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SERA Spring 2013



Southwest Educational Research Association

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POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Recipients of
SERA 2013
Awards
- Preview the 2014
Conference!

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The Pres Says...

The 36th SERA Conference in San Antonio was fantastic! With close to 250 papers and workshops presented, our members continue to make a notable impression on the field of educational research and helping to meet our mission to *further the advancement of research in education*. The success of the SERA conference each year is due to the incredible effort of our many volunteers and the great teamwork of everyone involved.

On behalf of SERA, I would like to give special thanks to our Past President, **Kim Nimon**, Deputy Executive Director, **Linda Zientek**, and Executive Director, **Bruce Thompson**. It is through their history, leadership, and organization that SERA continues to grow and provide a supportive environment for scholars, including student scholars, to develop their scholarship.

The 2013 SERA Program Division Chairs and Co-Chairs are a crucial part of developing the conference program and deserve special recognition. These volunteers are busy several months before the conference begins, sending proposals out for peer review, writing acceptance letters, forwarding reviewer comments, and serving as primary points of contact for each of the

Divisions. Please join me in thanking **Sandra Acosta**, **Aileen Curtin**, **Tommy DeVaney**, **Angela Gibson**, **Dianne Goldsby**, **Sandra Harris**, **Jason King**, **Cynthia Martinez-Garcia**, **Mark Reid**, **Sandra Richardson**, **Martha L. Tapia**, **La Vonne Williams**, and **Ken Young** for serving as Program Division Chairs. Special thanks also those who served as proposal reviewers.

Division VI, which is solely dedicated to graduate students, continues to be one of our most popular and well represented divisions in terms of proposal submissions and presentations. Not only does Division VI provide students an opportunity to share research in progress, it gives them a supportive venue to receive qualified feedback and mentorship. Please join me in thanking **Julia Ballenger**, **Aileen Curtin**, **Robert W. Elliott**, **Bettye Grigsby**, **Bill Jasper**, **Prathiba Natesan**, **Rebecca Robles-Pina**, **Pauline Sampson**, **Susan T. Skidmore**, **Jim Telese**, **Ken Young**, and **Winona Vesey** for serving as Division VI Discussants.

We want to extend a special thank you to longtime membership chair **Vince Parades**, who has for many years helped manage the proposal submission



Stacey Edmonson

and registration systems for SERA. Vince is “retiring” from this position, and we want to extend our sincere appreciation for his valuable contributions. We also want to thank **David Nimon**, who designed our electronic repository to provide easy access to papers presented at SERA while protecting for potential journal submission.

Please also join me in thanking a number of special individuals who contributed substantial time and energy to the conference. Thank you to **Prathiba Nateson** who planned and managed the audiovisual support, **Jim Telese** and **Bill Jasper** who helped setup and tear down equipment, **Aileen Curtin** and **Pauline Sampson** who helped manage the registration desk, and **Shirley Matteson** who ensured photos were

See Edmonson, Page 2

Edmonson: The Pres Recaps (from Page 1)



“The success of the SERA conference each year is due to the incredible effort of our many volunteers and the great teamwork of everyone involved.”

taken of student presenters during the conference. **Susan T. Skidmore** ensured technology needs were met during the conference and **Mary Margaret Capraro**, the official “SERA Trinket Maven,” provided the pencil giveaways and posters of the daily schedule. Last but certainly not least, we send a big thank you to **Kathy Mittag** who served as our local arrangements chair and negotiated with the Menger Hotel.

Please make plans to attend the 37th annual conference on :

February 10 – 13 in New Orleans. Planning is underway, and information on the conference and the Call for Proposals are included in this newsletter. I look forward to seeing you all in New Orleans!

Stacey Edmonson

President

Sam Houston State University



News from Our Past President...



Kim Nimon

SERA 2013 in San Antonio was superb! I hope that you enjoyed the conference and workshop sessions that you attended and presented. Without you and your contribution to education research, our conference would not be possible.

Special thanks go to the Program Chair and current President, **Stacey**

Edmonson, as well as the local arrangements chair, **Kathy Mittag**, who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make the conference run efficiently and smoothly. Thank you to the Executive Director **Bruce Thompson** and the Deputy Executive Director **Linda Zientek**, who maintain the focus and vision of SERA, to **Pat Curry** for her leadership of graduate student awards and activities, to **Vince Parades** for his long-standing role in managing membership (you will be missed), to **Susan Skidmore** for managing the SERA website, to **Linda Zientek** for creating and managing

the proposal submission system, and to **Mary Margaret Capraro**, our "SERA Trinket and Poster Maven." Special thanks also go to **Prathiba Natesan** for creating the SERA program Smartphone app and to **Julia Ballenger**, **Sonya Carr**, and **Prathiba Natesan** for initiating and developing the SERA mentoring program.

I would also like to thank the anonymous reviewers who judged papers for the Outstanding Graduate Student Paper, which was awarded to **Steve Lackey** from Sam Houston State University.

Please make plans to attend and present at SERA 2014 in New Orleans next year. Our President-Elect, **Susan Skidmore**, and the local arrangements chair, **Sonya Carr**, along with the SERA Board, are planning a great event at the historic Monteleone Hotel. Don't miss it.

Kim Nimon

*Past President and Treasurer
University of North Texas*

"Please make plans to attend and present at SERA 2014 in New Orleans next year."

SERA Past Presidents



(f) Kim Nimon, John Hedl, Bill Jasper, Vince Paredes, Kathy Mittag
(b) Victor Willson, Bruce Thompson, Gil Naizer, J. Kyle Roberts, Linda Zientek

Reflections from the Deputy Executive Director

"The Board was pleased to introduce at the San Antonio Conference the Early Career Faculty Mentoring Initiative"



We had a great meeting in San Antonio. The sessions were well attended and people with whom I spoke were looking forward to the 2014 SERA Conference. The 2014 meeting will be held in New Orleans, which is a unique town filled with excitement and great food. We historically have large attendance in New Orleans with academically strong research presentations. For the 2014 meeting, several workshops have been planned. Kim Nimon will conduct an "R" software training session on Wednesday and Thursday. Pauline Sampson will provide a workshop on NVivo on Monday afternoon. Please visit the newsletter to find out further details about the workshops. The Presidential Invited Speaker in New Orleans will be **Dan Robinson**, Colorado State University. He will speak on

"Reflections on Where Educational Research is as a Scientific Discipline." We hope to see you and your colleagues in New Orleans and hope that you take advantage of the many opportunities to learn from and develop collaborations with colleagues at the SERA Conference.

The conference in San Antonio also had interesting speakers and wonderful sessions. The Presidential Invited Speaker at the 36th SERA annual meeting was **Karen Harris**, Arizona State University. She provided excellent advice about publishing, and people were grateful for her willingness to share her expertise. The graduate students were extremely enthusiastic and engaged and took advantage of the opportunities that were afforded to them. In fact, approximately a 100 students attended the graduate student meeting! SERA takes pride in their support of graduate students, and the Board was happy to hear of the enthusiasm of the graduate students. In addition to supporting graduate students, the Board was pleased to introduce at the San Antonio Conference the Early Career Faculty Mentoring Initiative, which was under the direction of **Julia Ballenger**, **Prathiba Natesan**, and **Sonya Carr**. If you are interested in serving as a mentor or participating as a mentee in the initiative, please contact one of these individuals. Thanks to everyone for helping to create a great conference! I look forward to seeing you and your colleagues in New Orleans.

Linda Reichwein Zientek

*SERA Deputy Executive Director
Sam Houston State University*



Past Graduate Student Representative Report



**Pat
Curry**

Now that the 2013 **SERA Conference** is behind us, there is much to reflect upon and to be grateful for. First, on behalf of the SERA graduate student membership, I would like to thank the **SERA Executive Council** for everything they do to make this annual conference possible. This event gives graduate students opportunities to share their research through paper submissions and presentations and to network with and learn from graduate students and professors in the educational field throughout the state of Texas and in other parts of the country and the world. Special conference events for graduate students this year included a wonderfully informative **Fireside Chat with Dr. Karen Harris**, an extremely well-attended **Graduate Student Meeting**, and a lively and collegial **Graduate Student Social** at Pat O'Brien's. We greatly appreciate the financial

support for the Deans' Award provided by the deans of the following universities: **Baylor University, Lamar University, Sam Houston State University, Stephen F. Austin State University, Texas A&M University, Texas A&M University–Commerce, Texas Tech University, Texas Wesleyan University, and University of North Texas.** Eligibility for the Deans' Award requires a minimum of three paper submissions per university. This year a total of 28 papers were considered, and the authors of ten papers from five universities received awards.

I would to thank each member of this year's **Graduate Student Council**, including **Tonya Trepinski**, Baylor, **Bill Parker**, Lamar, **Leah McAlister-Shields**, SHSU, **Nicola Ritter**, TAMU, **Susan Williams**, TAMU-C; **Huda Sarraj**, TTU; **Teresa Phelps**, TWU, and **Heather Turner**, UNT. Each representative did an outstanding job of fulfilling the responsibilities for this position, including communicating SERA news to other graduate students, securing Deans' Awards support, encouraging conference participation, reviewing papers submitted for the Deans' Award, taking pictures during student presentations, promoting and attending graduate student events, and other

duties as assigned. Finally, I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to **Susan Skidmore, Graduate Student Advisor**, for her ongoing assistance, guidance, and encouragement throughout the year.

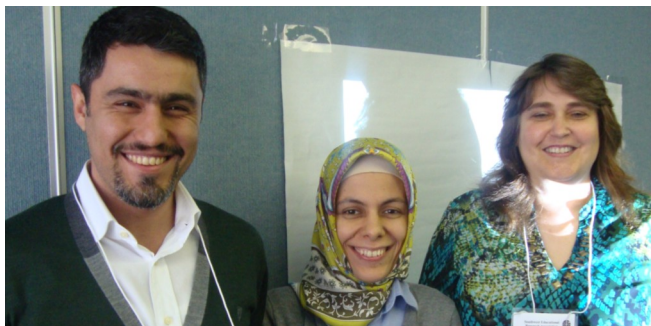
Congratulations to **Bill Parker, Lamar University**, who will lead the Graduate Student Council in 2013-2014. Bill was a great asset as a representative on the council this year and will continue to enhance the organization in his new role. Best wishes to each of you as you continue to learn, grow, and contribute!

“Congratulations to Bill Parker, Lamar University, who will lead the Graduate Student Council in 2013-2014.”

Pat Curry

SERA Graduate Student Representative 2012-2013

Stephen F. Austin State University



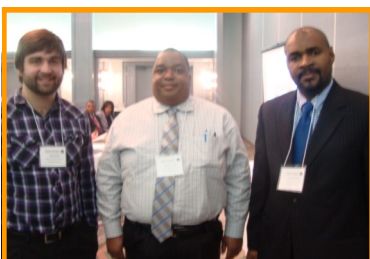
Graduate Student Representative Report

The SERA Graduate Student council would like to thank everyone involved in making SERA 2013 in San Antonio a tremendous experience for our graduate students. Traditionally, SERA maintains an excellent reputation for fostering a culture of acceptance and stewardship toward their student membership. The 2013 conference continued in that tradition.

The Graduate Student Council joins the entire graduate student membership in expressing our thanks to outgoing past Student Representative, **Pat Curry**, for her leadership during SERA 2013. Under Pat's guidance, member representation at the graduate student meeting on February 7th, far exceeded the previous year's attendance. The meeting closely resembled a pep rally as the student membership filled an overflowing meeting room with enthusiastic cheers and chants of school spirit.

Great job, Pat... You left some mighty large shoes to fill. On behalf of the SERA Board, I am pleased to introduce the 2014 SERA Graduate Student Council:

Salier Axel (SMU),
Mordecai Brownlee (Lamar)
Jeff Herr (Texas Wesleyan)
Kari Hodge (Baylor)
Laura Jacobs (University of Houston)
Sandra Montgomery (Texas A&M-Kingsville)
Bilgin Navruz (Texas A&M),
Joy Russell (Texas Tech),
Joanna Tucker (Sam Houston State)
Mike Wicker (SFA)
Xin "Cindy" Xin (UNT)



I am very pleased to be working with such an outstanding group of graduate students. This year's council has already been busy expressing gratitude to our universities for their continued support of SERA. We have also begun the process of planning for SERA 2014.

Please keep your eyes on your inbox for important updates and SERA News from your campus representative. Also, please contact your campus representative with any questions you may have – or if you have suggestions that may improve the experience for graduate students at next year's conference. We encourage your suggestions and feedback.

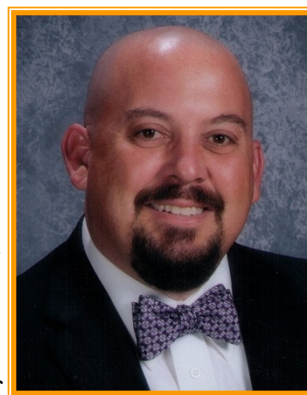
To all graduate students, as you write this year, please keep in mind that SERA's Call for Proposals includes a call for submissions from its graduate student membership. Each year, outstanding student submissions may be submitted for consideration of a Dean's Award and/or the Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award.

We strongly encourage our graduate students' continued involvement in conference activities at participant and leadership levels. The conference provides an excellent opportunity for graduate students to refine their research presentation skills, to attend research and professional development sessions, to establish relationships with students and professors, and to participate in graduate student leadership roles.

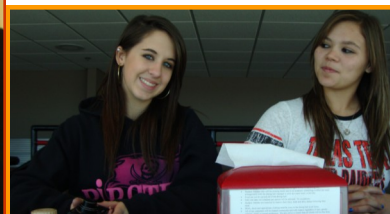
Thank you, again, to everyone for their membership and service to SERA. Please make plans to join your fellow graduate students at SERA 2014 in New Orleans, February 10-13.

William "Bill" Parker Jr.

*Graduate Student Representative
Lamar University*



Bill Parker



2013 SERA Awards

Each year,
SERA
recognizes
outstanding
research
conducted by
graduate
students.



2013 Extended Service Award

Linda Reichwein Zientek

Sam Houston State University

Linda Reichwein Zientek presented papers for several years at the SERA annual meeting while she was a Ph.D. student, prior to her graduation in 2006. Since 2006, she has served as an SERA At-Large Board Member, Editor of the Newsletter, Program Chair, and President. Four years ago she designed and created the SERA conference proposal submission system, which she has managed operationally every year since then. She has served as Deputy Executive Director for 2 years, and will automatically become the Executive Director if the Executive Director retires, or dies suddenly in a tragic blimp accident. For her many years of service, Linda is the 2013 recipient of the SERA Extended Service Award. The SERA Awards committee that makes these decisions consists of the current SERA President and the previous recipients of the John J. Hedl, Jr. Lifetime Service Award. All previous recipients of both the Hedl Lifetime Service Award and the Extended Service Award are listed each year in the annual conference program.

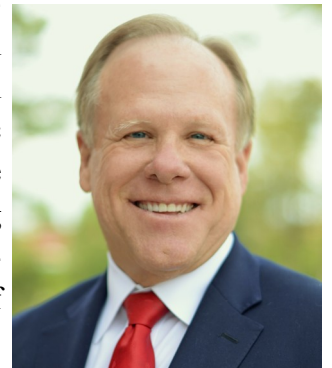
2013 Outstanding Graduate Student Paper

Steve Lackey

Sam Houston State University

“The Predictive Nature of the Risk Factors Pre-Teen Smoking, Alcohol, and Marijuana Use on High School Academic Performance”

This study assessed the relationship between high school students' academic performance in 2009 to the risk factors Smoking Cigarettes before the Age of 13, Drinking Alcohol before Age 13, and Using Marijuana before Age 13 using 2009 data collected in the National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). It was hypothesized that an inverse relationship existed between pre-teen initiation of alcohol consumption, marijuana use, and tobacco smoking and academic performance in high school and that the triad of risk factors are predictors of high school grades. Study results confirmed Drinking Alcohol and Using Marijuana before Age 13 statistically significantly predicted academic achievement in a one year period of high school.



2013 Bruce Thompson Outstanding Paper Award



Grant Morgan
Baylor University

Grant Morgan
Baylor University

Aaron Baggett
University of Mary Hardin-Baylor



Aaron Baggett
University of Mary Hardin-Baylor

“Finite Mixture Modeling with Nonnormal Indicators: A Monte Carlo Examination of Fit Indices for Model Selection”

This simulation study examines the performance of fit indices available to applied researchers interested in finite mixture modeling for the purposes of classification (FMM-C). Conditions for the simulation study were selected to mirror conditions found in applied educational and psychological research. The factors that were included for study were: indicator distributions, number of indicators, sample sizes, and profile prevalence. All models contained continuous indicators. The fit indices examined were Akaike's information criterion, corrected Akaike's information criterion, consistent Akaike's information criterion, Bayesian information criterion, sample size-adjusted Bayesian information criterion, Entropy, Draper's information criterion, integrated classification likelihood criterion with Bayesian-type approximation, entropy, and the adjusted Lo-Mendell-Rubin likelihood ratio test. When indicators were normally distributed, BIC and SSBIC tended to identify the correct solution with higher frequency than the other indices. When indicators were not normally distributed, none of the indices functioned well except under very specific circumstances.

Congratulations to the DEAN'S AWARD WINNERS!



Denice Peterson & Nicole Simpson

Sam Houston State University

Stephanie Applewhite & Midge Robertson

Stephen F. Austin State University

Margarita Huerta & Namik Top

Texas A&M University

Feija Xiao & Fatih Koca

Texas Tech University

Katrina A Schultz & Kary Johnson

Texas Wesleyan University

Deans' Award Winners 2013



SERA is committed to the professional development of members who are in the early stages of a career in higher education. The Early Career Mentoring Initiative strengthens the mission of SERA by adding an additional tier of support for junior faculty. The purposes of this initiative are to: (a) further scholarly research, (b) support career advancement, and (c) enhance leadership opportunities for members who are junior faculty. This initiative plays a vital role in expanding the SERA membership and providing future leaders for the organization.

The initial proposal for this program was presented to the Executive Council during the Fall, 2012 meeting. At that time, the Council approved the proposal and more detailed work began to develop this mentoring initiative. During a special session at the SERA 36th Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Bruce Thompson, Sonya Carr, Julia Ballenger, and Prathiba Natesan described program purposes and goals, hosted a question-and-answer session, and shared application forms. Based on feedback from this session, we have refined procedures and shortened the forms to apply.

We also have some new ideas to encourage networking among members who want to participate in this initiative.



Ideas include:

E-mentoring: We recently developed a Facebook page for mentors and mentees to interact as one means to build a networking community.

Mentoring social: We propose a mentoring social at the 2014 Annual Meeting to encourage further networking among mentors and mentees.

Next Steps:

If you have already applied, we are in the process of matching potential mentors and mentees. You will receive an email with necessary information.

If interested in serving as a mentor or if seeking a mentor, please join our Facebook page and download the application form. You can also contact Julia Ballenger at: jnballenger@gmail.com, and request a mentor or mentee application form.

To join our Facebook page, go to:

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/583764308314391/>

Please email Prathiba Natesan at

prathibachaj@gmail.com or place a request to join the group via Facebook.

You can also search for the group as ***SERA Early Career Mentoring Initiative***.

We continue to seek SERA members' participation in this initiative and encourage you to join us!



Thank you SERA 2013 Photographers!

Huda Sarraj, Texas Tech University
Lubna Javeed, Texas Tech University
Susan Williams, Texas A&M University- Commerce
Mona McWhorter, Texas A&M University- Commerce
Bill Parker, Lamar University
Heather Turner, University of North Texas
Cindy Xin, University of North Texas
Teresa Phelps, Texas Wesleyan University
Nicola Ritter, Texas A&M University
Bilgin Navruz, Texas A&M University

Tonya Trepinski, Baylor University
Kari Hodges, Baylor University
Leah McAlister-Shields, Sam Houston State University
Joanna Tucker, Sam Houston State University
Shirley Dickerson, Sam Houston State University
Lauren Jacobs, Sam Houston State University
Nicole Simpson, Sam Houston State University
Midge Robertson, Stephen F. Austin University
Pat Curry, Stephen F. Austin University



*Do you have a something
new to share?
If so, please contact
forrest.lane@usm.edu
to share it in
Membership Happenings.*



Membership Happenings

Forrest Lane, University of Southern Mississippi, has been appointed as the co-editor of the SERA Newsletter for 2013-14. We welcome Forrest to his new role and appreciate his service to SERA! **Thanks Forrest!**

Kim Nimon, University of North Texas, defended her second dissertation entitled:
**Convergent Validity of Variables Residualized by a Single Covariate:
The Role of Correlated Error in Populations and Samples**

Congratulations Kim! From now on, please address her as "Dr. Dr. Nimon!"

Rebecca Frels, Lamar University, and **Linda Reichwin Zientek**, and **Anthony Onwuegbuzie**, Sam Houston State University were recipients of the AERA SIG Mentorship and Mentoring Practices 2012 Distinguished Paper Award for their paper entitled:

**Differences of Mentoring Experiences Across Grade Span
Among Principals, Mentors and Mentees**

The authors will be honored at the annual SIG business meeting Sunday, April 28 6:15pm at the Sir Francis Drake Hotel. **This should be fun!**



2014 SERA

Presidential Invited Speaker

“Reflections on Where Educational Research is as a Scientific Discipline”

Daniel H. Robinson

Director and Professor of the School of Education

Colorado State University

On Tuesday of the SERA annual meeting, Daniel H. Robinson will present the 2014 SERA Presidential Invited Address, titled "Reflections on Where Educational Research is as a Scientific Discipline." Professor Robinson will also host an informal "Fireside Chat" with only graduate students, which is an opportunity to raise any questions that students might like to discuss.

Dan Robinson is Director and Professor of the School of Education at Colorado State University. He received his Ph.D. in Educational Psychology in 1993 from the University of Nebraska where he majored in both learning/cognition and statistics/ research. He has taught at Mississippi State University (1993-1997), the University of South Dakota (1997-1998), the University of Louisville (1998-1999), and the University of Texas (1999-2012).

Professor Robinson has served as the editor of *Educational Psychology Review* since 2006. During his tenure as editor, *EDPR* has experienced the following trends: Submissions have increased from 33 in 2006 to 72 in 2012. In 2006, the average number of days from when a manuscript is first received to the first decision was 51. In 2012, it was 26 days. With regard to

Impact Factor, *EDPR*'s IFs were 1.23 in 2004, and 1.33 in 2005. In 2006 and successive years, IFs were 2.40, 1.52, 2.04, 3.48, 2.47, and 2.40 in 2011.

Professor Robinson has also served as an editorial board member of nine refereed international journals: *American Educational Research Journal*, 2007 to 2010, *Contemporary Educational Psychology*, 1998 to 2012, *Educational Technology, Research, & Development*, 2003 to 2012, *Journal of Behavioral Education*, 2001 to 2005, *Journal of Educational Psychology*, 2011 to present, *Journal of Experimental Education*, 1999 to 2012, *Reading Research and Instruction*, 1994 to 1999, *Research in the Schools*, 1999 to 2009, and *The Open Education Journal*, 2008 to 2010.

Professor Robinson has published over 100 articles, books, and book chapters, presented over 100 papers at research conferences, and taught over 100 college courses. His research interests include educational technology innovations that may facilitate learning, team-based approaches to learning, and examining trends in articles published in various educational journals and societies. Professor Robinson's scholarship has been recognized both nationally and internationally. Selected awards and recognitions include:

- Visiting Fulbright Scholar, Victoria University, Wellington, New Zealand, May to July, 2011;
- Named as one of the most published authors in educational psychology journals from 1991-1996, 1997-2002, 1991-2002, and 2003-2008, *Contemporary Educational Psychology*, 1998, 2004, 2010;
- Keynote speaker, Texas Educational Intervention Research Collaborative conference in Waco, Texas, February, 2013.
- Keynote speaker, Cognitive Load Theory conference in Toulouse, France, June, 2013.

During the last two decades, Professor Robinson has worked closely with multifaceted organizations such as Cisco, Pearson, Chevron, Herman Miller, 21st Century Technology, and Philips Lighting to examine the conditions under which technology may be facilitate learning.

Professor Robinson will also host an informal "Fireside Chat" with only graduate students, which is an opportunity to raise any questions that students might like to discuss.

2014 Training Sessions

INTRODUCTION TO USING THE 'R' FREE SOFTWARE: BASISCS, GRAPHS, AND MONTE CARLO APPLICATIONS -- 8 HOUR EXTENDED TRAINING SESSION --

"R" is a ****FREE**** statistical programming language and environment that supports Unix, Windows, and Mac families of operating systems. "R" can be used to (a) teach statistical concepts, (b) perform statistical analyses, (c) create graphics, and (d) perform Monte Carlo simulation research. This workshop is aimed at helping individuals fast track their way



through the "R" learning curve and does not presuppose any familiarity with "R" or programming. Participants will learn "R" basics, how to create graphics in "R", and how to conduct Monte Carlo simulation studies using "R".

This session will be 8 hours divided into the three sections. The session will be conducted over the afternoon of the last regular day

of the conference (Wednesday) and the following Thursday morning. Registrants who buy a ticket for this training session may attend any combination of the three sections, based on participant interests and backgrounds. The workshop has a \$60 ticket price, and seats are limited.

About Kim Nimon

Kim is an Assistant Professor at the *University of North Texas* and uses "R" to teach statistical concepts, analyze large datasets from the U.S. Army and Air Force, and conduct Monte Carlo studies. Her work on "R" has been reported in publications such as *Behavior Research Methods*, *Journal of Applied Measurement*, *Multivariate Behavioral Research*, and *Research Methodologies for Conducting Research on Giftedness*. She is also an author of the "yhat package" (available from the Comprehensive R Archive Network) that provides software to fully interpret regression and canonical effects.

USING N-VIVO TO CONDUCT CONTENT ANALYSIS OF TRANSCRIPTS AND TEXTS -- 4 HOUR TRAINING SESSION --

On the Monday afternoon start of the SERA annual meeting in New Orleans, Pauline M. Sampson will conduct a 4-hour training session titled "A Brief Introduction to the N-VIVO Software for Conducting Content Analysis of Narrative Texts or Transcripts." N-VIVO is one of two very popular software programs (the other is ATLAS.ti) that can be used for content analysis. Participants will be asked to download the free trial version of N-VIVO for use during the training session. This is a ticketed (\$30) event. Tickets for training sessions, as well as the annual conference luncheon on Tuesday are sold as part of the required conference pre-registration in August through early October.

About Paula Sampson

Pauline M. Sampson is an Associate Professor of Educational at Stephen F. Austin State University (SFASU). She received her doctoral degree from Iowa State University at Ames. She has 27 years of experience in public schools as teacher, consultant, director, principal and superintendent. She brings experience in school reform with an emphasis on change and organizational development. She is a member of the executive board of both the National Council of Professors of Educational Administration and the Southwest Educational Research Administration. She is the chair of the SFASU Institutional Review Board and coordinator of the superintendent program as well as the America Reads program at Stephen F. Austin State University.



Monday, February 10 through Thursday, February 13, 2014

The SERA Executive board invites you to historic New Orleans for the 37th Annual SERA meeting. The SERA Conference events will begin on Monday, February 10, 2014 and will conclude on Thursday, February 13, 2014. Plan to attend great workshops and training sessions focused on supporting members' professional development needs. For the 2014 annual conference we are especially honored to have Professor **Daniel H. Robinson** from Colorado State University as our Presidential Invited Speaker.

The 37th Annual conference will start off on Monday afternoon with a ticketed training session "A Brief Introduction to the N-VIVO Software for Conducting Content Analysis of Narrative Texts or Transcripts" led by **Pauline Sampson** from Stephen F. Austin State University. Immediately following the annual luncheon on Tuesday, the 2014 Presidential Invited Speaker, Professor and Director of the Colorado State University School of Education, will share his "Reflections on Where Educational Research is as a Scientific Discipline". Afterwards SERA graduate student members will have the opportunity to enjoy a Fireside Chat with Professor Robinson. Then beginning on Wednesday afternoon and continuing through Thursday morning, **Kim Nimon** from the University of North Texas will lead a training on "Introduction to Using the 'R' Free Software: Basics, Graphs, and Monte Carlo Applications". We sincerely hope you will find the scheduled training sessions to be helpful and enjoyable.

Proposals for the 2014 SERA annual conference are due on September 22, 2013. Complete details regarding the proposals are available within the 2014 Call for Proposals which can be found at the end of the newsletter which is

also available on the SERA website at (<http://sera-edresearch.org>). We encourage you to submit a proposal and present at the 2014 Conference in New Orleans. The SERA conference is a great outlet to exchange research ideas and network with other scholars in your field and across the region.

I would like to extend a special thank you to Sonya Carr who has been hard at work securing arrangements for our annual meeting. The local arrangements chair is the person who secures our hotel rates and accommodations, and handles all the logistical challenges normally associated with hosting a large meeting. The conference hotel is the historic Hotel Monteleone in New Orleans. Located in the heart of the French Quarter, the Hotel Monteleone is just a few steps away from Jackson Square, the Old French Market, and the Mississippi River. After a day of attending sessions at the SERA conference, you can walk less than 160 yards to Bourbon Street for food, entertainment, and shopping.



Susan Troncoso Skidmore

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



Photo courtesy of the New Orleans Convention & Visitor's Bureau

Hotel Information

Reservations can be made by contacting the Hotel Monteleone directly at Reservations@hotelmonteleone.com.

You can also call at (504) 523-3341, or Toll-Free at (866) 338-4684. The historic Hotel Monteleone is located at **214 Royal Street, New Orleans, LA 70130-2201**

2014 Local Arrangements Chair's Preview



A Preview of New Orleans for the 2014 SERA Annual Meeting

In 2014, we will be holding the SERA Annual Meeting in New Orleans. There has never been a better time to visit this exciting city. The cultural riches and great service that define the New Orleans experience continue to flourish, as they have for many decades. The most celebrated, historic core of the city – including the Faubourg Marigny, French Quarter, Central Business District, Warehouse and Arts District, Magazine Street, Garden District, Audubon Park and Zoo and St. Charles Avenue – is thriving. Our meeting site, the Hotel Monteleone, has a unique history of its own and the entire French Quarter lies within steps of the doors of this elegant hotel. <http://hotelmonteleone.com/>

Celebration is at the core of the New Orleans' experience. In a brief visit, you can enjoy amazing music, experience fabulous art, and dive into delicious food. If you enjoy tours, we have: history tours, culinary tours, ghost and cemetery tours, and cocktail tours. New Orleans is now recognized as Hollywood South and you can visit city landmarks and locations captured in films shot in the city. You will also find world-class shops, historic homes, and museums. Consider a visit to the Historic New Orleans Collection, the 1850 House, and the wonderful Mardi Gras exhibit at the Presbytere. A short walk or streetcar ride away you can visit the Audubon Insectarium, Aquarium of

the Americas, Ogden Museum of Southern Art, National World War II Museum, Mardi Gras World, or the world-class Audubon Zoo.

Other ideas? Relax in the courtyard of the historic Napoleon House, take a carriage ride through the French Quarter, or enjoy a Mississippi River cruise. We now have three streetcar lines that can take you to distinctive and different neighborhoods throughout the city. Or new hop-on/hop-off double-decker buses allow you to experience New Orleans at your own pace.

Adapted from the New Orleans
Convention and Visitors Bureau
website :
<http://www.neworleanscvb.com/>

Don't miss the opportunity to enjoy this award-winning destination while learning more about scholarly research and networking with colleagues.

Sonya Carr

*Local Arrangements
Chair*



Photos courtesy of the New Orleans
Convention & Visitor's Bureau



Photo courtesy of the New Orleans
Convention & Visitor's Bureau

WELCOME TO NEW ORLEANS!

Here, in this little corner of the American South, where European traditions blend with Caribbean influences, the history is as colorful as the local architecture; the food is the stuff of legend. Haitian and African Creoles developed an exotic, spicy cuisine and were instrumental in creating jazz and Zydeco.

Our street names are French and Spanish, our Creole architecture comes in a carnival of tropical colors, and our voodoo is a Caribbean import. The magic is irresistible.

A cultural gumbo, we celebrate our differences. In fact, we celebrate almost anything in the Big Easy. We have a saying: LAISSEZ LE BONS TEMPS ROULER - LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL. A reminder of our French heritage, a way of life that began three centuries ago.

A PORT CITY

During the 18th and 19th centuries, New Orleans dominated the Caribbean as the most active port city and trade destination for island crops like sugar cane, rum, tobacco and fruit.

Thousands of refugees arrived from the Caribbean following the Haitian revolution of 1791 to 1804, and thousands more gens de couleur libres, or free people of color, arrived in New Orleans from Senegambia, now the area in Central Africa known as Benin. Their presence effectively doubled the size of the city.

A Brief History of New Orleans

THE NEW PARIS

By the mid 1800s, the city in the bend of the river became the fourth largest in the U.S. and one of the richest, dazzling visitors with chic Parisian couture, fabulous restaurants and sophisticated culture.

Society centered around the French Opera House, where professional opera and theatre companies played to full houses. In fact, opera was performed in New Orleans seven years before the Louisiana Purchase, and more than 400 operas premiered in the Crescent City during the 19th century.

A CULTURAL GUMBO

Under French, Spanish and American flags, Creole society coalesced as Islanders, West Africans, slaves, free people of color and indentured servants poured into the city along with a mix of French aristocrats, merchants, farmers, soldiers, freed prisoners and nuns.

New Orleans was, for its time, a permissive society where educated gens de couleur libres were master builders who developed elegant Creole architecture and chefs who developed the city's sophisticated Creole cuisine.

European aristocrats and rich Creoles often had mistresses, sometimes the famed quadroon (one-quarter black) or octoroons (one-eighth black). Native author Anne Rice set one of her early his-

torical novels, *The Feast of all Saints*, in 19th-century Creole society.

Creole is a chameleon term. It's a variety of tomato, an exotic cuisine, and a poetic architectural style.

It also refers to people, but the definition varies, depending on whom you ask. One thing is true of Creoles everywhere: they have always been colonials (vs European immigrants). The original New Orleans Creoles were thoroughbred French, who were the first generation to be born in the colonies. The word Creole derives from the Spanish *criollo* or the Portuguese *crioullo* (again depending upon whom you ask), which distinguished a person born in the colonies from an immigrant or an imported slave. In present-day New Orleans, there are people of various combinations of French, Spanish, West Indian and African ancestry who proudly call themselves Creole.

Cajuns, on the other hand, are descended from a specific group of Catholic, French-speaking trappers and farmers who were exiled from Nova Scotia by the ruling English-Protestants in 1755. About 10,000 eventually settled in Southwest Louisiana, in what is now called Acadiana. Some later came to New Orleans neighborhoods like Westwego. Over a million people of Cajun descent live in Louisiana. Bobby Hebert, the former star quarterback of the Falcons, is of such heritage and is known in sports broadcast circles as "The Cajun Cannon."

Longfellow immortalized their story of loss and exile in his epic poem, "Evangeline." But Canada's expulsion was Louisiana's gain; Cajuns brought us their joie de vivre, lively music, and famed cuisine.

This story was reproduced from the New Orleans Metropolitan Convention and Visitors Bureau.. 2020 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70130 504-566-5011



Photo courtesy of the New Orleans
Convention & Visitor's Bureau

Meet Your Newest Board Members



I am **Julia Ballenger**. I received my Ph.D. in Educational Administration from The University of Texas at Austin. I am currently employed at Texas A&M University-- Commerce, TX where I teach in the Educational Leadership doctoral program. I have been a member of SERA for twelve years and presented at many of the conferences. Several of the presentations were as a co-presenter with doctoral students. Some of my services on the SERA board include: reviewer for Division VI: Graduate Student Work-in-progress, session chair, Division VI discussant, and committee chair of the newly created SERA Early Career Mentoring Initiative. I have served as a member of the National Council of Professors of Educational Administration (NCPEA) Executive Board, as president of the Texas Council of Professors of Educational Administration (TCPEA), and as secretary of the Consortium of State Organizations for Texas Teacher Education Board. I am currently serving as Program Co-chair for the Research on Women in Education SIG of the American Educational Research Association, and I am an active member of several other professional organizations. Julia currently serves as **Member-at-Large for 2013-2016**.



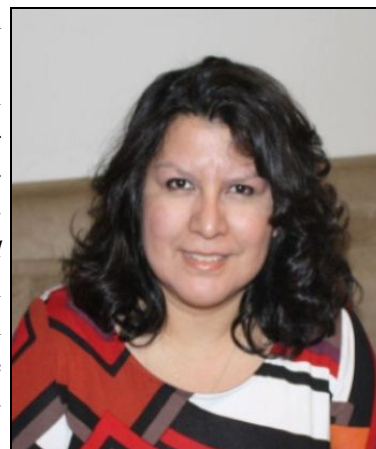
Janet Tareilo is an associate professor in the Department of Secondary Education and Educational Leadership at Stephen F. Austin State University where she teaches an introductory freshman class, courses in the Principal Preparation Program, as well as courses in the Doctoral Program. Dr. Tareilo has served as a board member for such professional organizations as TCPEA and AAUW. She has presented completed research studies and theoretical papers at regional, state, national, and international conferences. Her research interests include issues of equity, improving principal preparation programs, and developing leadership skills in newly assigned principals. In addition to several published works, Dr. Tareilo authored a book, *On the Other Side of the Desk: A 20/20 Look at the Principalship*, that detailed her 16 years as an elementary principal and provided advice and suggestions for newly assigned administrators. Dr. Tareilo also serves as the Director of Production Editing for NCPEA Publications. Janet currently serves as **Member-at-Large for 2013-2016**.



Celia Wilson, is an assistant professor of education at Texas Wesleyan University, received her doctoral degree from the University of North Texas in Denton. Her Master of Education was awarded by the University of Southern Mississippi. In her role at Texas Wesleyan University, Celia teaches research, statistics and curriculum and instruction courses to Texas Wesleyan doctor of education students. Prior to finishing her Ph.D., Celia served as the manager for the Center for Interdisciplinary Research and Analysis at the University of North Texas where she assisted College of Education students with dissertation methodology. Celia also possesses ten years of early childhood teaching experience, both in the public school and Montessori settings. Her current research interests include development of a rubric to assess Ed.D. dissertations and the use of large scale data sets to teach introductory research and statistics to doctoral students. Celia currently serves as **Member-at-Large for 2013-2016**.

Meet Your Newest Board Members

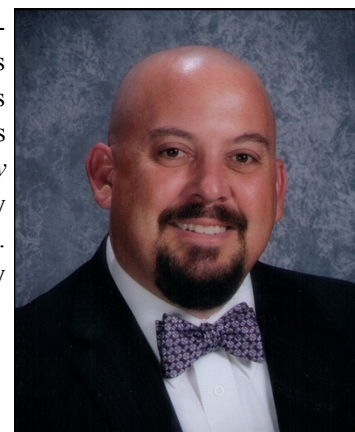
Susan Troncoso Skidmore is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Counseling at Sam Houston State University. A graduate of the Research, Measurement, and Statistics doctoral program at Texas A&M University, Susan's research interests include statistical technique usage and assumptions violations; effect sizes; evidence-based practices; and quantitative literacy. Her research has been published in a variety of journals including *Educational Researcher*, *Educational and Psychological Measurement*, *Behavior Research Methods*, and the *Journal of Psychopathology and Behavioral Assessment*. Prior to joining the professoriate, Susan enjoyed working in public high schools, as well as working in various laboratories. Susan has been a member of the SERA since 2007 and has had the opportunity to serve in various capacities including Graduate Student Representative, Graduate Student Advisor, Newsletter editor, Secretary, and currently as **President-Elect/Program Chair**.



Kevin Kalinowski is a Psychometrician at UNT Health Science Center in Fort Worth, Texas. He works in the Center for Learning and Development supporting faculty researchers with psychometric, statistical, and evaluative computerized adaptive testing, and reliability and validity in high-stakes testing. Currently, his research interests focus on design and analysis. His background includes work in multidimensional item response theory, exposure control in non-cognitive factors associated with success in medical school and postgraduate career choices. He currently teaches a course on testing and measurement to the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (TCOM) faculty enrolled in the TCOM Academy of Medical Education. This summer, Kevin will teach a two-week course on educational statistics for the Pyongyang Summer Institute in Survey Science and Quantitative Methodology (PSI). PSI is a joint teaching program of Statistics without Borders and the International Strategy and Reconciliation Foundation, in collaboration with the Pyongyang University of Science and Technology, the first and only private and international university in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Kevin has been a member of SERA since 2006, served as the graduate student representative in 2008, and currently serves as **Secretary and Graduate Student Advisor**.



William Parker is a doctoral student in the Center for Doctoral Studies in Educational Leadership at Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas. He has experience working in public schools as a teacher, Master Teacher, instructional coach, and administrator. Currently, William serves as an administrator with the Richardson Independent School district in Richardson, Texas. His first manuscript has been accepted for publication in the spring 2013 issue of the *Texas Study of Secondary Administration*. His dissertation research will focus on the role of the secondary public school administrator as a teacher of education law. William plans to complete his Ed.D. in Educational Leadership with a cognate in Effective Schools in May 2014. William currently serves as **Graduate Student Representative**.



Meet Your 2013 Graduate Student Council

<p>William Parker Graduate Student Representative Center for Doctoral Studies in Educational Leadership Education Policy & Reform, Education Law, Research Methods Lamar University wparker@Lamar.edu</p>	
<p>Saler Axel Department of Education Policy and Leadership Specialization in Education Policy and Leadership Southern Methodist University sayler@smu.edu</p>	
<p>Mordecai Brownlee Center for Doctoral Studies in Educational Leadership Higher Education Lamar University mordecai.brownlee@blinn.edu</p>	
<p>Jeff Herr School of Education Curriculum and Instruction Texas Wesleyan University jtherr@txwes.edu</p>	
<p>Kari Hodge Department of Educational Psychology Measurement Baylor University Kari_Hodge@baylor.edu</p>	
<p>Laura Jacobs Department of Educational Psychology Educational Psychology and Individual Differences University of Houston laurajacobs1014@yahoo.com</p>	

Meet Your 2013 Graduate Student Council

Bligin Navruz

Department of Educational Psychology
Research, Measurement, & Statistics

Texas A&M University

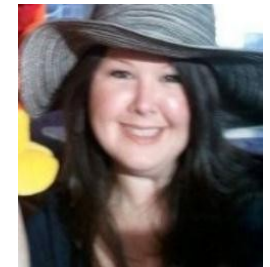
bligin@tamu.edu

**Joy Russell**

Department of Curriculum and Instruction
Concentration in Curriculum Studies and Teacher Education

Texas Tech University

joy.cornwell@ttu.edu

**Joanna Tucker**

Department of Educational Leadership and Counseling
Educational Leadership, Higher Education

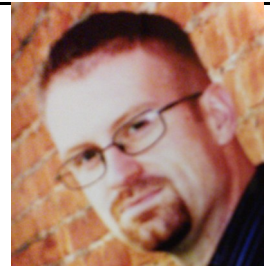
Sam Houston State University

jjtucker09@yahoo.com

**Mike Wicker**

Stephen F. Austin University

mwicker@lufkinisd.org

**Xin (Cindy) Xin**

Department of Educational Psychology
Research Measurement and Statistics

University of North Texas

Xin.xin@unt.edu

**Sandra Montgomery**

Department of Teacher and Bilingual Education

Texas A&M University—Kingsville

montgomeryjrfamily@gmail.com





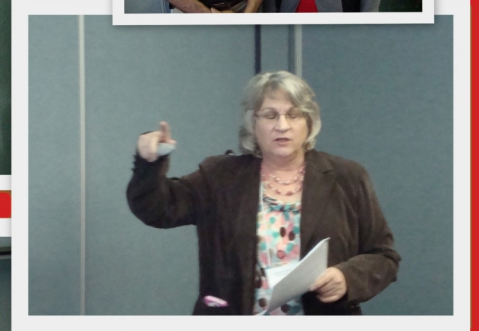
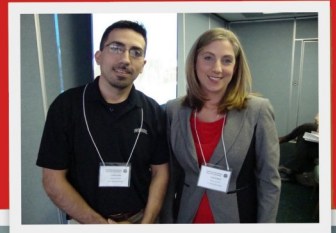
Board Members, Appointments and Terms

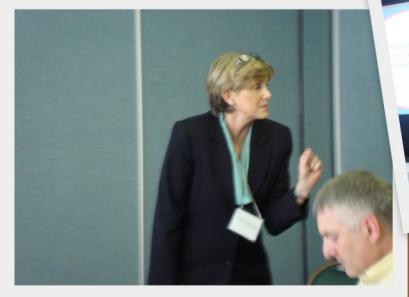
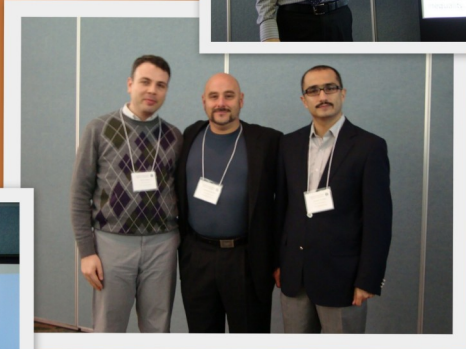
President/	Stacey Edmonson <i>Sam Houston State University</i>	Graduate Student Representative	William “Bill” Parker <i>Lamar University</i>
President-Elect/ Program Chair	Susan Troncoso Skidmore <i>Sam Houston State University</i>	Historian	John J. Hedl, Jr
Past-President/ Treasurer	Kim Nimon <i>University of North Texas</i>		
Secretary/ Graduate Student Advisor	Kevin Kalinowski <i>UNT Health Science Center</i>	Members-at-Large: 2011- 2014	Winona Vesey, <i>University of Houston—Clear Lake</i> Bettye Grigsby, <i>University of Houston—Clear Lake</i> Prathiba Natesan, <i>University of North Texas</i>
Deputy Executive Director	Linda Zientek <i>Sam Houston State University</i>	Members-at-Large: 2012-2015	Shirley Matteson, <i>Texas Tech University</i> Pauline Sampson, <i>Stephen F. Austin State University</i> Rebecca Frels, <i>Lamar State University</i>
Executive Director/ Deputy Historian	Bruce Thompson <i>Texas A&M University</i>	Members-at-Large: 2013-2016	Julia Ballenger, <i>Texas A & M Commerce</i> Janet Tareilo, <i>Stephen F. Austin University</i> Celia Wilson, <i>Texas Wesleyan University</i>

Important Dates to Remember

- SERA Proposal System Opens: Approximately August 15th
- SERA Proposal System Closes: September 22, 2013
- Dean's Award Papers Due: January 10, 2014
- Graduate Student Papers Due to Discussants: January 22, 2014
- Graduate Student Outstanding Paper Due: January 15, 2014
- Outstanding SERA Paper Due: February 11, 2014
- **February 10 – 13 in New Orleans**







2-22-13

SOUTHWEST EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE
2014 ANNUAL MEETING
FEBRUARY 10 - FEBRUARY 13, 2014
HOTEL MONTELEONE
NEW ORLEANS
Program Chair:**

Susan Troncoso Skidmore

Sam Houston State University

Department of Educational Leadership & Counseling

Huntsville, Texas 77341-2119

936-294-3346

skidmore@shsu.edu

GENERAL INFORMATION

The 37th Annual Meeting of the Southwest Educational Research Association will be held

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10 THROUGH THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2014

at the Hotel Monteleone • 214 Royal Street • New Orleans, LA 70130-2201

Tel: (504)523-3341 • Fax: (504)528-1019 • <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 by midnight **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2013.**

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

Authors and co-authors are expected 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).

All meeting rooms at the annual conference will be equipped with an LCD projector and screen. Presenters must supply all other audio-visual equipment. Participants are advised to bring their own laptop computer.

PLEASE NOTE that conference registration and payment ***RECEIPT*** are ***STRICTLY required*** within roughly one month (i.e., **By OCTOBER 9th for check or Purchase Order payments and by OCTOBER 16, 2013 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 6, 2013, 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 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2014 AT ROUGHLY NOON.

Implicit Permission to Take and Use Photographs

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.

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. 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.

3. Proposals for Symposia

A symposium provides an opportunity to address a specific problem or a complex topic from a variety of perspectives. 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.

4. Proposals for Innovative Format Sessions

Proposals for sessions employing innovative formats are accepted. 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. Graduate Student Division ONLY for RESEARCH IN PROGRESS (Submit to Division VI only)

To encourage participation by graduate students, seminars will be scheduled to allow graduate students to summarize research proposals, including theses or dissertations **still in the developmental stage that have not yet been defended**. A distinguished researcher will lead session discussions. Students who wish to submit a proposal for a graduate student seminar should prepare 3 copies of a 2-page, typed (size 12 font), single-spaced summary. The summary should include (a) a statement of the problem, (b) the significance of the study, and (c) a description of the proposed methods and procedures. Please be sure to indicate that the submission is research in progress. Students whose seminar presentation proposals are accepted should send a copy of their seminar paper to the session discussant so that the copy is **RECEIVED on or before Friday, January 17, 2014**.

NOTE: Completed research by graduate students is ***not*** appropriate for these 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.
- 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.**

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, February (date), 2014.**" 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 34 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

Aileen Curtin
Texas Wesleyan University
ecurtin@txwes.edu

II. Instruction, Learning & Cognition

Diane Goldsby
Texas A&M University
dgoldsby@tamu.edu

Sandra Acosta
Texas A&M University
sacosta@tamu.edu

III. Methodology, Measurement & Evaluation

Tommy De Vaney
Southeastern Louisiana
tdevaney@selu.edu

Forrest Lane
University of Southern Mississippi
Forrest.Lane@usm.edu

IV. Teachers & Teacher Education

Bob Elliot
Eastern New Mexico University
Robert.Elliott@enmu.edu

Lori Petty
University of Texas- Brownsville
Lori.Petty@utb.edu

V. Special Populations & Counseling

Cynthia Martinez-Garcia
Sam Houston State University
cynthia3687@sbcglobal.net

Mark Reid
Texas A&M – Commerce
Mark.Reid@tamuc.edu

VI. Graduate Student Seminars for Work in Progress

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

Remember:

- There is a **limit of 3 submissions** by a principal/first author.
- 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 to submit copies of the paper to the SERA Digital Repository.
- All meeting rooms at the annual conference will be equipped with an LCD **projector and screen**. **Presenters must supply all other audio-visual equipment.**

**Submit all materials electronically (to be received by midnight SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2013)
using the SERA website:**

<http://sera-edresearch.org/>

2014 SERA BRUCE THOMPSON OUTSTANDING PAPER AWARD

Authors are encouraged to submit five (5) single-sided copies of the paper submitted for presentation at the 2014 annual meeting to the SERA Executive Director, Bruce Thompson, by **NOON, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2014**. 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 2014 conference date, the paper might actually be presented at the 2015 AERA conference. A stipend of \$750 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 2014 SERA Outstanding Paper Award
by POSTAL/COURIER SERVICE ONLY to:*

**BRUCE THOMPSON, SERA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
2014 SERA OUTSTANDING PAPER AWARD
DEPT. OF EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS 77843-4225
bruce-thompson@tamu.edu
<http://www.coe.tamu.edu/~bthompson/>**

2014 SERA OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

An award of \$500 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 5:00 P.M. WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2014**. The award winner will be announced at the SERA luncheon on Tuesday, February 11, 2014. 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 15, 2014**, 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 2014 Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award
by E-MAIL ATTACHMENT ONLY to:*

Stacey Edmonson

Sam Houston State University

Department of Educational Leadership and Counseling

Huntsville, TX 77341-2119

sedmonson@shsu.edu

2014 SERA DEANS' AWARDS FOR EXCEPTIONAL GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH

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

Two awards will be given to students from each of the following universities should they choose to participate: *Baylor University, Lamar University, Sam Houston State University, Southern Methodist University, Stephen F. Austin University, Texas A&M University, Texas Tech University, Texas Wesleyan University, University of Houston, and University of North Texas*. The respective Dean of the College of Education for each university sponsors these awards. Other Deans may elect to also participate in sponsoring these awards, and some Deans may elect to withdraw from sponsorship. 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 universities listed above and must attend the 2014 SERA annual meeting. Student authors should **electronically submit** completed papers to the SERA graduate student representative to be:

RECEIVED BY 5:00 P.M. Friday, January 10, 2014.

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 be judged from the perspective of how it will further the theory of educational research.

The awards will be announced at the SERA luncheon on Tuesday, February 11, 2014.

Rules for the Deans' Awards Competition:

- The SERA graduate student representative **must receive** completed papers on or before the January 10, 2014 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 5:00 P.M. January 17, 2014, please contact the graduate student representative immediately.

Send completed papers for the 2014 Deans' Awards by E-MAIL ATTACHMENT ONLY to:

**Bill Parker
SERA Graduate Student Representative
Lamar University
10317 Waterbury Drive
Providence Village, TX 76227
wparker@lamar.edu**