

# **Florida Educational Research Association**

***60<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting***



**Hilton Altamonte Springs**

**Altamonte Springs, FL**

**November 18 - 20, 2015**

# Hotel Floor Plan



**This program is a tribute to John Hilderbrand, Ph.D. who was one of the Founders of  
Florida Educational Research Association  
(FERA)**



**Tribute**

**John Anthony Hilderbrand  
June 13, 1945 - November 1, 2015**

**“Honoring an educator who enriched the lives he touched with his legacy.”**

Dr. John Hilderbrand 70, passed away peacefully at his home on November 1, 2015. He was born in Woodbury, NJ on June 13, 1945. He was predeceased by his parents, John Hilderbrand and Rose Gattuso Hilderbrand. He attended Florida State University with his father and, after graduating with a degree in Math Education, John went on to receive his Master's Degree in Education Research from the University of Miami (FL) and his Doctorate of Philosophy in Educational Research, Evaluation, Accountability, and Administration from The Ohio State University. John moved to the Tampa Bay area with his wife, Paula, in 1977 to begin his 32 year career as the Director of Testing and Evaluation for Hillsborough County Public Schools. He was also an adjunct professor at the University of South Florida where he taught graduate level Measurement and Research classes. John served as a Consultant on various education and testing projects across the country and was a highly respected, published researcher in the field.

John became an active member of FERA in 1977, shortly after assuming the position of Director of Assessment, Accountability and Evaluation for Hillsborough County Schools, an office he held until his retirement in 2009. With his broad testing, research and evaluation perspective, he immediately became a leader in FERA and encouraged the members of his staff to become active in FERA as well. Over the past 35 years, no school district in the state has been more supportive or

more involved in FERA than Hillsborough, a fact very much a result of John's belief in the need for school districts and universities to communicate concerning educational issues, solve educational problems and expand student opportunities. An inspection of the programs of FERA Annual Meetings over the past several decades shows that virtually every year, John and his staff contributed relevant, timely presentations on the major issues in assessment, evaluation and accountability facing Florida and the nation at large. Through the years, John has enriched the organization through his presence and through the presence of those he introduced to FERA.

John's record of leadership and service in FERA is exemplary, and possibly unmatched. At one time or another, he has served as President, Director, Chair of the Nominating Committee, Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee, Chair of the Russell P. Kropp Award Committee, and Chair of the Sponsors, Vendors and Social Arrangements Committee. In a few cases (for example with reference to the Sponsors, Vendors and Social Arrangements Committee), he assumed chair responsibilities more than once. In addition to performing the duties of chair, he often served as a member of one committee or another and frequently assisted in the proposal review process. Such was his leadership ability that he was elected to the position of President-Elect of FERA only three years after becoming active in the organization.

In 2003 FERA presented the Russell P. Kropp Award to John, thereby recognizing him as a Florida administrator "who demonstrated in an exemplary fashion the use of educational research or evaluation in educational decision making."

Last but not least, John was the primary author of the FERA logo (the normal curve superimposed over a bi-modal distribution and wrapped in a circle) that appeared on the cover of all FERA programs since 1985. The logo evolved while working on the FERA program with Kitty Kaney in *RoughRiders* restaurant in Ybor City. Kitty was responsible for printing the program that year and thought the cover needed a logo to formalize the presentation. John scribbled on a napkin and said "how about this?" The scribbling resulted in the logo that the organization uses to this day. Finally, in 2010 John recognized as an Honorary Member of the organization that benefited so extensively from his energy and his efforts.

John was also a member of the American Educational Research Association since 1971, served as a Board member for the Florida Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development (FASCD), and was President of Florida Association of Test Administrators (FATA) from 1980-1988. He was also a devoted member of the Pinellas County Seminole Booster Club.

After retiring, John and his wife enjoyed going on cruises, collecting art, boating and fishing. He is survived by his loving wife of 45 years, Paula Jean Adams; daughters Dena Hilderbrand and Tracy (Vincent) Piazza; three grandchildren, Sofia, Ava Rose, and Isabella Piazza; and his sister Kathryn Wilbur.

**REGISTRATION****8:00 AM – 5:00 PM****Registration Desk****PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSION****8:30 AM – 10:00 AM****Salons D & E**

## High Scores are Good and Low Scores are Bad!

**Speaker:** Frank Gilbert, Ph.D.  
Orange County Public Schools

**Moderator:** Wendy Dickinson, Ph.D. – Past President of FERA  
Hillsborough County Schools

**Description:**

After decades of reporting test scores, Dr. Gilbert has developed ways of communicating test results that do not require a degree in psychometrics. He will review seasoned methods to explain complicated testing results to lay audiences. The premise is: It doesn't matter how much you know about testing; if your audience can't use the results you're providing to make sound educational decisions. If you are interested in learning more from one of the state's experts, join us during our annual professional development timeslot.

**Biography:** Dr. Frank Gilbert is a seasoned test administrator for Orange County School District where he serves in the capacity of Director of Test Development and Measurement. Before joining Orange County, Dr. Gilbert received his doctorate of philosophy in educational psychology in 1984 from Kansas State University and his Bachelor of Science in education from the University of Kansas. Previously, he was the Testing Director for Salinas Public School District in Kansas.

## Issues in Large Scale Assessments

**Speakers:** Dr. Akihito Kamata & Dr. Harold Doran

**Moderator:** Salih Binici, Ph.D. - Past President of FERA  
Florida Department of Education

**Description:** After reviewing issues of large scale assessment, the emphasis will be on assessing oral reading fluency (ORF) functions as an indicator of overall reading skill. For this reason, ORF assessment has become popular in schools especially in elementary grade levels. However, a traditional ORF assessment comes with some limitations. In this presentation, an on-going effort to develop a new ORF assessment system will be introduced. The new assessment system incorporates a speech recognition engine for automated scoring, as well as a new psychometric model for improved scoring of reading speed. It is anticipated that the new assessment system will substantially improve currently available oral fluency measures both from efficiency and accuracy perspectives.

### Biographies:

**Dr. Akihito Kamata** is the Executive Director at the Center on Research and Evaluation (CORE). He has also been a Professor at Southern Methodist University since August 2013 (Department of Education Policy & Leadership, Center on Research and Evaluation, Simmons School of Education & Human Development; Department of Psychology, Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences). Prior to joining SMU, Dr. Kamata was a faculty member at the University of Oregon and Florida State University.

**Dr. Harold Doran** is the Managing Director for the American Institutes for Research (AIR) in Washington, D.C. Dr. Doran is responsible for directing large-scale psychometric activities and value-added model activities. He serves as the lead psychometrician at AIR and for Florida's FSA assessments. Research interests are: computational statistics with an emphasis on estimation for large data problems, the impact of measurement error in regression-based models, open source software development, and item response theory. Dr. Doran completed his doctorate work in Educational Leadership and Educational Psychology at the University of Arizona in 2001. He attended Northern Arizona University and received a Master's degree in Educational Leadership and Administration.

## **Standard Setting for Florida State Assessments: English Language Arts, Mathematics, & End of Course Assessments**

**Speaker:** Dr. Gary Phillips

**Moderator:** Betsy Becker - President of FERA  
Florida State University

**Description:** A review of the standard setting process implemented for the new Florida State Assessments (FSA) will be reviewed from a technical perspective. This includes the new Florida State Assessments in English Language Arts and Math, and the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards in Algebra, Geometry, and Civics.

**Biography:** Gary Phillips is Vice President and Institute Fellow at American Institutes for Research. His research examines statistical linking and international benchmarking. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky with joint training from the College of Education and Department of Statistics. He is the author of several hundred conference presentations and has published in journals such as the *Educational Researcher*, *Educational Measurement: Issues and Practice*, and *Applied Psychological Measurement*. Dr. Phillips previously served as Acting Commissioner of the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), U.S. Department of Education where he was a member of the Senior Executive Service and directed the work of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS), and the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA).

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**Coffee Break Sponsored by NWEA****2:00 - 3:00 p.m.**

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## **SPONSORED PRESENTATION**

**2:30 PM– 3:15 PM**

**Salon B**

***Sponsored by Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA)***

### ***The Purpose Driven Assessment Program: How to regain control of your assessment program, reduce over testing, and drive student learning.***

**Description:** Most school systems have compliance-driven testing systems that tend to be determined by the Federal and State politics and policies of the day. The testing systems change whenever the state requirements change, and may not be regularly reviewed or redundant assessments may not be eliminated. Since compliance-driven systems tend to emphasize punishment over improvement, opportunities to use assessment to inform instruction in schools and nurture the professional development of teachers may be lost. Purpose-driven assessment programs are designed for the long-term. They do meet the compliance requirements of their state, but they define their own local goals for assessment, emphasize using assessment for improvement, eliminate duplicative or useless tests, and provide data that is useful for all stakeholders. Participants will learn the principles needed to transform their existing assessment system into one that is truly Purpose-Driven.

**John Cronin, Ph.D.:** Senior Director of Research at NWEA. Dr. Cronin's recent work has focused on student achievement and the Common Core, teacher evaluation policy, and the impact of accountability initiatives on schools and students. Dr. Cronin provides consultation related to testing to several organizations, including the U.S. Department of Education, the Confederation of Oregon School Administrators (COSA), and the New York State Council of School Superintendents. He has published articles on these issues in the Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA) journal and the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) journal; additionally, he's been a featured blogger on Huffington Post. Dr. Cronin holds a Ph.D. in Educational Studies from Emory University.

See more at:

<https://www.nwea.org/research/innovation-leadership/our-researchers/#sthash.Q6tXH3jV.dpuf>

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## **Structural Equation Modeling**

**2:15 PM - 3:45 PM**

**Dogwood**

### ***Evaluating Performance of Four SEM Models with Small Numbers of Indicators using Maximum Likelihood and Bayesian Estimation Methods: A Monte Carlo Study***

- Thanh V. Pham, University of South Florida
- Diep Nguyen, University of South Florida
- Eun Sook Kim, University of South Florida

### ***Testing the Effectiveness of Three-step Approaches for Auxiliary Variables in Latent Class Analysis***

- Zachary K. Collier, University of Florida
- Walter L. Leite, University of Florida



# Wednesday, November 18

## ***Sample-Corrected Robust Model Fit Statistics for Diagonally Weighted Least Squares Estimator***

- Yan Xia, Florida State University
- Yanyun Yang, Florida State University

## **The Effects of Estimation Methods in Multilevel SEM with Unequal Family Groups and Small Samples**

- Yu Su, University of Florida
- Walter L. Leite, University of Florida

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### **Research on Principals and Schools**

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2:15 PM - 3:45 PM

Salon A

## ***A Study of Principal Outcomes Related to Stress, and Principal Coping Mechanisms***

- Valerie A. Storey, University of Central Florida
- Neffisatu Dambo, Southern Illinois University

## ***Highly Effective: The Principal/Teacher Paradigm***

- Jilliane McCardle, University of Florida

## ***Technology Awareness, Access, and Training: Connecting Schools, Community, Parents, and Students***

- Albert D. Ritzhaupt, University of Florida
- Tina N. Hohlfeld, University of Florida
- Matthew Wilson, University of Florida
- Kara Dawson, University of Florida

### **Psychometric Validation**

2:15 PM – 3:45 PM

Conrad

## ***Validation of the Revised Technology User Perceptions Survey (TUPS)***

- Albert D. Ritzhaupt, University of Florida
- Anne Corinne Huggins-Manley, University of Florida
- Kara Dawson, University of Florida

## ***Validating Attribute Structures in Diagnostic Tests***

- Ren Liu, University of Florida
- Anne Corinne Huggins-Manley, University of Florida

## ***Self-Perceptions of Rtl Skills Survey: Comparing Item Reduction and Parceling Models for Instrument Validation***

- Oriana Eversole, University of South Florida
- Yan Wang, University of South Florida

# Wednesday, November 18

## ***Further Consideration of Single Likert-type Items***

- Mary G. Lieberman, Florida Atlantic University
- John D. Morris, Florida Atlantic University

## **Featured Address**

4:15 PM – 5:30 PM

Salon D & E

## **Updates on the Florida State Assessments**

**Speaker:** Vince Verges - Assessment Director

Florida Department of Education

**Moderator:** Ted Dwyer,  
Hillsborough County Schools

**Description:** A review of the current status on the Florida State Assessments for the 2015 -2016 School year and their application to the assessment and accountability processes will be discussed. A question and answer session will follow the presentation.

**Biography:** Vince Verges is an Assistant Deputy Commissioner in the division of Accountability, Research and Measurement for the Florida Department of Education since 2013. He also serves the state as the assessment director. Amongst the many contributions to the state, Vince was the Implementation Director for the Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) Implementation for Florida. During his tenure, he had overall responsibility for working with the Florida Department of Education and other state staff to ensure Florida's readiness for the implementation of the Common Core assessments in the 2014-2015 school years. Vince served on PARCC's Leadership Team along with state agency staff from other PARCC states to design and develop the PARCC assessments and work with PARCC contractors. His prior background in education includes high school mathematics curriculum and instruction, as well as overall responsibility for FCAT and Florida's End-of-Course test development.

## Evening Reception

*Sponsored by:*

*School City  
Vaseem  
President/CEO*

**Northwest Evaluation Association  
(NWEA)**

**Sherry DeSimone  
Kimberly Kraft  
Lisa Ivory  
Associates**

**Pearson  
Michael Keeton  
K-12 North America**

## **REGISTRATION**

**8:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

**Registration Desk**

## **Modern Measurement I**

**9:00 AM - 10:15 AM**

**Salon A**

### ***Assessment of DIF in Testlet-Based Items Using a 2PL-Multilevel Measurement Model***

- Wei Xu, University of Florida
- David Miller, University of Florida

### ***Comparing Three Approaches in Cognitive Diagnostic Computerized Adaptive Testing***

- Ren Liu, University of Florida
- Anne Corinne Huggins-Manley, University of Florida
- Yuxi Qiu, University of Florida

### ***An Evaluation of Composite Group Approach to DIF Analysis: Toward the Best Practice of Measurement Fairness***

- Yuxi Qiu, University of Florida
- Anne Corinne Huggins-Manley, University of Florida

## **Research Based on Large Scale Datasets**

**9:00 AM – 10:15 AM**

**Salon B**

### ***A Bayesian Network for PISA 2012 Mathematics Literacy***

- Seyfullah Tingir, Florida State University
- Russell Almond, Florida State University

### ***Projecting Student Performance Results for a New Assessment System from the Previous Year's Result***

- Peter L. Zsiga, St. Lucie County Schools
- Kathleen Dailey, St. Lucie County Schools

### ***A Cross-Cultural Study of Students Confidence in Mathematics Using a Modified Multiple-Indicators Multiple-Causes Approach on TIMSS 2011 Data***

- Yan Wang, University of South Florida
- Issac Li, University of South Florida
- Eun Sook Kim, University of South Florida

### ***Super-Readers: A Post Hoc Analysis of the Reading Frequency Item on the NELS-88 as a Proxy Measure of Giftedness***

- Sally A. Eliot, University of Central Florida

**Research on Students**

9:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Dogwood

***Investigating Student-Level Factors Associated with Academic Misconduct: A Hierarchical Multiple Regression Approach***

- Hongwei Yu, Baylor University
- Perry L. Glanzer, Baylor University
- Brandon Moore, McLennan Community College
- Byron R. Johnson, Baylor University

***STEM Capable: Effects of Rigorous Course-taking on Florida's STEM Interested Students' Persistence***

- Shetay N. Ashford, University of South Florida
- Rheta E. Lanehart, University of South Florida
- Reginald S. Lee, University of South Florida
- Gladis K. Kersaint, University of South Florida
- Tasha-Neisha Wilson, University of South Florida
- Jeffrey D. Kromrey, University of South Florida

***The Effect of Heterogeneity of Disability Classification on Growth in Disaggregated School Proficiency Proportions***

- Anne Corinne Huggins-Manley, University of Florida
- Hac-Tu Jacqueline Chung, University of Florida
- Gracelyn E. Klettner, University of Florida
- Nicholas A. Gage, University of Florida

***Charter School Effects on Student Academic Achievement: A Propensity Score Matching Approach with Multilevel Data Objective***

- Wei Xu, University of Florida
- David Miller, University of Florida
- Nancy Thornqvist, University of Florida

**Invited Symposium**

9:00 AM - 10:15 AM

Salons D & E

**ABCs for U's and D's: Achieving Better Collaborations between Universities and Districts**

Organizer: Betsy Jane Becker, Florida State University

Participants: Pamela Carroll, Dean, University of Central Florida  
Yi-Hsin Chen, University of South Florida  
Peggy K. Jones, Pasco County Public Schools  
Tavy Chen, Orange County Public Schools  
Jennifer Sasser, Orange County Public Schools

Description: The intent of this invited symposium is to explore what can enable districts and universities to have fruitful interactions and collaborations, around data, assessment and other arenas. How do districts and universities currently collaborate and benefit each other?

**Thursday, November 19**

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*Coffee Break Sponsored by Pearson*

9:30 AM – 10:15 AM

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**General Session**

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM Salon D & E

## **Florida State Assessment Validity Study by Alpine Testing**

**Speakers:** Dr. Andrew Wiley, Alpine Testing  
Dr. Ellen Forte, Alpine Testing

**Moderator:** Donna Buckner - President-Elect of FERA  
Lakeland Institute for Learning

**Andrew Wiley, Ph.D.**, is a Senior Psychometrician and the Director of Education Services for Alpine. Dr. Wiley has over 15 years of experience in the education and certification/licensure fields. He has worked with high stakes programs in the education field such as the SAT, and with computer based test (CBT)-delivered programs. While at The College Board, Dr. Wiley worked on setting college readiness standards and managed the test development activities as well as the scaling and equating for the SAT. Dr. Wiley is active in the measurement community, and just completed his service on the Board of Directors for the Association of Test Publishers (ATP), as well as Chair of the National Council on Measurement in Education (NCME) Annual Award Committee.

### **Ellen Forte, Ph.D.**

Dr. Forte is the CEO and Chief Scientist at *edCount*, LLC. Dr. Forte served as the Principal Investigator for a number of state and federal assessment projects, specializing in designing and implementing strategies for validity evaluation. Dr. Forte serves on the Technical Advisory Committees for Louisiana, Montana, South Dakota, Wyoming, and ACT, Inc. She is on the editorial boards for *Educational Measurement: Issues and Practice*, *Applied Measurement in Education*, and the *National Council on Measurement in Education* newsletter. Dr. Forte co-authored *The Administrator's Guide to Federal Programs for English Learners* and wrote a number of papers and monographs on state assessment and accountability systems. Dr. Forte earned her doctorate in Educational Psychology from the University of Iowa. She has previously served as the Title I Evaluator for the Connecticut State Department of Education, directed statewide assessment projects for testing vendors, and Director of Student Assessment for Baltimore City Public Schools.

## Thursday, November 19

**Description:** A technical presentation of the results of the study on the new Florida State Assessments will be reviewed. Issues for discussion may include: how students with administration problems versus those not identified as such are determined; whether the connectivity issues and/or extended testing days had a significant impact on the student's performance versus their expected performance.

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**LUNCH ON YOUR OWN**

**12:00 PM - 1:30 PM**

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**Graduate Student Luncheon**

**12:15 PM – 1:15 PM Waldorf**

**FERA Graduate Student Business Meeting Luncheon**

**Sponsor: Bruce Hall, Ph.D.**

**Founding Father/Past President, FERA**

**Graduate Student Coordinators:**

Ahmet Serhat Gozutok, Florida State University

Erkan Sayilir, Florida State University

**Invited Speaker:**

Qian Zhang, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Florida State University

**Research in Higher Education**

**1:30 PM – 3:00 PM Salon A**

***Doctoral Committee Members' Perceptions of the Dissertation Process***

- Priva Fischweicher, Barry University
- Jean M. McAtavey, Barry University
- Jovanna Markovic, Barry University

***Student's Evaluations of Teachers in Higher Education: Paper vs. Online Ratings***

- Hsin-Ro Wei, University of Florida
- Anne Corinne Huggins-Manley, University of Florida
- David Miller, University of Florida
- David Therriault, University of Florida

***Performance of Online and Residential Students in a Business Law Course***

- Carole R. Beal, University of Florida

- Aaron Thomas, University of Florida

## Thursday, November 19

### Restructuring Research Courses in the Educational Leadership Program

- Lee Baldwin, University of Central Florida

### Quantitative Grab Bag

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM Dogwood

#### ***Computing the Variance Inflation Factor Post Hoc***

- Betsy Jane Becker, Florida State University
- Christopher Thompson, Florida State University
- Ariel M. Aloe, Florida State University of Iowa

#### ***Q-matrix Design in Diagnostic Tests***

- Ren Liu, University of Florida
- Anne Corinne Huggins-Manley, University of Florida

#### ***Using PROC GLIMMIX to Improve a School District's Early Warning System by Identifying Students at Risk of Dropping Out***

- Eunkyung Baek, Polk County Public Schools
- Chunhua Cao, Polk County Public Schools
- Heather P. Wright, Polk County Public Schools

#### ***Multicollinearity Myth Buster***

- Mary G. Lieberman, Florida Atlantic University
- John D. Morris, Florida Atlantic University

### Symposium

2:30 PM – 3:30 PM Conrad

#### ***Scoring and Psychometric Topics in Large-Scale Educator Certification Testing***

- Süleyman Olgar, Ph.D., Psychometric, Scoring & Reporting Director, Florida Department of Education
- Önder Köklu, Ph.D., Scoring and Reporting Coordinator, Florida Department of Education
- Lauren White, Assessment Coordinator-Scoring, Florida Department of Education



**Thursday, November 19**

**Graduate Student Poster Session**

**1:30 PM – 5:00 PM Salon B**

## **Graduate Student Poster Session**

### **Note:**

**Posters will be on display from 1:30 to 5:00 pm.**

**Poster presenters will be available from 3:00 to 3:30 pm.**

### ***Behavior of the IRT-Based Methods to Detect DIF Items Properties***

- Abdullah Alghamdi, Florida State University
- Insu Paek, Florida State University
- Zhongtian Lin, Florida State University

### ***Assessing Unidimensionality through Parallel Analysis with PCA and PAF for Dichotomous Item Responses which fit the 3 Parameter Logistic IRT Model***

- Ismail Cukadar, Florida State University
- Insu Paek, Florida State University

### ***Examining the Effect of DIF Location on Cut Point Classification***

- Jingyi He, University of Florida

### ***Exploring Engagement in Social Paleontology: A Case Study of Four Facebook Pages***

- Lisa Lundgren, University of Florida

### ***An Evaluation of EICC Pre-equating: How Robust Is It to Test Speededness Effects?***

- Yuxi Qiu, University of Florida
- Anne Corinne Huggins-Manley, University of Florida

### ***A Pilot Study on Educational Technology Tool Learning by Undergraduate Students – Creating Digital Storytelling Videos Using iMovie Video Editing Software***

- Shilpa Sahay, University of Florida

## Thursday, November 19

### ***Grappling with Critical Social Justice Education: Impediments to and Predictors of a Critical Social Justice Stance in Preservice Teacher Education***

- Stephanie Schroeder, University of Florida

### ***Examining the Relationships of Grammatical Awareness to Reading Comprehension: A Meta-Analysis***

- Joonmo Yun, Florida State University
- Young-Suk Grace Kim, Florida State University

### ***Magnitude of Relative Reduction in G2 in IRT Model Selection***

- Zhongtian Lin, Florida State University
- Insu Paek, Florida State University

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*Coffee Break*

***Sponsored by:***

3:00 PM – 3:45 PM

**University of Florida**

College of Education

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**General Session**

3:30 PM – 4:45 PM

Salon D & E

## **Value Added Model for Florida: Why Harder Does Not Make It Different**

**Speaker:** Jason Gaitanis

Florida Department of Education

**Moderator:** Sam Whitten

Hillsborough County Schools

**Description:** “VAM - Why harder doesn’t make it different.” Mr. Jason Gaitanis will speak about the impact of transitioning to the new Florida Standards Assessments and Algebra 1 End of Course exam on Florida’s Value-Added Model (VAM), and how these models can adapt to the transition to new assessments, even if they are more difficult, and still provide valuable performance information to stakeholders. A question and answer session will follow. If a specific technical issue is applicable, please address the moderator before the session begins.

## Thursday, November 19

**Biography:** Jason Gaitanis is the Policy, Research and Accountability Coordinator in the division of Accountability, Research and Measurement for the Florida Department of Education. Jason is the lead at the department on Florida's Value-Added Model (VAM), managing the production and dissemination of results to districts annually, and is an integral part of the department's communication on the value-added model and teacher evaluation. Mr. Gaitanis holds a Master's Degree in Measurement and Statistics from Florida State University's Educational Psychology and Learning Systems program. He has more than 18 years of professional experience in program evaluation, policy analysis and data reporting and has worked for the Legislature, state, and private-not-for-profit agencies focusing on children's issues including Education, Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice.

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### General Session

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM    Salons D & E

## Florida Association of Test Administrators (FATA) Panel Questions for Discussion

**Moderator:** Sam Whitten  
Hillsborough County Schools

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### Symposium

5:00 PM – 6:00 PM    Salon A

#### ***Test Development and Policy Topics in Large-Scale Educator Certification Testing***

- Lauren White, Postsecondary Assessment Coordinator, Florida Department of Education
  - Kathleen Visconti Assessment Coordinator-Scoring, Florida Department of Education
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Thursday, November 19

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Reception

6:15 PM – 8:15 PM Salon C

## Evening Reception

Hilton Hotel, Altamonte Springs

Salon C

*Sponsored by:*

***American Institutes for Research  
(AIR)***

## **REGISTRATION**

**8:30 AM – 10:00 AM**

**Registration Desk**

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## **Research on Language and Communication**

**9:00 AM – 10:30 PM**

**Salon A**

### ***Research Agenda on Cross-Cultural Communication Competence Education and Training***

- Lihua Xu, University of Central Florida
- James Aoyu, Southwestern University of Economics and Finance

### ***Language Profiles of Young Children and Their Parents: Uniform or Differentiated?***

- Galiya Tabulda, Florida State University
- Beth M. Phillips, Florida State University

### ***Variability of Vocabulary Intervention Effects by Communication Context and Recency of Exposure***

- Smriti A. Ingrole, Florida State University
- Galiya Tabulda, Florida State University
- Beth M. Phillips, Florida State University

### ***English Language Learning through Writings in Wikis***

- Brenda R. Lee, University of Florida

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## **Technology in the Schools**

**9:00 AM – 10:30 AM**

**Salon B**

### ***A Longitudinal Study of the Digital Divide in Florida Schools: Beyond Access***

- Albert D. Ritzhaupt, University of Florida
- Tina N. Hohlfeld, University of Florida
- Matthew Wilson, University of Florida
- Kara Dawson, University of Florida

### ***Video Notetaking and Metacomprehension Accuracy***

- Aaron Owen Thomas, University of Florida
- Pasha Antonenko, University of Florida

### ***Online Resources for Mathematics: Exploring How and Why They Support Student Learning***

- Carolyn Mitten, University of Florida
- Zachary Collier, University of Florida
- Walter Leite, University of Florida

### ***Relation between the Length of Istation Reading Program Use and Reading Achievement***

- Chalie Patarapichayatham, Southern Methodist University

## Statistics and Methodology

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM Dogwood

### ***Combining Slopes from Studies with Different Research Designs and/or Regression Slopes***

- Sanghyun Jeon, Florida State University

### ***Validity Concentration Formula Validation***

- Mary G. Lieberman, Florida Atlantic University
- John D. Morris, Florida Atlantic University

### ***A Simulation Study of Masked Visual Analysis of Single Case Data***

- Seang-Hwane Joo, University of South Florida
- John Ferron, University of South Florida

### ***A Critical Reflection on Test Use and Value Added Models in Florida***

- Duygu Cetin-Berber, University of Florida
- Anne Corinne Huggins-Manley, University of Florida

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## Invited Presentation

10:45 AM – 12:15 PM Salons D & E

### **Propensity Score Methods and Causal Inference**

**Speaker:** Haiyan Bai,  
University of Central Florida

**Moderator:** Bonnie Swan, PH.D.  
University of Central Florida

**Description:** When true experimental designs are infeasible, accurately estimating treatment effects is difficult because of selection bias. Quasi-experiments are often used to provide more convincing statistical causal inference regarding treatment effects; however, problems may still exist, especially when many covariates exist. Consequently, selection bias may undermine the validity of treatment-effect estimates. Propensity score methods (PSM) balance treatment and comparison groups on multiple covariates simultaneously to reducing selection bias. Education researchers often use observational data to estimate treatment effects because experimental designs are impractical; therefore, PSM is a useful tool for educational research. This talk will review basic concepts and assumptions of PSM, introduce major propensity score matching methods and available statistical programs, and demonstrate how to use the most popular statistical package to conduct propensity score matching.

## **Biography:**

**Dr. Haiyan Bai** is an associate professor in the program of Methodology, Measurement, and Analysis of the College of Education and Human Performance at the University of Central Florida. She received her PhD in Quantitative Methodology from the University of Cincinnati. Dr. Bai has given many lectures, workshops, and invited speeches at American Educational Research Association (AERA), American Evaluation Association (AEA) annual meetings, and national/international universities on the topics related to propensity score methods (PSM). She has also refereed publications and co-authored a book on PSM.

## **Research on Parents and Teachers**

10:45 AM – 12:15 PM Dogwood

### ***Factors That Influence Teacher-Child Relationships in Head Start – Voices of Teachers***

- Shiyi Chen, Florida State University
- Beth Phillips, Florida State University
- Burcu Izci, Florida State University
- Jennah Franklin, Florida State University

### ***RTTT Resident Teacher Preparation Program and School and Classroom-level Effects on Beginning Mathematics and Science Teacher Turnover***

- Bonnie Swan, University of Central Florida
- M. H. Clark, University of Central Florida
- Rosemarye Taylor, University of Central Florida
- Christine Destefano, University of Central Florida

### ***Differences in Technology Uses and Perceptions among Elementary, Middle and High School Teachers***

- Albert D. Ritzhaupt, University of Florida
- Kara Dawson, University of Florida

### ***Parents' Journeys through Assessment***

- María D. Vásquez-Colina, Florida Atlantic University
- John D. Morris, Florida Atlantic University

**Friday, November 20**

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**FERA Luncheon**

**12:30 – 2:00 PM    Salon C**

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**Annual Business Meeting  
and  
Award Luncheon**

**Sponsored by  
Colleges of Education:  
Florida State University  
and  
University of Central Florida**

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**BOARD MEETING**

**2:15 PM – 4:00 PM    Boardroom**

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**In Memory**  
**of**  
**Russell P. Kropp**  
**1927 – 2012**

Russell P. Kropp was born in Tamaqua, Pennsylvania on July 11, 1927. He served in the U. S. Navy during World War II and later served in the U. S. Air Force. He received a research doctorate from the University of Illinois in 1953, and came to Tallahassee that year to accept a faculty position at Florida State University. During the next 42 years he served in a variety of faculty and administrative positions at FSU, spending many of those years associated with the Department of Educational Research and Testing within the College of Education.

Professor Kropp retired from the university in 1995. He died on April 18, 2012.

He is credited with having conceptualized the purpose and function of FERA, and was a leader in the effort to establish FERA as a state-wide professional organization, circa 1956. Under his guidance, FERA was instituted on the premise that the myriad concerns facing schools are amendable to orderly, systematic inquiry, and that such inquiry can be nurtured and sustained through the collegial association of state and district-based educators, university professors and personnel in private and non-profit educational agencies. Dr. Kropp was the first editor of the *Florida Journal of Educational Research*, serving in that capacity from 1959 to 1964. He was one of only three individuals ever to serve twice as President of FERA, leading the organization as its first President in 1958-59 and again in 1982-83. Dr. Kropp has been an honorary member of the Florida Educational Research Association (FERA) since 1985.

FERA honored him by bestowing an annual award in his name. According to FERA By-Laws, the Russell P. Kropp Award is given “to recognize a policy maker or administrator engaged in education in the State of Florida who has demonstrated in an exemplary fashion the use of educational research or evaluation in educational decision making.” Asked in 1999 about the role he played in the development of FERA, he replied “. . . it enriched my life. . . . I always thought it was a noble and good work.”

## 2015 FERA Executive Committee

President	Betsy Becker	Florida State University
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Membership	Bonnie Swan	University of Central Florida
Professional Education	Wendy Dickinson	Hillsborough County Public Schools
Publications	Donna Buckner	Lakeland Institute for Learning
Audit	John Ferron	University of South Florida
Audit	Robert Dedrick	University of South Florida
Distinguished Paper Award	Anne Corinne Huggins	University of Florida
Educational Researcher Of the Year	Anne Corinne Huggins	University of Florida
Nominating	Lee Baldwin	University of Central Florida
Program	Donna Buckner	Lakeland Institute for Learning
Russell P. Kropp Award	Kathleen Dailey	St. Lucie County Public Schools
Awards and Recognition	Ron Dailey	Hillsborough County Public Schools
Evaluation	Insu Paek	Florida State University
FERA Journal	Albert Ritzhaupt	University of Florida
Graduate Student	Ahmet Serhat Gozutok	Florida State University
Graduate Student	Erkan Sayilir	Florida State University
Local Arrangements	Albert Ritzhaupt	University of Florida
Paper Proposal Review	Betsy Becker	Florida State University
Sponsors and Vendors	Sam Whitten	Hillsborough County Public Schools
Sponsors and Vendors/Assistant	Donna Buckner	Lakeland Institute for Learning
Newsletter Editor	Donna Buckner	Lakeland Institute for Learning
Technology Support	Albert Ritzhaupt	University of Florida
Webmaster	Albert Ritzhaupt	University of Florida

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Wei Xu	University of Florida
Hongwei Yu	Baylor University
Joonmo Yun	Florida State University
Peter L. Zsiga	St. Lucie County Schools

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Abdullah Alghamdi  
Ahmet Gozutok  
Chelsea Funari  
Duygu Cetin-Berber  
Erkan SAYILIR  
Hsin-Ro Wei  
Ismail Cukadar  
Ren Liu  
Riza Memis  
Seyfullah Tingir  
Shawna Durtschi  
Shilpa Sahay  
Smriti A. Ingrole  
Yu Su  
Yuxi Qiu

## FERA Past Presidents

1958-59	Russell Kropp	1988-89	Constance Bergquist
1959-60	Walter Durost	1989-90	Jackson K. McAfee
1960-61	Robert N. Willis	1990-91	Lou Carey
1961-62	John Demming	1991-92	Jayne Hartman
1962-63	Annie Ward	1992-93	Cornelia S. Orr
1963-64	Howard W. Stoker	1993-94	Marc Baron
1964-65	Karen A. Strattan	1994-95	Janet B. Hanson
1965-66	John T. Kirby	1995-96	Jan Schwartz
1966-67	Richard R. Burnette	1996-97	Dianne Buhr
1967-68	Edward Caldwell	1997-98	Lee Baldwin
1968-69	Fred Stuart	1998-99	Dan Morris
1969-70	John E. Dobbin	1999-00	Cynthia Parshall
1970-71	Vynce A. Hines	2000-01	Brenda Bartholomew
1971-72	Jacob Beard	2001-02	Richard Tate
1972-73	Willard Nelson	2002-03	Jerry Levitt
1973-74	Janice Smith	2003-04	Bruce Hall
1974-75	John Follman	2004-05	Madeline Barbery
1975-76	Rick Nations	2005-06	David Miller
1976-77	Richard Jaeger	2006-07	Natalie Roca
1978-79	James Swanson	2007-08	Aki Kamata
1979-80	Paul Gallagher	2008-09	John Ferron
1980	Don Lambert *	2009-10	Wendy Dickinson
1980-81	Annie Ward*	2010-11	Frank Gilbert
1981-82	John Hilderbrand	2011-12	Bonnie Swan
1982-83	Russell Kropp	2012-13	Sam Whitten
1983-84	Jean Jolly	2013-14	Salih Binici
1984-85	Chuck Dziuban	2014-15	Betsy Becker
1985-86	Bill Piotrowski	2015-16	Donna Buckner
1986-87	Bruce Hall		
1987-88	Patricia W. Kees		

\*Don Lambert was installed in January 1980. Annie Ward was installed in November 1980.

## Honorary Members of FERA

H. H. Remers	1966	Russell Kropp	1985
June Hopper	1974	Bill Myers	1985
Roger T. Lennon	1975	Jake Beard	1997
William H. Angoff	1975	Rick Nations	1997
George Loiselle	1976	Jack McAfee	1998
Hazen Curtis	1976	Jim Swanson	2000
Vynce Hines	1981	Bill Castine	2001
John Espey	1981	Chuck Dzuiban	2005
Walter Durost	1981	Bruce Hall	2007
Howard Stoker	1983	John Hilderbrand	2012
Annie Ward	1984	Brenda Bartholomew	2014



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**University of Florida, College of Education**

## **Researcher of the Year: 2014**

### **Yaacov Petscher**

#### **ACADEMIC BACKGROUND**

Ph.D.	Developmental Psychology, May 2009 Florida State University
M.S.	Measurement and Statistics, May 2005 Florida State University
M.S.	Educational Psychology, January 2004 Florida State University
B.S.	Psychology, April 2001 Florida State University

#### **PROFESSIONAL HISTORY**

**Research Faculty III**, Florida State University, 2014-Present.

**Senior Research Associate**, Regional Educational Laboratory-Southeast, 2012- Present.

**Director of Research**, Florida Center for Reading Research, 2006-Present.

**Research Associate**, Florida State University, 2012-2014.

**Associate in Research**, Florida State University, 2008-2012.

**Assistant in Research**, Florida State University, 2005-2008.

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

### **Dina Feitelson Research Award**

International Reading Association, 2014

### **Recipient of National Institute of Health Loan Repayment Program**

National Institute of Health, 2012-2014

### **Article of the Year Award**

Assessment for Effective Intervention, 2012

### **Rebecca Sandak Young Investigator Award**

Society for the Scientific Study of Reading, 2011

### **Nominee, Article of the Year Award**

Journal of Research in Reading, 2010

### **Nominee, Article of the Year Award**

Journal of School Psychology, 2009

## NOTES

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