

Last year, a Facebook page, SERA Students, was created in order to get updates and network with others. If you have a Facebook account, please join us. If you are looking for a roommate, you can contact me directly or post it on Facebook as well.

### "You are not Alone" Fun & Networking

After each day of the conference, we all need to eat, relax and have fun in San Antonio! With our varied interests, the GLC is planning several fun events every night. On Wednesday and Thursday you may choose to eat and listen to live music at Mad Dog British Pub, partake of half-price appetizers and enjoy dueling pianos at Pat O'Brien, listen to Jim Cullum's Jazz Band at The Landing, have dinner at Mi Tierra Café & Bakery, or stay in the hotel for karaoke and games. On Friday night, we are inviting everyone to have dinner at Madhatters Teahouse and Café and then take in the sites of the monthly "First Friday" – a street festival and art walk in Southtown. Some council members have chosen to coordinate an event for others at their campus. All events are walking distance or a trolley ride away. We will have flyers at the conference to indicate the times and coordinators of these fun-filled events.

### Graduate Students Love Free Stuff!!!

We hope everyone attends the Luncheon and the Graduate Student Meeting. At the Luncheon, the board will give away a FREE night in a single room to 15 students who are staying at the Menger Hotel. At the Graduate Student Meeting, publisher-donated books and journals will be given away to selected students. You must be present to win!

### Three Paper Award Opportunities

Graduate students have 3 opportunities to be considered for paper awards: Deans' Award, Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award, and Outstanding SERA Paper Award. Be aware that they all have different deadlines and contact people. Please see the chart on page 10 for more information.

### Especially for Grad Students

On Thursday, we will have special events for graduate students. Traditionally, SERA has invited a renowned expert in the field who serves as the Presidential speaker and holds a fireside chat for graduate students afterward. This year, Dr. James (Jim) McLean, the Dean of the College of Education at the University of Alabama, will share his time and expertise with us.

After the fireside chat, which is only for graduate students, graduate students can learn how to write and improve their vita to be more effective for future employees. Don't miss the CV training session to gain tips from experienced faculty search committee members! Bring your CV and get some feedback too!

After the CV training session, graduate students will elect members to the GLC at the Graduate Student Meeting. Universities with strong attendance at SERA are eligible to elect members. Current members are Cathy Amonett (SFASU), Ismahan Arlsan-Ari (TTU), Kristin Craft (SHSU), Amber Ellison (UNT), Carlton J. Fong (UT-Austin), Sandra Nite (TAMU), LaTonya Smith (UH), Andrea Stehle (At-Large), and Harvey Zuniga (Lamar). If you would like to be a part of SERA, this is a great opportunity. Ask any of the council members for more information!

Have a great rest of the semester and I look forward to greeting everyone in San Antonio!

**Maria Benzon**

*Graduate Student Representative  
University of Houston*

# Conference Training Sessions

## Wednesday:

### Fundamentals of Submitting Research Grants for Federal Funding

As usual, the 2011 annual meeting will be "book ended" with two important training sessions open to both students and faculty. The SERA 2011 **Wednesday (2/2/11) afternoon** training session is titled "*Fundamentals of Submitting Research Grants for Federal Funding*." This session will not assume any prior background in submitting proposals for federal funding. The session will cover basics, such as building the case for your research, and building a grant budget. Some common pitfalls will also be listed.

#### About the Trainers



**Deborah C. Simmons, Ph.D.**, is Professor of Special Education, Texas A&M University. Professor Simmons is widely published, with three of her articles being cited each more than 100 times. Her awards include the AERA 1997 Palmer O. Johnson Memorial Award for the Best Paper published in the

*American Educational Research Journal* for a given year (cited 287 times as of 3/1/10), the 1998 NASP Award for Best Journal Manuscript published in *School Psychology Review*, the 2002 Jeanette Fleischner Award from the Division for Learning Disabilities of the Council for Exceptional Children for outstanding contributions to the field of learning disabilities, and the 2008 Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award from the Texas A&M University College of Education and Human Development. She sits on the editorial boards of *Reading and Writing: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, *Journal of Learning Disabilities*, *Journal of Direct Instruction*, *Reading and Writing Quarterly*, *Exceptional Children*, and *Learning Disabilities Quarterly*. Her grants funded by the U.S. Department of Education include "Project ISEE: Preparing Intervention Scientists in Special Education," \$799,635; "Project Early Reading Intervention," \$2,885,628; "Enhancing the Quality of Expository Text Instruction and Comprehension Through Content and Case-Situated Professional Develop-

ment," \$1,498,530; and "Project Words of Oral Reading and Language Development (WORLD)," \$1,292,086.



**Peggy McCardle, Ph.D., M.P.H.**, is the chief of the Child Behavior and Development (CDB) Branch of the National Institute for Child Health and Development (NICHD), and directs the Language, Bilingualism, and Biliteracy Program and the Reading, Writing, and Related

Learning Disabilities Program. Dr. McCardle holds a bachelor's degree in French, a Ph.D. in linguistics, and a master's degree in public health. She has been a classroom teacher and a speech-language pathologist and has held university faculty positions at South Carolina State College, the University of Mississippi, the University of Maryland, and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences; she also held hospital-based clinical positions at Womack Army Community Hospital, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C. Her publications address various aspects of public health and developmental psycholinguistics (e.g., language development, bilingualism, and reading). She was the NICHD liaison to the National Reading Panel, currently serves as liaison to the National Institute for Literacy, and leads and/or serves on various interagency working groups. She co-edited *The Voice of Evidence in Reading Research* (2004, Brookes Publishing), which presents information about reading research and its findings for educators, administrators, and others concerned with getting research results into the classroom; and *Childhood Bilingualism* (2006, Multilingual Matters), which addresses research issues in the development of bilingual language abilities; as well as various thematic journal issues on these and related topics.

## Presidential Speaker

**James E. (Jim) McLean:**

***What My 40+ year Career in Educational Research Has Taught Me: With Hints for Young Scholars***



**Dr. James (Jim) McLean** is currently a University Professor and the Dean of the College of Education at The University of Alabama. He has graduate training in statistics, measurement, evaluation, research, and educational psychology coupled with over 40 years experience teaching and researching in these areas. He also has over 25 years of administrative experience as a program chair, area head, director, assistant dean, and dean. During the past 33

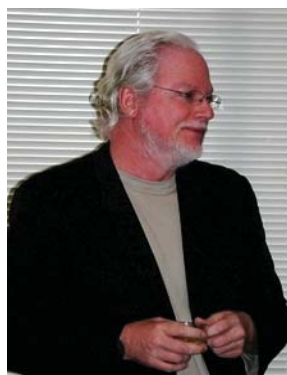
years he has directed, co-directed, or administered well over 100 research, assessment, and evaluation projects funded for more than six million dollars. Professionally, he has served as the President of the Mid-South Educational Research Association (MSERA), Chair of the AERA Special Interest Group for Professors of Educational Research, Vice President for Research of the Holmes Partnership, and is on the Board of the Alabama Association for Teacher Education. Dr. McLean holds B.S., M.Stat., and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Florida.

## Conference Training Sessions (cont.)

### Friday-Saturday: An Introduction to Multivariate Statistics

The Friday afternoon-Saturday morning training session at the 2011 SERA annual meeting will be "An Introduction to Multivariate Statistics." The session will presume no prior background on multivariate statistics. This session has previously been presented numerous times at AERA and APA annual meetings.

#### About the Trainer



**Bruce Thompson** is Distinguished Professor and College Distinguished Research Fellow of Educational Psychology, and Distinguished Professor of Library Sciences, Texas A&M University, and Adjunct Professor of Allied Health Sciences, Baylor College of Medicine (Houston). He was co-editor of the teaching, learning, and human develop-

ment section of the *American Educational Research Journal (AERJ:TLHD)*, and past editor for nine years of *Educational and Psychological Measurement*, the series, *Advances in Social Science Methodology*, and two other journals. He is the author of 206 articles, author/ editor of 11 books, including the recently published *Foundations of Behavioral Statistics* and *Exploratory and Confirmatory Factor Analysis*, and the author of 18 book chapters. His contributions have been especially influential in moving the field as regards greater emphasis on effect size reporting and interpretation, and promoting improved understanding of score reliability. His work on the LibQUAL+(R) protocol has influenced libraries around the world. Bruce won the 2007 AERA Division D Significant Contribution to Educational Measurement and Research Methodology Award, for his 2006 chapter in the AERA Handbook of Complementary Methods, "Research synthesis: Effect sizes."

# Election News

Here is the slate of excellent potential officers. Ballots and candidate information were mailed out October 15, 2010 to all current members. They are due back to Bruce Thompson by November 10, 2010.

Position	Candidate	Institution
President	Kim Nimon	University of North Texas
Secretary	Susan Skidmore	Sam Houston State University
Member-at-Large	Winona Burt	University of Houston - Clear Lake
Member-at-Large	Ellen Curtin	Texas Women's State
Member-at-Large	Stacey Edmonson	Sam Houston State University
Member-at-Large	Bettye Grigsby	University of Houston - Clear Lake
Member-at-Large	Prathiba Natesan	University of North Texas
Member-at-Large	Vanessa Sikes	Lamar University
Member-at-Large	Janet Tarielo	Stephen F. Austin State University

**Mary Margaret Capraro**

*Past President  
 Texas A&M 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:

**CANDIDATES**

Geri	Sue	Bob	Voter
3	1	2	"A"
3	1	2	"B"
1	3	2	"C"
3	2	1	"D"
1	3	2	"E"
2	3	1	"F"
1	3	2	"G"
1	3	2	"H"
3	2	1	"I"
<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>First place votes</b>

Because no candidate received 5 or more of the 9 first place votes, Voters "A's" and "B'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:

Geri	Sue	Bob	Voter
(2)		(1)	"A"
(2)		(1)	"B"
1		2	"C"
(2)		1	"D"
1		2	"E"
2		1	"F"
1		2	"G"
1		2	"H"
(2)		1	"I"
<b>4</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>First place votes</b>

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.

**Bruce Thompson**

*Executive Director  
 Texas A&M University*

## SERA 2011 Conference Preview

### 2011 SERA Annual Meeting, San Antonio, February 2-5, 2011

SERA would like to cordially invite everyone to our annual conference at the Menger Hotel in San Antonio, Texas from February 2-5, 2011. It will be a very intellectually stimulating conference as well as 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 a 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. Explore the routes of the conquistadors, the settlements of the first missions, and the Shrine of Texas Liberty—the Alamo. San Antonio's heart is in its past—but its future is in its celebration of cultures.

Sites to see around downtown are the Alamo, The Riverwalk, La Villita, Tower of Americas, the Buckhorn Hall of Fame and several museums such as the Witte, McNay Art Museum, and SA Museum of Art.

SERA will be in town for the First Friday Art Walk in South Town which has live music, food and art to purchase. It starts at 6pm and ends at 10pm and is lots of fun.

There are many fun "party crowd" places such as Dick's Last Resort, Howl at the Moon, Swigs, Pat O'Brien's, and Dirty Nellie's. The Roosevelt Bar in the Menger Hotel is a must see. Teddy Roosevelt enlisted his Rough Riders there and Carrie Nation chopped up the bar during prohibition.

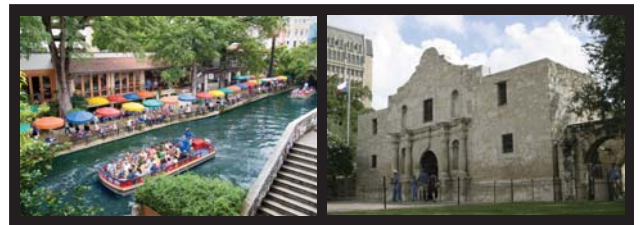
The Menger, opened in 1859, is the oldest continuously operating hotel west of the Mississippi River. The hotel has many ghosts and spirits so watch your back. Hope you are a sound sleeper!

Please call the hotel at 210.223.4361 before January 10, 2011 for reservations. Single/Double rooms are \$129 per night.

Cheers and see you in San Antonio!

**Kathleen Mittag**

*Local Arrangements Chair and Treasurer  
University of Texas - San Antonio*



Thanks for information from [visitsanantonio.com](http://visitsanantonio.com)

## Board Members, Appointments and Terms

### **President:**

Linda Zientek, Sam Houston State University

### **President-Elect/Program Chair:**

Bill Jasper, Sam Houston State University

### **Past-President:**

Mary Margaret Capraro, Texas A&M University

### **Secretary:**

Kim Bilica, University of Texas - San Antonio

### **Treasurer:**

Kathleen Mittag, University of Texas - San Antonio

### **Historian:**

John J. Hedl

### **Membership Chair:**

Vince Paredes

### **Graduate Student Representative:**

Maria Benzon, University of Houston

### **Members-at-Large: Terms end 2011**

Winona Burt - University of Houston - Clear Lake

Jim Hardy, University of Texas - Arlington

Susan Skidmore, University of Texas-Pan American

### **Members-at-Large: Terms end 2012**

Sonya Carr, Southeastern Louisiana University

Shirley Matteson, Texas Tech University

Elsa Ruis, University of Texas - San Antonio

### **Members-at-Large: Terms end 2013**

Julia Ballenger, Stephen F. Austin State University

Kim Nimon, University of North Texas

James Telese, University of Texas, Brownsville

### **Executive Director: Lifetime**

Bruce Thompson, Texas A&M University

## Book Review

**Hox, J. J., & Roberts, J. K. (Eds.) (2010). *Handbook of advanced multilevel analysis*. New York: Taylor Francis.**

Sir Isaac Newton once said, "If I have seen further it is only by standing on the shoulders of giants." This is the quote that first crossed my mind when I read the "Handbook of Advanced Multilevel Analysis" (referred to as Handbook) edited by Drs. Joop Hox and Kyle Roberts. This book presents a fine collection of articles from established and world-renowned researchers and scholars in the field of multilevel modeling (MLM).

The editors started by summarizing the state of the field and presented the two varieties of multilevel modeling: multilevel regression and multilevel structural equation modeling. This concise and clear overview sets the stage for the whole book and paves the way for readers to understand the relationship between the ensuing articles. In the next four sections, a wide range of interesting and cutting-edge topics related to MLM have been covered, including multilevel latent variable modeling, growth modeling, estimation problems (survival analysis, Bayesian estimation, bootstrapping, multiple imputation, omitted variables bias, effect size, model selection, optimal design), and specific MLM topics (centering, cross-classified models, and dyadic data analysis). Obviously, issues related to other modeling techniques are also relevant in MLM; at the same time, MLM faces some unique modeling challenges. With mathematical formulations, concrete examples, and syntax (available

at book's website too), the articles are not only eye-opening for quantitative researchers, but also relevant and useful for applied researchers in various substantive areas. Well organized articles make it easy for readers to follow as well. Because of the many topics covered, readers with basic understanding of MLM can savor advanced MLM topics, as well as further study the topic using the reference list at the end of each chapter. Each article has given just enough overview of the topic and leaves room for the readers to ponder.

All in all, the editors and authors deserve a heavy applause for making such an important contribution to the rapidly developing MLM field. By standing on the shoulders of these experts, I can see an exuberant field waiting for more research and exploration in the many years to come.

**Qi Chen, Ph.D.**

*Assistant Professor*

*Department of Educational Psychology  
University of North Texas, Denton, TX*

## Special Thanks

To make a conference this size be great, it takes a super team effort. Kathy Mittag, the Local Arrangements Chair, deserves extra thanks. In this capacity, she is responsible for hotel accommodations, contract negotiation, luncheon planning, and interface with the hotel staff. Kathy has been San Antonio contact for several previous SERA conferences also, and her efforts will help make this conference a very special one for all who attend. Thank you also to the SERA Board members, who met in San Antonio in September to finalize plans for the February conference. Additional thanks go to Linda Zientek, the SERA President who also managed the electronic proposal submission system, Vince Paredes who handled conference registration, Bruce Thompson for his frequent reminders of conference planning and

oversight, and Bill Jasper, Program Chair, who is managing a record number of proposals this year. To help Bill, 12 division chairs and approximately 100 proposal reviewers are currently building an excellent program for the upcoming conference and are thanked for their service. Division Chairs for SERA 2011 are:

**Division I** – Sandra Harris and Aileen Curtin

**Division II** – Don Allen and Dianne Goldsby

**Division III** – Tommy De Vaney and Jason King

**Division IV** – Sonya Carr and Sandra Richardson

**Division V** – Cynthia Martinez-Garcia and Angela Gibson

**Division VI** – LaVonne Fedynich and Martha Tapia



## Meet the Board



### **Maria Benzon – Graduate Student Representative**

*EPSY Doctoral Student, University of Houston*

Maria Benzon is currently a doctoral student in the Department of Educational Psychology and Individual Differences at the University of Houston (UH). Currently, as a Master Math Teacher in the UH teachHOUSTON program, Maria teaches and mentors undergraduate math and science majors who are interested in becoming secondary teachers. She has been a middle school teacher and held district-level leadership positions in Houston ISD and San Antonio ISD. While her research interests include achievement motivation, teacher beliefs, and self-regulated learning, Maria's dissertation focuses on pre-service teachers' beliefs about student motivation and motivational strategies. She also fundraises for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society by participating in endurance events such as the upcoming 2011 Memorial Hermann Half-Ironman in Galveston, TX (70.3 miles = 1.2-mile swim + 56-mile bike + 13.1-mile run).



### **Kimberly Bilica - Secretary**

*Associate Professor, The University of Texas at San Antonio*

Dr. Kimberly Bilica is Associate Professor of Curriculum & Instruction at the University of Texas at San Antonio. She has been active with SERA since the late 1990s when she served as Graduate Student Representative to the SERA Executive Board. Her other roles included Board Member At Large and Secretary. Kim and her UTSA colleague, Dr. Elsa Ruiz, have facilitated the *Getting a Job in Higher Education* session and the *Negotiating Your Contract* session at SERA Annual Conference for the past several years.



### **Winona Burt- Member-at-Large**

*Assistant Professor, University of Houston - Clear Lake*





Winona Burt earned her PhD in educational psychology, specializing in quantitative methods, from The University of Texas at Austin. After graduating, Winona moved to Washington, DC where she was a research scientist for the American Institutes for Research for three years. Winona is currently an assistant professor of quantitative methods at the University of Houston - Clear Lake. She has renewed her efforts in SERA through presentations, reviewing proposals, and filling a vacant seat as a board member at-large. Winona is also a member of the American Educational Research Association where she concentrates her efforts in its Division H (Research, Evaluation, and Assessment in the School). Within Division H, she served in various capacities including proposal reviewer, newsletter editor, publication competition chair, program section chair, and most recently program chair. She looks forward to continuing her service. Winona's research agenda focuses on standard setting, applied statistics, and student achievement.



### **James C. Hardy - Member-at-Large**

*Associate Professor, The University of Texas at Arlington*

Dr. James C. Hardy is a quantitative research methodologist whose primary areas of research interests include: doctoral education, teacher preparation, and higher education institutional effectiveness. Currently serving as an associate professor at The University of Texas at Arlington, he previously worked in faculty and/or administrative positions for Texas A&M University – Commerce, Stephen F. Austin State University, and Assumption College (Worcester, MA). In addition to his teaching and doctoral advisement activities, he also serves as a program evaluator on two large grants (Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and US Dept of Education).

	2011 SERA Outstanding Paper Award	2011 SERA Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award	2011 SERA Deans' Awards for exceptional Graduate Student Research
Due Date:	Wednesday, February 9, 2011	Tuesday, January 11, 2011 (by 5:00 P.M.)	Tuesday, January 11, 2011 (by 12:00 P.M.)
Authorship: 	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.	The first author must be a graduate student.	The paper must <b>only</b> be authored by a graduate student. Choice can be made for the award to be given to the first author or split among all the authors.
Eligibility: 	Must submit their 5 copies at the conference registration desk during the annual meeting, or mail the paper copies immediately to the annual meeting.  Presented as a paper at the conference.	Presented as a paper or symposium session.  Completed Graduate student research ( <b>ONLY</b> Division I through V papers), may include theses or dissertations, as well as other graduate student research.  Submit condensed version of thesis or dissertation research.	Completed graduate student research or research work in-progress (i.e., papers submitted to <b>any</b> division, I through VI are eligible).  Papers can be in any form: literature reviews, explanations of statistical concepts, case studies and will be judged from the perspective of how it will further the theory of educational research.
Ineligibility: 	Persons who authored the SERA Outstanding Paper in the immediate prior year are not eligible for award consideration in the following year.  <b>Active officers of the SERA Executive Council, including appointed officers, are not eligible for this competition.</b>	<b>Work in-progress</b> presented in graduate student seminars (i.e., only Division VI) is <b>not</b> eligible for this award, nor are preliminary works, such as literature reviews or class projects and proposals.	Student must be from one of the following universities and must attend the 2011 SERA annual meeting. (Univ. of Texas, Texas Tech Univ., Univ. of North Texas, Texas A&M Univ., Sam Houston State Univ., Lamar Univ., Univ. of North Florida and Univ. of Houston)  Students not from 1 of the universities listed are not eligible for this award.
Completed papers to: 	<i>Postal// Courier Service Only</i> <b>Bruce Thompson, SERA Executive Director</b> 2011 SERA Outstanding Paper Award Dept. of Educational Psychology Texas A&M University College Station, Texas 77843-4225 Voice:979-845-1335	Electronically submit papers to the 2011 SERA President: <b>Linda Reichwein Zientek</b> Sam Houston State University Department of Mathematics and Statistics Huntsville, TX 77341-2206 936-294-4874 lrzientek@shsu.edu	Student authors should <b>electronically submit</b> completed papers to the 2011 SERA graduate student representative: <b>Maria Benzon</b> <b>SERA Graduate Student Representative</b> University of Houston <a href="mailto:mbenzon@mail.coe.uh.edu">mbenzon@mail.coe.uh.edu</a> 713-384-5038
Award:	\$750 and present paper at AERA 2011	\$500	\$200 per Univ.
Questions? Contact your SERA Grad Student Representative.			