



# FERA Newsletter

Volume 18, Number 2

June 2009

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*Ringling College of Art & Design*

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*University of South Florida*

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## The President's Corner

**Wendy Dickinson**

Greetings! We have many exciting announcements regarding our upcoming 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, scheduled for November 18-20, 2009, in Orlando, FL. First, we will be meeting again at the Rosen Centre Hotel - and a link is already available, via our FERA website, to make hotel reservations at our discounted conference rate. Secondly, the **Call for Proposals** is now posted on our FERA website, <http://feraonline.org> and is also included within this Newsletter. We look forward to receiving your Proposals by the July 17, 2009 deadline.

Next, our Program Chairperson, **John Ferron**, is crafting a great Program for our Annual Meeting. **Linda Blanton** (Florida International University) will be the Keynote Speaker for the Wednesday Opening Session, speaking on the topic of teaching, and teacher education, for inclusion. **Greg Hancock** (University of Maryland) will present as an Invited Speaker on structural equation modeling. **Marc Matthews** (College Board) will conduct a Workshop, and the Florida Department of Education (**FLDOE**) will conduct a Panel session. We will also host the second annual **Graduate Student Poster Session**.

**Abbas Tashakkori** (Florida International University) will serve as Coordinator for an extended session on *Quantifying Biology in the Classroom* (QBIC). Abbas states the session objective is to present a comprehensive view of the QBIC Program to educators who are involved in teaching biological sciences both within district schools and at the university level, as well as to future educators currently studying in universities. QBIC session presenters include **Ophelia Weeks** (Overview of QBIC); **Bryan Dewsberry** and **Thomas Pitzer** (Lab concepts); **Enrique Villamor** (Math Integration); **Ramon Gomez** (Statistics Integration); and Conclusions and Implications for Practice (**Weeks & Tashakkori**).

We will conclude on Friday with the **Annual Business Meeting**, with Awards and Recognitions, and Installation of New Officers. Please make your hotel reservations early and plan to join us at the Annual Meeting – this is a great opportunity to share research ideas and findings, and a wonderful setting to socialize with colleagues!

On behalf of the FERA Executive Board, we look forward to seeing everyone in Orlando this November. ~ *Wendy Dickinson*

***FERA Graduate Student Coordinators***

**(2007-2009) Karina Gattamorta**  
**[k.alvarez1@umiami.edu](mailto:k.alvarez1@umiami.edu)**

**(2008-2010) Kristina Pineau**  
**[kpineau@fsu.edu](mailto:kpineau@fsu.edu)**

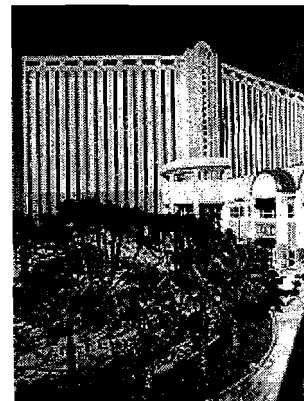
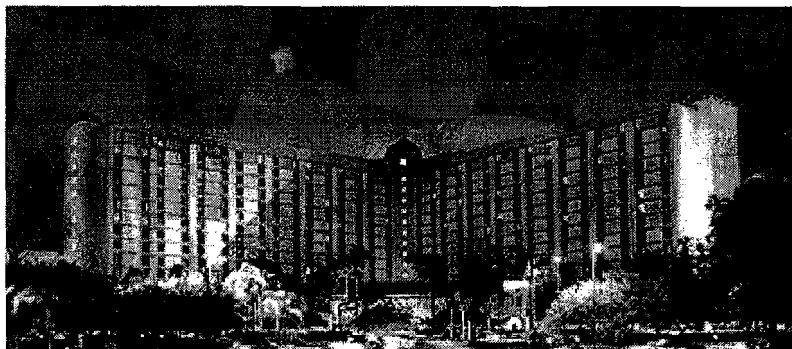
**Many thanks to our Graduate Student Coordinators for their assistance with the  
Graduate Student Poster Session!**  
**See the 2009 Call for Proposals, at <http://feraonline.org>, for information on participation  
in the second annual Graduate Student Poster Session this November.**



***November 18 – 20, 2009***

## *Did you make your hotel reservations?*

The Rosen Centre Hotel has a reservation page set up just for FERA Members. Go to <http://feraonline.org> and click on the hotel picture. This will take you to a reservation page specifically designed to give you a discount conference rate of \$104.00. A block of rooms has been reserved for November 18 - 20, 2009. The special room rate will be available until October 14th or until the group block is sold-out, whichever comes first. ***Don't delay – reserve today!***



### **Rosen Centre Hotel**

9840 International Drive  
Orlando, FL 32819  
(407) 996-9840

The hotel is located in the heart of Orlando. The November FERA meeting in Orlando is the perfect place to catch up on all that is happening in the world of educational research, measurement, and evaluation. And, it's an ideal setting for bringing the family along and enjoy the areas many attractions – including Disney World, Universal Studios Florida, Disney's Hollywood Studios, SeaWorld Orlando, and Cirque du Soleil's La Nouba.

#### *Thank you to our 2009 FERA Program Committee Chairpersons:*

<b>Program Chair, Annual Meeting</b>	<b>John Ferron, University of South Florida</b>
<b>Paper Proposal Review</b>	<b>Salih Binici, Florida Department of Education</b>
<b>Distinguished Paper Award</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Educational Researcher of the Year</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Russell Kropp Award</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Evaluation Committee</b>	<b>Denise Cantalupo, Sarasota County Schools</b>
<b>Local Arrangements</b>	<b>Debbie Hahs-Vaughn, University of Central Florida</b>
<b>Sponsors and Vendors</b>	<b>Donna Buckner, Polk County Schools</b>
<b>Awards and Recognition</b>	<b>Ron &amp; Kathy Dailey, Hillsborough and Polk County Schools</b>

# Call for Proposals

Florida Educational Research Association  
2009 Annual Meeting — Orlando, FL  
November 18 - 20, 2009

John Ferron, Meeting Program Committee Chair  
Salih Binici, Paper Proposal Review Committee Chair  
Deadline for Receipt **July 17, 2009**

## General Information

The fifty-fourth Annual Meeting of the Florida Educational Research Association will be held November 18-20, 2009, at the Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando, Florida. Following are guidelines for submitting paper and symposium proposals for the meeting.

Two new changes to the paper proposal review process became in effect since 2006: First, persons submitting a paper proposal for review must be current active members of FERA. Those who paid annual dues at the time of registration for the 2008 FERA Annual meeting are considered to have active membership. Non-members who wish to submit proposals will have an opportunity to join FERA at the time of proposal submission. Secondly, members whose papers are accepted will be asked to register in advance for the 2009 FERA Annual Meeting in order to ensure that the paper presentation is included in the program and appears in the program bulletin.

Paper, graduate student poster and symposium proposals will be considered for inclusion in the program according to the guidelines. All proposals will be judged for significance of the research, theoretical framework, methods and analysis employed, interpretation of results, and quality of writing. Two or more reviewers will review each proposal.

Timely submission of proposals is essential for program preparation. **Deadline for receipt of all paper and symposium proposals is 11:59 p.m. Friday, July 17th, 2009.** In fairness to proposal reviewers, this is a firm deadline. **Forward proposals or questions about proposals to:**

Salih Binici  
Florida Department of Education  
325 W. Gaines Street Suite 414  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400  
Email: [fera.proposal@gmail.com](mailto:fera.proposal@gmail.com)

**All program proposals must be submitted electronically** via e-mail attachment to; [fera.proposal@gmail.com](mailto:fera.proposal@gmail.com). The program will include papers, graduate student posters, and symposia on topics and issues of current interest to education professionals, especially those in Florida. Topics may include but not limited to research on:

Large-scale Assessment  
Technology in Classrooms  
Student's Learning  
Schools and Leadership  
Statistics

Assessment on Special Populations  
Students in Higher Education  
Schools and Teachers  
Test Construction  
Psychometrics

The program also will have invited speakers and papers or symposia presented by prominent educational research, measurement, and evaluation theorists and practitioners. The following are guidelines for submission.

### **Paper Presentations**

Paper presentations should be prepared for an average 15 minute time span. If needed, please include a note in the Proposal Information to request a different allocation of time for the presentation. Individual papers will be grouped by topic into paper sessions. Each paper session will include an introduction by a session facilitator, presentation of the papers, and audience questions and reactions. All proposals for papers will be considered for the Distinguished Paper Award. Additional information on this award is included on the next page.

### **Graduate Student Posters**

This is a graduate student only session. A poster session provides opportunities for graduate students to present their research accomplishments in a more interactive setting. For a paper to be presented in the Graduate Student Poster session, the first author of the paper must be a graduate student. All presented posters are considered for the Distinguished Graduate Student Poster Award. Graduate Student Poster proposals will have a separate review process and deadline. Details will be announced by the graduate student representatives soon.

### **Symposia**

A symposium is intended to provide an opportunity to examine specific problems, topics or projects from a variety of perspectives. Papers presented in a symposium should be on the same theme and should complement each other. A symposium should provide an opportunity for presentations as well as dialogue, critique and audience comments. Presentations should be organized within a 60-90 minute time period.

The organizer of a symposium is responsible for suggesting the topic, securing speakers, and arranging for a facilitator. If the symposium is accepted by the Program Committee, the organizer is responsible for assuring that everyone named as a participant (whether a presenter or facilitator) will be present at the meeting. If the organizer so desires, the Program Committee will secure a facilitator for the session. Should circumstances prevent a participant from attending the meeting, it is the organizer's responsibility to secure a suitable replacement and notify the FERA Program Committee of the substitution as soon as possible. The organizer is responsible for notifying all other symposium participants. The Program Committee will notify only the organizer.

### **Other Presentation Formats**

Alternative formats for presenting research will be considered. Indicate on the proposal cover sheet if you would prefer presenting in an alternative format and suggest the format you desire.

## PROPOSAL SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

***FERA members may submit paper proposals for consideration. Non-members must join FERA at the time the proposal is submitted for review.*** Proposals must be submitted electronically as e-mail attachments. Microsoft Word is the strongly preferred format, but rich text files (.rtf) or plain text files (.txt) are acceptable alternatives. **Create two files: the Proposal Information and the Proposal Summary.**

The **Proposal Information** file should include the following specific items. You need not copy each item; simply enumerate your information in the same order as given below.

- a. Title of the proposal
- b. Desired format (paper, symposium, etc.)
- c. First author's name and institutional affiliation
- d. First author's e-mail address, USPS address, telephone number, and fax number
- e. Names of co-authors or co-presenters (if co-presenters will address different topics, such as in a symposium, list the topic for each co-presenter) and their institutional affiliations
- f. If a symposium, list the names and institutional affiliations of the organizer(s) and facilitator of the symposium.
- g. The Abstract of the proposal. It should not exceed 100 words.

Prepare the **Proposal Summary**, not to exceed five pages, double spaced.

**DO NOT IDENTIFY THE AUTHOR(S) OR THEIR INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATIONS ANYWHERE IN THE SUMMARY.** This will provide for a blind review of the proposal.

The **proposal summary** should include:

- a. Title of the paper or symposium
- b. Purpose
- c. Rationale and background
- d. Data source (population, sample, setting)
- e. Method
- f. Results and conclusions
- g. Limitations
- h. Implications

By 11:59 p.m. **July 17, 2009**, send the two electronic files to:

**Email: [fera.proposal@gmail.com](mailto:fera.proposal@gmail.com)**

For non-members: By July 17, 2009, go online to complete FERA membership form and pay membership dues. **Please note that papers will only be reviewed and considered for FERA members.**

It is scheduled that you will be notified the status of your paper by August 31, 2009.

If your paper is accepted for presentation, please:

- a. Submit your registration form, membership renewal, and payment for the 2009 FERA Annual Meeting no later than August 31, 2009. Please note that papers will not be included in the program if the author has not registered for the conference.
- b. Send a copy of your completed paper to the session facilitator no later than Wednesday, October 22, 2009 (four weeks before the conference).
- c. Attend the November 18-20, 2009 FERA Annual Meeting to present your paper.

### **Distinguished Paper Award**

All proposals for paper sessions will be considered for the Distinguished Paper Award. If a distinguished paper is selected, the paper is automatically accepted for presentation at the 2009 AERA Annual Meeting. The author(s) of the distinguished paper will be recognized at a general session of the 2009 FERA Annual Meeting. The person receiving the award must be present at both the general session of the 2009 FERA Annual Meeting at which the award is announced and the 2009 AERA Annual Meeting. In the event that no papers are judged to be of distinguished quality, the award will not be given. Although all proposals will be considered for the Distinguished Paper Award, final eligibility is limited to papers whose author(s):

1. Receive an invitation from the Chairperson of the Distinguished Paper Award (**DPA**) Committee to submit the full paper for consideration;
2. Submit the full paper by October 22, 2009, to the Chairperson of the DPA Committee;
3. Present the paper at the 2009 FERA Annual Meeting;
4. Attend the general session of 2009 FERA at which the award is announced; and
5. Agree to present the paper at the 2010 Annual Meeting of AERA.

### **Distinguished Graduate Student Poster Award**

All graduate student posters presented at the conference will be considered for the Distinguished Graduate Student Poster Award. The Graduate Student Poster Award winner will be recognized at the general session of 2009 FERA and on the FERA web site.