

FERA Newsletter

President's Corner: Bonnie Swan

Greetings Friends and Colleagues,

Starting next month, our incoming President, Sam Whitten, will carry on the practice of keeping members updated on Board activities and other issues and events. Many of you know Sam from his work as assistant director of Accountability Research and Assessment with Hillsborough County Schools. He has done a great job this year doubling up as FERA Program Chair.

Lee Baldwin, FERA Nominations Chair has announced our new FERA board nominees: Salih Binici, FLDOE as President Elect, Ina Helmick, Supervisor Hillsborough County Public Schools as Secretary, and Albert Ritzhaupt, Assistant Professor, University of Florida as Director. Additional persons may be nominated by petition within the next 30 days.

We have updated conference news to share for the 57th Annual Meeting at the Hilton University of Florida Conference Center Hotel in Gainesville November 14-16. The conference program should be available by October 15, when we'll email an announcement to members and post it on the FERA website.

- Know that this is a busy time so book your hotel room soon! Register by October 31 to be eligible for the FERA discounted rate.
- We had 59 papers submitted, about the same as in the past few years.
- Onsite Registration and check-in will remain open, 8:00am to 4:00pm and will close 10:00am on Friday, thanks to our graduate student volunteers.
- Please join us for this year's Professional Development Pre-Conference Session conducted by Judis Lombana, V.P. of Research, Grants and Government Relations, at the Museum of Science and Industry beginning at 9:00am Wednesday followed by
- Our Opening Session begins at 12:00 noon Wednesday with Jeffrey Steedle and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation on Common Core Standards and related research.
- General Sessions you won't want to miss, include topics on Value Added Modeling in Florida by Juan Copa, Director of Research and Analysis in Educator Performance, FLDOE; Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) presented by Vince Vargas, Florida PARCC Project Director; and others.
- We have an exciting reception planned, including a night at the Florida National History Museum.

In my closing message, I want to thank some of the many people who have been a source of support and guidance throughout the past year. In addition to my fellow Board members, all of whom are outstanding, I want to recognize our committee chairs and other major contributors: Anabelle Andon and Matthew Lavery, Graduate Student Coordinators; Lee Baldwin, Nominations Chair; Betsy Becker, Educational Researcher of the Year Chair, Donna Buckner, Publications Chair and Newsletter Co-Editor; Wendy Dickinson, Professional

FERA

www.fearonline.org

Executive Committee

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Bonnie Swan

University of Central Florida

President Elect

Samuel Whitten

Hillsborough County Schools

Past President

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Orange County Schools

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Director

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NEWSLETTER EDITORS:

Albert D. Ritzhaupt

Donna L. Buckner

President's Corner: Bonnie Swan (con't)



Education and Training Chair; Julie McLeod, Audit Chair; Albert Ritzhaupt, Newsletter Co-Editor and Local Arrangements Chair who is currently resurrecting FERA's Florida Journal of Educational Research as our new Editor; Erhan Selcuck Haciomeroglu, Distinguished Paper Award Chair; Wendy Williams, Webmaster; Samuel Whitten, Program Chair; and so many others. Last year, when I asked each of them if they would be willing to serve, it was not clear if the committee structure would endure or how it would be transformed in such lean times. But I knew that I could count on them to be productive and positive. They are all very active and I hope they will volunteer to serve again this year. They have each done an excellent job and a lot of hard work on behalf of the Board and FERA and have been wonderful sources for support. I look forward to continuing to work with them in 2013, when many of them will likely serve again. THANKS AGAIN!

Finally, I want to thank Frank Gilbert, Past President for his outstanding mentorship and friendship. He has been an ongoing wonderful source of encouragement and inspiration for years. THANKS FRANK!!

For me, one of the best parts of being FERA President has been getting to know and working with great people, many of whom I wouldn't have met if I had not been in this role. I am so honored to have had the opportunity to represent and serve you.

Best wishes! Many and deepest thanks for all you do for education.

Bonnie Swan

FERA President

"Also, if you are interested in volunteering, you may have your conference registration waived. Contact Albert Ritzhaupt at aritzhaupt@gmail.com for more information."

FERA Graduate Student News

As the conference nears, we are busy making preparations for the professional development session that will take place during the graduate student business meeting. This should take place the same day as the poster presentations. During the professional development session, which is free for all graduate student members, we will go over topics such as how to compose your curriculum vitae, where to look for jobs, how to write cover letters, and what to expect during a job interview. We would be delighted to see you there. We will have a guest speaker who has recent experience with job applications as well job interviews and acquiring a job.

We will also be recruiting next year's graduate student coordinator, who will be serving a two-year term alongside Matt. This is a great service opportunity and certainly something that employers value as they review job applications.

Don't forget to register for the conference as soon as possible as well as ensure that your

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membership dues are up to date. Also, if you are interested in volunteering, you may have your conference registration waived. Contact Albert Ritzhaupt at aritzhaupt@gmail.com for more information.

Always remember that you can contact us, Anabelle and Matt, with any inquiries you may have regarding graduate student issues.

Respectfully,

Anabelle Andon and Matt Lavery



Florida Journal of Educational Research

Dear FERA Members,

As noted in the first newsletter this year, we are in the process of re-launching the Florida Journal of Educational Research (FJER). FJER was first launched more than 40 years ago. However, the journal has not been actively published since 2004. We are ready to re-launch the journal in 2012, but we sincerely need your support. FJER is seeking members to serve on its editorial review board. FJER has integrated a web-based solution known as Open Journal Systems for the peer-review and dissemination process. The software will fully facilitate every stage of publishing process from the submission of articles to final publication.

Each manuscript that is accepted for publication will have its own unique number assigned to it. We anticipate publishing 10 – 12 articles per year. However, since the journal is an online resource, we can theoretically publish an unlimited number of articles based on the number of submissions that successfully pass through the peer review process.

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. Dr. Ritzhaupt will follow up with instructions on how to create an account on the journal website. We thank you for your support of educational research in the state of Florida.

Cordially,

Albert D. Ritzhaupt

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FERA Conference

November 14 – 16, 2012

**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

Dr. Judith Lombana, MOSI

**Reflective Practice in Informal Set-
tings: The REFLECTS Model**

**EVETA, the Electronic Virtual Environ-
ment Teaching Assistant.**

Wednesday, November 14th,

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

GRADUATE STUDENTS

Registration Desk Volunteer Shifts Still Available

Contact Albert D. Ritzhaupt

aritzhaupt@gmail.com

**Graduate students who sign up for a shift at the regis-
tration desk will receive complimentary conference**

Russell Kropp Award

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

**Please contact her for further
details at: [kath-
leen.dailey@stlucieschools.org](mailto: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**

Stay Late!

**Join us for a sponsored Lunch, the
Awards Ceremony, and**

Induction of New Officers

Friday, November 16,

12:30 – 2:00 p.m.