

FERA Newsletter

President's Corner: Samuel Whitten

Greetings

I hope your academic year has begun well. We are excitedly preparing for the 58th annual Florida Educational Research Association (FERA) conference to be held Wednesday through Friday, November 20-22, 2013. We will return to the Hilton University of Florida Conference Center Hotel in Gainesville, Florida.

President Elect, Salih Binici, has coordinated an exciting program of speakers and topics that will be timely and appealing to educational researchers from K-12, post-secondary, or private industry educational settings.

Please make your travel arrangements now.

This year's full program will soon be posted on the FERA website. In addition, conference and hotel registration are located on the website. [Urgent: Hotel registration at the reduced rate is open only until October 31st on a space available basis.] I also urge you to register for the conference as early as possible so we may plan for adequate accommodations in our meeting rooms and for our excellent sponsored events. Last year's opening night reception almost exceeded capacity. This year's visit to the University of Florida, Samuel P. Harn Art Museum will be an opportunity you don't want to miss.

This year, over 40 reviewed papers were accepted for presentations. The conference offers invited presentations on Multidimensional Scaling of PARCC like items, Value Added implementation, Qualitative Evaluation, TeachLivE and more. The conference, through Dr. Bruce Hall's sponsorship, offers a graduate student lunch on Thursday, with discussion of relevant topics for the transition to the workforce. In our pre-conference session Wednesday morning, Dr. Morgan Wang will discuss Statistical Data Mining Applications in Education.

Please plan to join us through Friday's sessions and our closing luncheon. The sponsored lunch is provided free for those registered for the conference and for a small fee to guests. You will be asked as you access the registration desk if you are attending the luncheon so our sponsor can plan for sufficient meals to be prepared.

FERA

www.fearonline.org

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NEWSLETTER EDITORS:

Albert D. Ritzhaupt**Donna L. Buckner**

President's Corner: Samuel Whitten (con't)



In closing, thank you to the board members and many committee chairs for their support and efforts this year to make this a meaningful opportunity for professional sharing and learning. Thank you especially to past president, Bonnie Swan, for her mentoring of me in the president's role and duties. Please note the board members, committee chairs, paper reviewers, sponsors, presenters, graduate staffers, and past presidents listed in this year's program as they are the ones who make this organization successful.

Samuel R. Whitten

FERA President

2012-13

FERA Graduate Student News

As November fast approaches, we all look forward to the 58th Annual Meeting of FERA! As with previous years, Graduate Student events will be held on Thursday, November 21. After the morning general session, graduate students will meet for a delicious lunch sponsored by our long-time friend of FERA Graduate Students, Bruce Hall. While we dine together we will have the opportunity to network with fellow graduate researchers, and hear some sage advice about how hiring decisions are made in our field. This kind of information can really make a difference for you professionally, so I encourage you not to miss it!

We will also hold our annual FERA Graduate Student Business Meeting after the presentations. As our senior graduate student representative, Matt Lavery, rotates out of the position, this will be the opportunity to make nominations for the next incoming graduate student representative. After the annual meeting, Sungur Gurel will become the senior graduate representative and will need a new junior representative to work with and mentor for the following year. This is an exciting position and provides you the opportunity to work with some of the leaders in our field! If you have any interest in running for graduate student representative, I highly encourage you to be present at the meeting!

Finally, after the luncheon and business meeting, we will move the annual Graduate Student Poster Session. This session is always a great opportunity to see what your fellow graduate students are working on. Don't miss this opportunity to network with your colleagues and to find common research interests with your peers! Some of my most valuable collaborations have started as conversations in front of a poster at sessions like this.

FERA Graduate Student News (con't)

“FERA Graduate Students to Gather Again in Gainesville to Share Research and Offer Collegial Support.”

During the poster session, you will be asked to provide feedback for your peers on their work. Those who attend the poster session will be asked to fill out a rubric and provide some feedback to the presenters. This feedback will also be used to identify the best poster which will be recognized during the awards luncheon on the final day of the conference. This is always a great event and should not be missed!

As always, graduate students are encouraged to volunteer to work either the registration booth, or to provide technology support during the conference. As a special incentive, confirmed graduate student volunteers will have their conference fee waived. Volunteers will still be required to pay FERA membership dues, but that makes this conference exceptionally affordable! If you would like to volunteer, please contact our Local Arrangements Chair, Dr. Albert Ritzhaupt, at aritzhaupt@coe.ufl.edu.

I hope to see all of the FERA Graduate Student members at the conference again this year! This is always one of the best events that I attend all year, and I'm sure that you will find it valuable too! Invite some other graduate students from your institution, too. The more the merrier!

Message from Editor of Florida Journal of Educational Research (FJER)

Dear FERA Members,

FJER is seeking members to serve on its editorial review board. Editorial review board members will be highlighted on the journal website, which is located at:

<http://feraonline.org/fjer>. Editorial review board members will be expected to review approximately 2-3 manuscripts annually. Editorial assignments will be made based on an individual's research interests. We would like to have editorial review board members representing both K-12 school districts and universities dispersed across the state of Florida.

If you are interested in serving as an editorial review board member, please send an email to FJER's Executive Editor: Dr. Albert D. Ritzhaupt (aritzhaupt@gmail.com). In the email, please include your full name, affiliation, and research interests. We thank you for your support of educational research in the state of Florida.

Cordially,

Albert D. Ritzhaupt



FERA Conference

November 20 - 22, 2013

**Hilton's University of Florida Hotel
and Conference Center**

1714 SW 34th Street,

Gainesville, Florida 32607

Tel: 1-352-371-3600

Fax: 1-352-371-0306

Professional Development Workshop

"Big Data and Data Mining".

Morgan C. Wang, UCF

Wednesday, November 20th,

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Join us for a Free Lunch!

The Awards Ceremony and

Induction of New Officers follows.

Friday, November 22,

12:30 - 2:00 p.m.



Russell Kropp Award

**Katheen Dailey, St. Lucie County
Public Schools, is accepting
nominations for the Russel
Kropp Award.**

**Please contact her for further
details at: kathleen.dailey@stlucieschools.org**

Educational Re- searcher of the Year Award

**Betsy Becker, Florida State Uni-
versity, is accepting nomina-
tions for the Educational Re-
searcher of the Year Award.
Please contact her for further
details at: bbecker@fsu.edu**