

Fall 2023



SERA Newsletter

Southwest Educational Research Association

Inside this issue:

THE PREZ SAYS...	1-2
NEWS FROM OUR PROGRAM CHAIR	3
PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS	4-5
SERA GRANT AWARDS	6
SERA AWARD INFORMATION	7
GRADUATE RESEARCH NEWS	8-9
NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR	9
2024 PRESIDENTIAL SPEAKER	10
ARLINGTON PREVIEW	11
SERA BOARD MEMBERS	12
2023-2024 GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL	13
VOTING INFORMATION	14
IMPORTANT DATES	15

The Prez Says...

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



Emma Bullock

*Sam Houston State
University*

The 47th Annual Meeting of the SERA will be held at the Hilton Hotel in Arlington on February 14-16, 2024. Throughout this newsletter, you will find details about the conference, including links to the annual meeting, conference information from the Program Chair, **Shaun Hutchins**, and information about the presidential invited address, training sessions, and awards. One highlight we are very excited about is this year's presidential speaker, Elizabeth Creamer, who is Emerita from the Educational Research and Evaluation Program in the School of Education at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. More information about this session is available in our Program Chair News.

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

The SERA Junior Mentoring Initiative, organized by **Michelle Peters** and **Tonya Jeffery**, will continue with another session at this year's conference. The project aims to provide support for junior faculty in the form of mentoring. Look for a junior faculty strand in the 2024 program to find ways you can be mentored as a junior faculty member or serve as a mentor if you are a more experienced SERA member.

Continued on Page 2

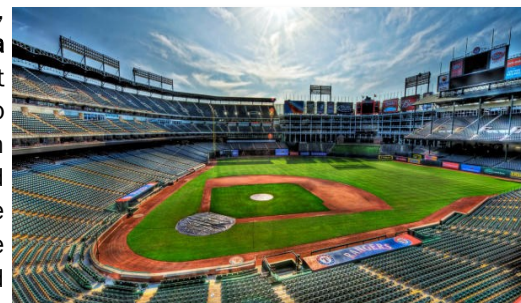


Photo Courtesy of the Arlington Convention & Visitors Bureau

EDITORS:

Wendi Zimmer
Texas A&M University

Peter Boedeker
Baylor College of Medicine

SERA Repository

The SERA Paper Repository will open on **January 15, 2024**. The use of the Repository is optional, but we highly encourage you to upload a digital copy of your paper. This provides documentation of your effort and is a great way to access the papers presented by other members at this year's conference.

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

[Repository Link](#)

The Prez Says from page 1

The SERA Early Career Research Grants Program, guided by **Chrissy Cross** and **Shirley Matteson**, will have several recipients presenting their research projects at a special session during the annual conference. The early career grant initiative provides up to \$1,000 in funding for a doctoral student and an assistant professor at a 4-year institution.

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

sessions as you can that are related to your research area.

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

Emma Bullock

SERA President

Sam Houston State University

Mathematics and Statistics Department

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

Policy on Conducting Research at SERA

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

Mark Your Calendar for Future Conference Dates and Locations

2025 Conference—San Antonio, Texas

At the Menger Hotel

Wednesday, February 12 to Friday, February 14

2026 Conference—New Orleans, LA

At the Hotel Monteleone

Wednesday, February 11 to Friday, February 13

News from Our Program Chair

The 2024 conference begins on Wednesday morning, February 14, in Arlington, at the Hilton Arlington. The conference opens with three ticketed workshop sessions. **Matthew Fuller** will provide grant coaching and offer ideas for successful proposal drafting, submission, and post award management. **Grant B. Morgan** and **Hiroki Matsuo**, will introduce participants to the logic and application of nonparametric statistics for comparing groups. **Emma Bullock** will guide workshop participants in learning how to thrive during the dissertation process (see p. 4-5).

Elizabeth G. Creamer, Professor Emerita from the Educational Research and Evaluation Program in the School of Education at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, is this year's Presidential Invited Speaker. She is the Past President of the Mixed Methods International Research Association (MMIRA). Dr. Creamer is the author of the 2021 Routledge/Francis and Taylor textbook, *Advancing Grounded Theory with Mixed Methods*, which advances an innovative methodology to integrate grounded theory and mixed methods (MM-GT) for purposes of developing a theoretical framework. She is the author of the 2018 SAGE textbook, *An Introduction to Fully Integrated Mixed Methods Research*, that builds a framework for integrating qualitative and quantitative data and analytical procedures across all phases of the research process. Her newest writing project involves a new book, *Leveraging Visual Displays During Analysis in Mixed Methods Research*. Dr. Creamer will present the presidential invited address on Thursday, February 15th, immediately following the annual SERA luncheon. Graduate student SERA members will have an opportunity to meet and visit informally with Dr. Creamer at the traditional "Fireside Chat" immediately afterward. Additional graduate student activities are scheduled for Thursday afternoon and evening.

Numerous additional workshops and presentations are planned throughout the conference on topics such as mentoring and conducting quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-methods research.

At the 2023 SERA conference, there were approximately 220 research presentations, workshops, symposia, and innovative sessions. Division VI continued to be a popular avenue for disseminating graduate student members' "work in progress." This division provides graduate students the opportunity to present research in progress, including dissertations or theses not yet defended. All Division VI sessions are led by discussants with distinguished careers as researchers. Papers presented in Division VI will need to be submitted to the discussant on or before January 8th.

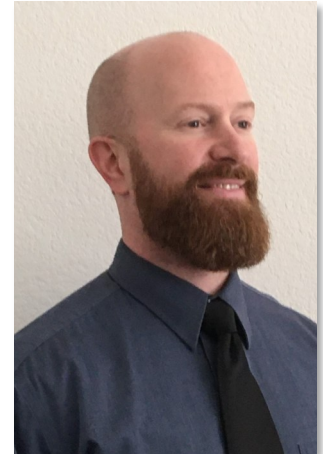
The draft program should be complete by early December and will be posted to the SERA website. Authors can check their presentation dates and times from the posted program and make travel plans accordingly.

During the conference, laptop projectors will be provided in all presentation rooms. Presenters will need to bring their own laptop and their presentation on a flash drive. One computer per session should be used to minimize the transitions. Presenters will have 10-13 minutes for each presentation for all presenters to have sufficient time to present their research. This time frame leaves a few minutes for questions or discussion. We recommend limiting your presentation to about ten slides. Please note that PowerPoint presentations are not required.

All presenters should bring 10-15 copies of completed papers ("in progress" papers for Division VI) for distribution during their presentation. Alternatively, presenters can submit their papers electronically to the SERA repository. The SERA website will contain the most up-to-date information on conference activities, so please visit <http://sera-edresearch.org/> for the latest news.

We look forward to seeing you in Arlington for the 47th annual SERA conference!

Shaun D. Hutchins
2024 Program Chair/
SERA President-Elect
Texas A&M University



Shaun Hutchins
Texas A&M University

"The draft program should be completed by early December and will be posted to the SERA website."

Get Involved with SERA

A great way to get involved in SERA is to volunteer. Some opportunities include serving as a proposal reviewer, division co-chair, or assisting with technology needs and services. Another great opportunity is to help with conference registration. Volunteers will welcome participants and provide various conference materials. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact the SERA Program Chair,

Pre-Conference Workshops

Do MORE than Just Finish: How to Thrive During the Dissertation Process and Write a Well-Funded, Award-Winning Dissertation that Propels You into A Sustainable Research Agenda and Career

As the winner of five major dissertation awards and six additional graduate student research awards while procuring over \$20,000 in funding to support her dissertation scholarship, Emma Bullock (2018 SERA Bruce Thompson Outstanding Paper Award) knows how to approach the dissertation process, so you earn multiple job interviews (Emma had 25 phone interviews and 10 on-campus interview requests in her last year of grad school) and propel your career. From conceptualization to defense and the job interview, Emma will share how to effectively and efficiently select your committee, select your topic and research question(s), hone your research skills, write a literature review, pilot your ideas, build your academic network, procure funding, use the resources your school and professional organizations offer, write in 30 minute increments, present and defend your findings, solicit spectacular letters of recommendation, and apply for awards that will propel you into a successful job interview process that promotes your research agenda and future career. You do not need to settle for just finishing. Bring YOUR dissertation ideas and learn how to use the dissertation process as the means toward accomplishing your academic and professional dreams in this interactive and fun workshop.



Emma Bullock
Sam Houston State
University

*Pre-Conference
workshops are \$30
through online
registration or \$40 at
the door.*

Pre-Conference Workshops

From Find it to Fund it! Strategies for Grant and Sponsored Research Success!

You have an amazing research idea, but need financial support to bring your research vision to life. This workshop session will cover details of each phase of sponsored research development from grant seeking, to proposal writing, award, and post-award leadership. Matthew Fuller is professor and Director of the Center for Assessment, Research, and Educational Safety at Sam Houston State University and has been responsible for sponsored research totaling \$26 million. In this workshop you will develop a grant seeking strategy, practice the development of a grant proposal, describe different funder motivations, and articulate a post-award leadership strategy for project success. This engaging, interactive workshop will provide opportunities for grant coaching and offer ideas for success proposal drafting, submission, and post award management. Come ready to learn about a process for seeking sponsorship for research activities and develop a long-range, career-long approach sponsorship in higher education and non-profit settings.



Matthew Fuller
Sam Houston State
University

*Pre-Conference
workshops are \$30
through online
registration or \$40 at
the door.*

Putting Statistical Assumptions Back In Their Place: A Guide To Nonparametrics Statistics and Your Power To Make Whatever Assumptions You Want

In this workshop, we will provide an introduction to the logic and application of nonparametric statistics for comparing groups. We will examine the role statistical assumptions should play, if any, in your analysis and demonstrate how you can use nonparametric statistics instead of t-test and/or ANOVA with no loss of information in almost any research situation. Ultimately, the goal of this workshop is to empower researchers to make whichever assumptions they want to make about their data instead of having assumptions imposed on them by the statistical procedures taught in most graduate programs. Examples in SPSS and R are provided throughout.



Grant Morgan
Baylor University



Hiroki Matsuo
Baylor University

SERA Research Grants

Two research grants are available to SERA members.

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

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

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

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

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

Funding restrictions

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

Evaluation criteria

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

Reporting requirements

All Research Grantees will be required to submit a SERA proposal and send a copy of the proposal to the Executive Director. In order to receive the final grant funds (see funding disbursement), a manuscript, in article format with the quality for submission to a peer-reviewed journal, must be submitted by the first day of the February Annual Conference the following year. For example, an award made in 2023 would require grant recipients to submit their manuscript prior to the 2024 annual conference.

Funding disbursement

Grantees will receive \$500.00 upon award selection and \$500.00 after presenting at the next February SERA Annual Conference (receipts must be submitted). Travel expenses to conferences may not exceed 30% of award total. The award amounts will not be channeled through institutions; thus, there are no overhead or indirect costs.

Application Deadlines

Applications for these Research Grants will be open once a year. Grant proposals must be submitted to the Grant Coordinator, Chrissy Cross at crossc1@sfasu.edu, and the SERA Executive Director, Linda Zientek at lrzientek@shsu.edu, by **April 1** of each year and awardees will be selected by **May 1**.



Chrissy Cross

Stephen F. Austin State



Shirley Matteson

Texas Tech University

Apply by April 1st!

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

SERA Linda Reichwein Zientek Outstanding Paper Award

Authors are encouraged to email copies of the paper submitted for presentation at the annual meeting to the SERA Executive Director, Linda Zientek. An individual may submit only one paper on which he/she is author or co-author. The winner of the Outstanding Paper Award in the prior year is not eligible for consideration. Active officers of the SERA Executive Council, including appointed officers, are not eligible.

Award: \$1,000; present paper at AERA in 2024

Deadline: January 3, 2024 (12:00pm)

Submit Electronically

Linda Zientek
SERA Executive Director
lrzientek@shsu.edu

SERA Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award

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

Award: \$750.

Deadline: January 8, 2024 (by 5:00 pm)

Submit Electronically

Emma Bullock
SERA President
exb051@shsu.edu

SERA Dean's Awards

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

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

Student recipients must be from a university that provides an award and must attend the 2023 SERA annual conference. More deans are expected to enroll soon. Students who are not enrolled in a university whose Dean of the College of Education supports this award are not eligible.

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

Deadline: January 8, 2024 (5:00 pm)

Submit Electronically Only

Chrissy Eubank
SERA Graduate Student Representative
Chrissy.eubank@ttu.edu

SERA Outstanding Undergraduate Student Paper Award

The Outstanding Undergraduate Student Paper Award competition is for completed undergraduate student research (i.e., ONLY Division I through V papers), and may include capstone projects, collaborative work with a faculty member, or other undergraduate student research.

The award will be given for the best paper presented by an undergraduate 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.

Awards: \$500

Deadline: January 8, 2024 (5:00 pm)

Submit Electronically Only

Emma Bullock
Past-President
exb051@shsu.edu

Graduate Student News

Warmest welcome to all graduate student members of the Southwest Educational Research Association! As the current Graduate Student Representative and on behalf of the SERA Board of Directors, thank you for helping to make the 46th Annual SERA Conference a success. The advancement of this conference is in large part due to you as the graduate student volunteers, presenters, and attendees. So, thank you for your continued support of SERA!

During the conference, the new SERA Graduate Student Council was elected, and the previous leadership stepped down. I would like to thank the 2022-2023 Graduate Student Representative **Susanne Gaal** (Sam Houston State University) for her year of service to the SERA Board of Directors and the graduate student membership. For the last year, Susanne represented the interests of all graduate students in the SERA community and served as our voice on the SERA Board of Directors. Her work in supporting SERA graduate students and assisting with the annual conference was noticed and greatly appreciated. Additionally, I would like to thank the 2022-2023 SERA Campus Representatives for their service:

Tiffany Meyes (Sam Houston State University), **Kristen Edosomwan** (Texas A & M-College Station), **Rachel Alex** (University of Houston-Clear Lake), **Michelle Spoonemore** (Texas Tech University), **Stephen Gruber** (University of Houston-Clear Lake), **Megan Hill Foster** (Texas Tech University), and **Ricardo R. Martinez III** (Representative-at-large).

The newly elected Graduate Student Council for the 2023-2024 year began their term of service and look forward to fostering opportunities for our graduate community. I am excited to welcome your council: **Sameera Massey** (Texas A & M-Corpus Christi), **Erik Torres** (Sam Houston State

University), **Chrissy Eubank** (Texas Tech University), **Aminah Crawford** (Texas A&M University-College Station), **Sheena Blain** (University of Houston), **Bethany Ivie** (Texas A & M-Texarkana), and **Nicole Burkett** (Representative-at-large).

Additionally, I am happy to announce that **Ryan Glaman** and **Katherine Vela** are serving in their roles as Graduate Student Council Co-Advisors.

The 47th Annual SERA Conference will be held February 14-16, 2024, in Arlington, TX, and it is never too early to start preparing! SERA is an excellent opportunity for graduate students to network with other members from across the region, present current scholarship in a supportive environment, and learn from other presenters through workshops and presentations. Division VI provides graduate students a venue for feedback on works-in-progress and celebrates phenomenal graduate student work through the Dean's Award and the Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award. Additional details on award submissions will be included in the call for proposals. As we move closer to the deadline for submitting a proposal, I encourage all graduate student members to consider current projects and papers in development that might be appropriate for presentation(s) at SERA 2024. I hope to see all of you next year in Arlington!

Chrissy Eubank

SERA Graduate Student Representative
Texas Tech University



Chrissy Eubank

Texas Tech University

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

Continued on Page 9

Graduate Student News *from page 8*

**The SERA Board is honored to welcome Chrissy Eubank as our SERA Graduate Student Representative for 2023-2024. Chrissy is a doctoral candidate in the Curriculum Studies and Teacher Education (CSTE) program in the Curriculum and Instruction Department at Texas Tech University. Her dissertation research focuses on how instructional coaching relationships can transform novice teacher's classroom practices. Chrissy has 22 years of public education experience (K-12) and is currently an instructional coach and professional learning facilitator for a consulting company that works with public school districts across the United States.*

Right: SERA's 2023-2024 Graduate Council



Welcome to Our New Newsletter Editor



Peter Boedeker

Baylor College of Medicine

Peter Boedeker is an Assistant Professor in the Departments of Education, Innovation and Technology and Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX. He has taught middle school and high school mathematics and graduate-level applied statistics and data analysis. Peter is a team scientist, contributing to the development and analysis of research in education with specific expertise in design for causal inference and meta-analysis.

2024 Presidential Invited Address



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

Dr. Elizabeth Creamer
Virginia Tech

Elizabeth Creamer is Professor Emerita from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and the 2018 University of Michigan Mixed Methods Program Senior Visiting Scholar. Dr. Creamer has made great contributions to the development of the mixed methods field, such as advancing an innovative methodology that integrates grounded theory and mixed methods (MM-GT) for purposes of developing a theoretical framework that is particularly compatible with intervention and evaluation research. She is the author of the 2018 SAGE textbook, *An Introduction to Fully Integrated Mixed Methods Research*, that builds a framework for the integration of qualitative and quantitative data and analytical procedures across all phases of the research process. She is also the Past President of the Mixed Methods International Research Association (MMIRA).

A Preview of Arlington for the 2024 SERA Annual Meeting

*Welcome to
Arlington!*

We are looking forward to welcoming you to the 2024 SERA Annual Meeting at the Hilton Hotel in Arlington, Texas. Hilton Arlington is in the entertainment district, within a five-minute drive of Six Flags Hurricane Harbor, and Arlington Convention Center.

There are many reasons to look forward to your visit. In addition to the numerous professional opportunities that await during the conference, Arlington is the “American Dream City” with outstanding cuisine, music, art, and entertainment. Arlington is full of massive year-round events and things to do such as visiting the world-class AT&T Stadium, Six Flags Over Texas, Six Flags Hurricane Harbor, or watching the Texas Rangers play. (<https://www.arlington.org/>)

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

MUSIC UNDER THE STARS. If you love music, you should make a point to visit the Levitt Pavilion. Located in the heart of Downtown Arlington. The Levitt Pavilion has been providing free outdoor concerts for 10 years.

BE INSPIRED. It’s worth a trip to Richard Greene Linear Park in north Arlington to see Caelum Moor, a five-acre environmental art installation by sculptor Norm Hines. Each group of stones has its own Celtic name and distinct characteristics.

GET OUT IN NATURE. For a fun and educational day out in nature, head over to River Legacy Parks, a 1,300-acre urban oasis along the Trinity River. Discover a variety of ecosystems, like bottomland forest, wetlands, and prairies, while observing different species of birds, fish, mammals, and native plants.

HISTORIC ARLINGTON. The Historic Fielder House is an Arlington institution home to the Arlington Historical Society. The house was the private residence of Mr. and Mrs. James Park Fielder Sr. built in 1914.

ART AT ITS FINEST. The Gallery at UT Arlington is one of the best free activities in the city. The art gallery offers visitors a chance to enjoy a variety of work by undergraduate and graduate students at the University of Texas at Arlington.

ENJOY THE VIEW. One of Arlington’s newest parks is the Crystal Canyon Natural Area, the perfect place to explore the natural beauty of the city. Located in North Arlington, this 38.7-acre park has a half mile of soft surface trail for hiking.

“VEGAS BEFORE VEGAS”. For another budget-friendly slice of Arlington, visit Top O’ Hill Terrace. Called the “Vegas before Vegas,” Top O’ Hill Terrace was a legitimate restaurant which was also a popular gambling and brothel spot in the 1920s. Group tours are given by appointment only and a donation of \$10 per person is suggested.



Photo courtesy of Arlington Convention and Visitors Bureau

SERA Board Members and Appointments

President	Emma Bullock <i>Sam Houston State University</i>	Secretary: 2023-2025	Audrey Meador <i>West Texas A&M University</i>
President-Elect/ Program Chair	Shaun Hutchins <i>Texas A&M University</i>	Webinar Coordinator	Forrest Lane <i>Sam Houston State University</i>
Past-President	Wendi Zimmer <i>Texas A&M University</i>	Graduate Student Representative	Chrissy Eubank <i>Texas Tech University</i>
Treasurer	Kim Nimon <i>University of Texas—Tyler</i>	Members-at-Large: 2021-2024	Chrissy Cross <i>Stephen F. Austin State University</i>
Executive Director	Linda Zientek <i>Sam Houston State University</i>		Tonya Jeffery <i>University of Houston—Downtown</i>
Director of Information Technology	Susan Troncoso Skidmore <i>Sam Houston State University</i>	Members-at-Large: 2022-2025	Katherine Vela <i>Utah State University</i>
Executive Director Emeritus Historian	Bruce Thompson <i>Texas A&M University</i>		Ryan Glaman <i>Tarleton State University</i>
Deputy Historian	Victor Willson <i>Texas A&M University</i>	Members-at-Large: 2023-2026	Aaron Zimmerman <i>Texas Tech University</i>
Deputy Treasurer	Grant Morgan <i>Baylor University</i>		Michelle Peters <i>University of Houston—Clear Lake</i>
Newsletter Editor	Wendi Zimmer <i>Texas A&M University</i> Peter Boedeker <i>Baylor College of Medicine</i>	SERA Early Career Faculty Mentoring Initiative	Alonzo Flowers <i>University of Texas—San Antonio</i>
Audio Visual	Shirley Matteson <i>Texas Tech University</i>	SERA Early Career Research Grant Initiative	Bethanie Pletcher <i>Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi</i>
			Carol Waters <i>University of Houston—Clear Lake</i>
			Michelle Peters <i>University of Houston—Clear Lake</i>
			Tonya Jeffery <i>University of Houston—Downtown</i>
			Chrissy Cross <i>Stephen F. Austin State University</i>
			Shirley Matteson <i>Texas Tech University</i>

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

2023–2024 Graduate Student Council

Bethanie Ivie

*Texas A&M University -
Texarkana*



Sheena Blain

University of Houston Clear-Lake



Erik Torres

Sam Houston State University



Sameera Massey

*Texas A&M University - Corpus
Christi*



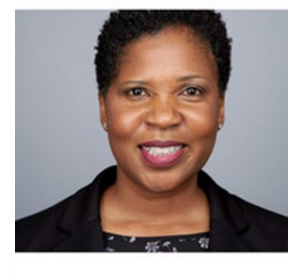
Aminah Crawford

Texas A&M University



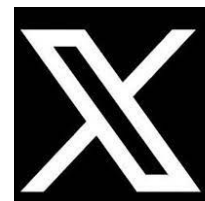
Nicole Burkett

Representative-at-Large



Chrissy Eubank

Texas Tech University



Follow us on X
(formerly Twitter)

@EdResearchSERA



*Electronic ballots
coming to your
inbox soon!*

2023 SERA Election Ballot

People who were members prior to August 2023 are eligible to vote in the SERA 2023 election and will receive an electronic ballot. If you experience any difficulty accessing your ballot or have any questions concerning the election, please contact Linda Zientek at lrzientek@yahoo.com and Susan Troncoso-Skidmore at skidmore@shsu.edu.

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

Candidates Selected for the Ballot

Position	Candidate	Institution
Program Chair	Lesley Leach	Tarleton State University
Member-at-Large	Elvira Allison	Texas A&M University—Kingsville
Member-at-Large	Stephen Gruber	University of Houston—Clear Lake
Member-at-Large	Sara Lawrence	Texas A&M University—Texarkana
Member-at-Large	Amy Ray	Sam Houston State University
Member-at-Large	Ronald Rhone	Tarleton State University

About the HARE Electoral System

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

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

**Join us at the Hilton Arlington Hotel
Arlington, TX
February 14-16, 2024**

Important Dates:

- Receipt of Conference Registration—by Check October 12, 2023
- Receipt of Conference Registration—by PayPal October 19, 2023
- SERA Elections Begin Mid October 2023
- SERA Elections Close Early November 2023
- Proposal Decisions Emailed to First Author Early November 2023
- Draft of Conference Program Posted Early December 2023
- SERA Linda Reichwein Zientek Outstanding Paper Award Submission January 3, 2024
- Graduate Student Paper Award Submission January 8, 2024
- Dean's Award Submission January 8, 2024



Photo courtesy of Arlington Convention & Visitors Bureau