

# FERA Newsletter

Spring 2019



## President's Corner: A. Corinne Huggins-Manley

Greetings,

The 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Florida Educational Research Association (FERA) was a great success in November of 2018! We had record attendance, as well as a record number of paper presentations, poster presentations, and symposium presentations. In addition, we had nationally-renowned keynote speakers. Thank you to the entire FERA community for participating in such a successful conference! Also, thank you to our sponsors, as without them we could not have held the meeting. These sponsors include:

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- Bruce W. Hall

In 2018, I was President-Elect of FERA and, hence, in charge of developing the program for the annual meeting. During that development, my FERA colleague, Peggy Jones, and I realized that we

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## President's Corner: A. Corinne Huggins-Manley (cont.)

wanted to introduce a new type of session to the annual meeting, and I would like to share some information about that session with you.

FERA was founded and built through a rich history of collaboration on educational research issues in Florida between at least three types of researchers: researchers in school districts, researchers in academia, and researchers in the private sector. I encourage you to read about that history through a published article in FERA's journal, the Florida Educational Research Journal, titled *An Oral History of the Florida Educational Research Association: The Story of the Origin and Evolution of a Grassroots Professional Organization* (<https://feraonline.org/issue/1999-volume-39/>).

As a result of this history, participants at the annual FERA meetings come from all three researcher groups. However, there are times when those groups may not intermingle with each other as much as the original FERA founders may have hoped. Hence, I collaborated with Peggy Jones (the current President-Elect of FERA) of Pasco County Schools to develop a luncheon session at the 2018 Annual Meeting. We named the session *Creating Collaborations for the Generation of Educational Research*. *We had a wonderful turnout, and during the session participants were provided with numerous methods for locating like-minded researchers who were from a different space of Florida educational research. Peggy and I witnessed many conversations and developments of new relationships amongst researchers that crossed the boundaries between district, academic, and industry personnel! In a separate article of this newsletter, Peggy provides additional information on the feedback from the 2018 event.*

For the upcoming 2019 Annual Meeting of FERA, Peggy and I will again co-host a luncheon designed to encourage and increase Florida educational researcher collaborations. We are very thankful for the 2018 participants who provided excellent feedback, and we are confident that the 2019 luncheon will be even better than the inaugural event. We hope to see all of you there!

This newsletter contains much interesting and pertinent information about FERA, including information about the upcoming 2019 conference. The conference will take place on November 13-15 at the Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront Hotel in St. Petersburg, Florida. The hotel is surrounded by a wide range of activities that will make our location a great place to both join the meeting events and explore the local area, which includes the Dali Museum, Tropicana Field, downtown St. Petersburg, and more! As we continue to plan for the 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of FERA, we hope you are brainstorming all the ways in which you can contribute to and enjoy the meeting. Please consider submitting your research papers, posters, and symposia proposals! In fact, we encourage you to submit multiple proposals so that your Florida colleagues can hear about your work and provide you with encouragement and feedback to continue your important research.

Thank you for all you do for FERA, and I look forward to seeing you in November!

*A. Corinne Huggins-Manley*  
*President of FERA*

## 2019 FERA Leadership

Board Members		
Office	Member	Affiliation
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### Meet the Board



**A. Corinne Huggins-Manley** is President of the FERA. She is an Associate Professor in Research and Evaluation Methodology at the University of Florida, where she conducts research and teaches courses related to educational measurement and quantitative methodology. She has been involved with FERA since her doctoral studies at the University of Miami, continuously providing service toward the mission of the organization. She can be reached at [amanley@coe.ufl.edu](mailto:amanley@coe.ufl.edu).



**Peggy Jones** serves as the President Elect for the FERA. She is the director of the Office for Accountability, Research, and Measurement with Pasco County Schools. She has experience teaching at the elementary and middle schools levels as well as graduate level. She has worked as both a school-based and district-based administrator in a school district of approximately 75,000 students in central Florida. She enjoys helping others to see the potential and the strength in using data to answer questions and accomplish goals. In her free time, she enjoys traveling most recently to Iceland and France. She can be reached at [pejones@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:pejones@pasco.k12.fl.us).

## 2019 FERA Leadership (cont.)

### Meet the Board (cont.)



**Jennifer R. Wolgemuth** serves as Treasurer for the FERA. She is an Associate Professor in Research and Measurement at the University of South Florida, where she teaches and researches qualitative research, largely guided by social justice aims and critical theory perspectives. She has served as FERA Treasurer since 2016 and is the Executive Editor for the Florida Journal of Educational Research (FJER). Her leadership in the educational research community spans more than 15 years. Most recently she serves the American Educational Research Association (AERA) as Chair of the Division D Early Career Award Committee and Program Co-Chair for the Qualitative Research Special Interest Group. She can be reached at [jrwolgemuth@usf.edu](mailto:jrwolgemuth@usf.edu).



**Robert Dedrick** is a Board member for FERA and has been a member since 1990. He is Professor and Coordinator of the Measurement and Research Program at the University of South Florida, and teaches courses in measurement and research design. His two most recent research projects are examining interventions to improve math learning and assisting high school students in accelerated academic courses with stress. In his free time, he likes to walk and watch Gilmore Girls. He can be reached at [dedrick@usf.edu](mailto:dedrick@usf.edu)



**María D. Vásquez-Colina** is an associate professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Research Methodology at Florida Atlantic University. Her research focuses on assessment literacy, classroom assessment and the scholarship of teaching research methodology. She teaches courses on measurement, statistics and research methodology. She is the Associate Editor for the FJER. At the national level, she has served in various leadership roles in the Professors of Educational Research Special Interest Group at the AERA and she is currently a committee member at the Standards and Test Use Committee at the National Council on Measurement in Education. She is originally from Peru and speaks fluently English, Spanish and French. She can be reached at [mvasque3@fau.edu](mailto:mvasque3@fau.edu).

## 2019 FERA Leadership (cont.)

### Standing Committee Members

Professional Development	Wendy Dickinson Leia Cain	University of South Florida University of South Florida
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Educational Researcher of the Year	Yanyun Yang	Florida State University
Program Evaluation	Eunsook Kim	University of South Florida
Webmaster	Albert Ritzhaupt	University of Florida



## 64th Annual Meeting of the Florida Educational Research Association



Join us for the 64th annual meeting of the FERA at the Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront in St Petersburg, FL. The annual conference includes a professional development session for educational researchers, several concurrent presentation sessions on a wide variety of educational research topics, a graduate student poster session, receptions, coffee breaks, and the annual business meeting and awards luncheon. FERA is one of the oldest state-level educational research professional associations in the US. Meet university professors, K-12 district assessment and evaluation directors, educational administrators, state educational representatives, teachers, and graduate students from across the state of Florida.

### Calls for Proposals

#### General Announcement to All

#### Teacher Inquiry Proposals

#### Call for Posters

### Teacher Inquiry Corner

Dear Teacher Researchers,  
Please consider submitting a proposal to present at this year's FERA Conference, November 13-15, in St. Petersburg. This is our third year including a Teacher Inquiry Strand in our annual conference, and attendance by teacher researchers continues to grow. We welcome your conference proposal, and also invite you to submit a manuscript for publication in our state journal, The Florida Journal for Educational Research, which has a new Teacher Inquiry Section as well. Please see the call for proposals on our conference website:

<https://feraonline.org/conference/call-for-proposals/>. More information on the Teacher Inquiry Section in our journal is available at <https://feraonline.org/journal/submission/>. Please consider adding your teacher voice in the scholarly conversations happening at our annual conference and in our journal.

*Alyson Adams, Ph.D.  
Associate Director for Teaching & Teacher Education  
Clinical Associate Professor  
School of Teaching & Learning  
University of Florida  
Associate Editor, Teacher Inquiry Section*



## Graduate Student Corner

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Dear Graduate Students,

We would like to announce a call for proposals for the graduate student poster session at the upcoming **64th Annual Meeting of the FERA conference** to be held at the **Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront in St. Petersburg, Florida, on November 13-15<sup>th</sup>, 2019**. This conference is a great opportunity for graduate students to present their research on relevant educational topics and issues among education professionals. Whether you are a first-time presenter or have conference experience, the friendly and supportive atmosphere of the FERA conference provides an ideal setting to share your research.

As your graduate student representatives, we would like to invite you to submit a proposal for a poster presentation by **August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019** to [fera.student.proposal@gmail.com](mailto:fera.student.proposal@gmail.com). Graduate students are not limited to the poster session; they are welcome to submit proposals to the regular program, which has the same deadline. Please share this information with any graduate students who may be interested in this opportunity to present at FERA. Applicants will be notified about the decisions via email by October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

The guidelines for your proposal are very flexible; we simply ask that you keep the proposal **under 5 double-spaced pages**. Evaluation of proposals will be based on the following criteria: **significance of the research, theoretical framework, procedures of methods and analysis, interpretation of findings, and quality of writing**. We also welcome research that is still in progress, so you can present what you have so far and receive feedback at the conference. Following the presentation of the posters during the poster session, there will be an award given for best poster. The Best Poster Award winner will receive free membership and registration for FERA's 2020 conference.

Along with the Graduate Student Poster Session, there will also be a networking opportunity at the Graduate Student Luncheon at the FERA conference. At this luncheon, graduate students have the opportunity to connect with other graduate students around Florida and attend a guest speaker presentation pertaining to a topic relevant to graduate students. Also, there is an opportunity to apply for a leadership position in FERA, as the new Graduate Student Coordinator is nominated and chosen at the Graduate Student Luncheon.

Keep in mind that you are required to register for the conference and pay for the FERA membership if your poster proposal is accepted. For graduate students, the registration fee and FERA membership together are \$80. However, graduate students also have the option to volunteer to assist at the conference. The registration fee will be waived for confirmed volunteers; however, volunteers are still responsible for the \$15 membership fee.

If you have further questions about the poster proposal, or have other questions about graduate student opportunities in FERA, please do not hesitate to contact us at [msommer15@ufl.edu](mailto:msommer15@ufl.edu) or [huan2015@ufl.edu](mailto:huan2015@ufl.edu).



## Florida Journal of Educational Research

### Florida Journal of Educational Research Expands in 2019

By Jennifer Wolgemuth, Alyson Adams, Maria Vasquez, Lodi Rohrer, Deborah Christie

*The Florida Journal of Educational Research (FJER) is FERA's flagship journal. With over 50 years in print, FJER prides itself on publishing high quality articles on topics of interest to FERA members and the broader educational research community in Florida and beyond.*

Headed by Executive Editor, Jennifer Wolgemuth, this year FJER expanded its Editorial Team to include two Associate Editors, Maria Vasquez and Alyson Adams, and two Co-Managing Editors, Deborah Christie and Lodi Rohrer. FJER also added over 10 new Editorial Board members and created a Graduate Student Review Panel to mentor graduate students into reviewing for academic journals. We are grateful to all our ongoing and new reviewers whose feedback is invaluable to our manuscript review process!

Also new this year, FJER includes sections devoted to Teacher Inquiry and Book Reviews and invites proposals for Special Issues. The first Special Issue, scheduled for publication in late summer, features the work of 20+ presenters from the 2018 FERA conference.

The FJER Editors strongly encourage the FERA community to consider submitting their work to us. Our ethic is inclusive and supportive – when manuscripts align well with the interests of FJER's readers and demonstrate promise, we mentor authors to develop their manuscripts into published articles.

We also always welcome new members to our Editorial Board and Graduate Student Review Panel!

Follow the link below for more information about FJER, including instructions for submission:

<https://feraonline.org/journal/>

### Editorial Board

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Jennifer R. Wolgemuth,  
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South Florida



## Meet the FERA Newsletter Editors



**Andrea Lypka** is Chair of the FERA Newsletter/Publications Committee. She coordinates and distributes Calls for Submissions/Invited Submissions; works with authors to refine articles/content; and produces newsletters. She is a PhD Candidate in the Second Language Acquisition and Instructional Technology (SLA/IT) program at the University of South Florida (USF) and teaches ESL in Florida. Her research interests include community-based research and visual methods, technology, Latinx indigenous language learners, discourse analysis, and identity. She can be reached at [alypka@mail.usf.edu](mailto:alypka@mail.usf.edu)



**Novell E. Tani** serves on the FERA Newsletter/Publications Committee. Dr. Tani is an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Florida A&M University (FAMU). He is a first-generation college graduate and Ph.D. recipient within his family. After completing his undergraduate studies at the FAMU, Novell obtained his Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology from Florida State University. Novell's research interests surround various factors that are conveyed across education, sociology, anthropology, and psychology. Research topics include teacher-student interactions, dialect, stereotype threat, self-efficacy, ethnic/racial identity, mentorship, and worldviews that may influence the cognitive development of minorities of various age groups. He can be reached at [novell.tani@famu.edu](mailto:novell.tani@famu.edu)



**Amber L. MacDonald** serves on the FERA Newsletter/Publications Committee. She is a PhD Candidate in the Department of Teaching and Learning at the USF. Amber has spent over a decade as a classroom teacher and is currently a University Supervisor for preservice teachers in the Elementary Cohort Program at USF. Her research interests include teacher education, teaching for social justice across the continuum of teacher education, supervision, teacher identity, and arts-based research methods. She can be reached at [almacdon@mail.usf.edu](mailto:almacdon@mail.usf.edu).

## We would love to hear from you!

Please follow the link to take a brief survey providing feedback and suggestions to the newsletter editors.

[Feedback/Survey Link](#)

Available from **ASCD**

## Assessment Literacy for Educators in a Hurry

by *W. James Popham*

**WHAT IS ASSESSMENT LITERACY?** It's a handful of fundamental understandings about the testing concepts and procedures that influence educational decisions. And it just might be the most cost-effective means of real school improvement.

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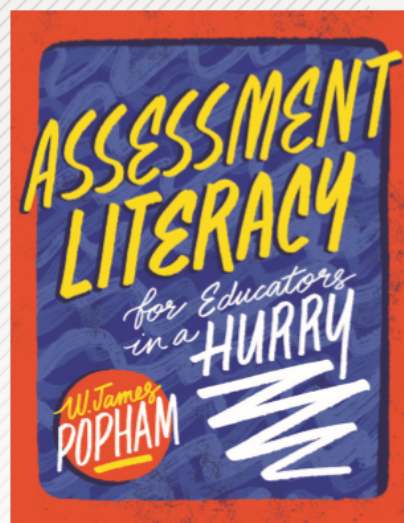
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### Author

**W. JAMES POPHAM** is Emeritus Professor in the UCLA Graduate School of Education and Information Studies. He has spent most of his career as a teacher, largely at UCLA, where for nearly 30 years he taught courses in instructional methods for prospective teachers and graduate-level courses in evaluation and measurement. At UCLA he won several distinguished teaching awards and was recognized by UCLA Today as one of UCLA's top 20 professors of the 20th century.



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# Creating the Schools Our Children Need

Why What We're Doing Now Won't Help Much (And What We Can Do Instead)

## Author: Dylan Wiliam



Dylan Wiliam is one of the world's foremost education authorities. He has helped to successfully implement classroom formative assessment in thousands of schools all over

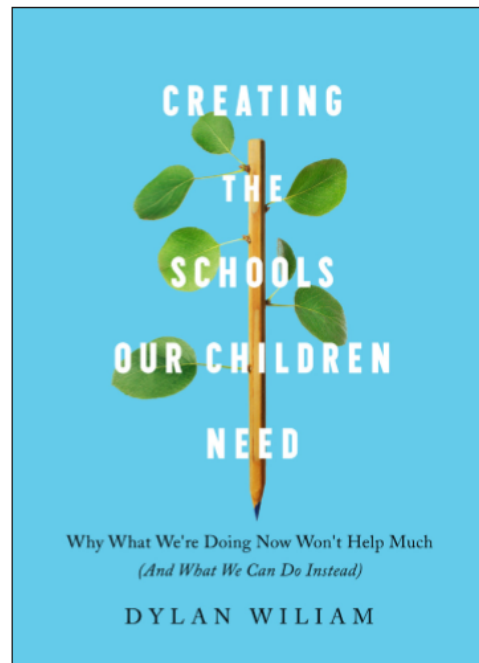
the world, including the United States, Singapore, Sweden, Australia, and the United Kingdom. A two-part BBC series, "The Classroom Experiment," tracked Wiliam's work at one British middle school, showing how formative assessment strategies empower students, significantly increase engagement, and shift classroom responsibility from teachers to their students so that students become agents of and collaborators in their own learning. Dylan Wiliam is professor emeritus of educational assessment at University College London. After a first degree in mathematics and physics, he taught in urban schools for seven years, during which time he earned further degrees in mathematics and mathematics education.

## Review

"*Creating the Schools Our Children Need* is a signal work. Amid all of the words and all of the theory, this volume tells what will pay off now. Read, enjoy, profit."

**Daniel T. Willingham**

**Professor of Psychology, University of Virginia**



## Creating the Schools Our Children Need

Why What We're Doing Now Won't Help Much (And What We Can Do Instead)

by Dylan Wiliam

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# FERA Newsletter

## Call for Submissions

### Call for Submissions



The FERA Newsletter Committee invites you to contribute to the June 2019 Newsletter. Submissions for this issue will be due on **October 1st, 2019**. Feel free to contribute and to reach out to friends and colleagues who might like to contribute.

We are looking for:

- Feature submissions (up to 1,750 words). Share your research projects, classroom practices, professional development, etc.
- Lessons - share a lesson or unit you have found to be effective.
- Anecdotes and stories (up to 1,000 words). Have you observed something interesting or unique? Do you want to share your thoughts and reflections on something that happened in your practice? There is space for that in our newsletter!
- Compilation and evaluation of useful resources (up to 700 words). Share a bibliography or a list of references that always comes in handy.
- Interviews- Interview professionals in the field, a member of the FERA community or beyond.
- Reports and reviews (up to 700 words). Write about a great book or an article that you read, or talk about a conference that you attended.

Conferences, webinars (upcoming webinars, are you a member who would like to share ideas in a webinar?)

The general submission guidelines are posted [here](#).

The newsletter is a great venue to showcase your work and share your ideas with our community. We look forward to seeing your submissions! Please send your articles to [feranewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:feranewsletter@gmail.com) with the Subject Line "FERA Newsletter Submission".