

2021 Conference Overview and Call for Proposals

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2021 NERA Conference Co-Chairs

April 15, 2021



Agenda

- Update on Public Health Guidelines
- Theme, Keynote Speakers, Featured Sessions and Presenters
- Call for Proposals
- Online Proposal Submission System
- Questions



Public Health and NERA 2021



Where Are We Now?

| People Vaccinated | At Least One Dose | Fully Vaccinated |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Total | 119,242,902 | 72,630,892 |
| % of Total Population | 35.9% | 21.9% |
| Population ≥ 18 Years of Age | 118,428,320 | 72,446,679 |
| % of Population ≥ 18 Years of Age | 45.9% | 28.1% |
| Population ≥ 65 Years of Age | 42,964,165 | 33,603,113 |
| % of Population ≥ 65 Years of Age | 78.5% | 61.4% |

CDC | Data as of: Apr 11 2021 6:00am ET | Posted: Apr 11 2021 6:17PM ET

- As of April 11, approximately 27.7% percent of Connecticut residents 18 and over have been fully vaccinated
- In Trumbull, 17,589 first doses of the vaccine have been administered
- That means about 49.3% of Trumbull's population has received at least one dose

Source: Vaccination data from the Connecticut Department of Public Health.
 Population data from American Community Survey 5-year estimates.

Website: www.nera-education.org
 E-Mail: NERA.CoChairs@gmail.com



Current Guidance in Connecticut



- Indoor gatherings are capped at 100 people
- Masks are still required
- Indoor spacing requirements are still in effect



Steps to Protect NERA Members



- Dedicated team to monitor CDC and Connecticut Department of Public Health guidance
- Team has enrolled in and taken courses from the CDC
- Team is trained in contact tracing and prepared should anything happen



Site Visit



- Next week, NERA's Public Health team will be conducting a site visit
- We will be discussing operational coordination with hotel
- Mapping out the viability of in-person events
- Hotel has been wonderfully supportive



What Does This All Mean?

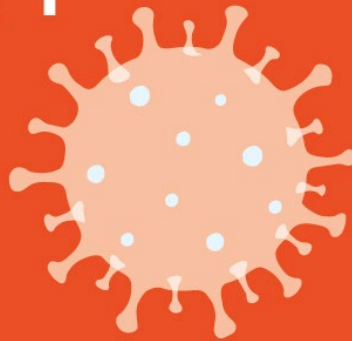


- Under current guidelines, the conference would be held fully virtual
- However, if current modelling holds, we expect to be able to host a hybrid (in person and virtual) conference in October
- We may be surveying membership again if a hybrid conference is possible



Summation

PROTECTING
YOUR SAFETY
DURING
COVID-19
PANDEMIC



- NERA will only hold a hybrid conference if:
 - It is safe
 - **AND** fiscally responsible to do so
 - **AND** if enough members are allowed to, willing, and have financial support to travel
- The NERA Public Health Team will provide separate guidance for in-person attendance.
- Members' health and safety are our top priority!



Conference Overview



2021 Conference Theme: Using Data to Solve Education's Challenges

Every form of educational activity in this age generates valuable data readily available at our fingertips. Whether quantitative, qualitative, or anything in between, this data possesses inherent power and potential to improve teaching and learning, inform important instructional decisions, and to ultimately drive student success and substantive societal change. Technological advances have given birth to vast quantities of user interaction data as supplements to the more familiar test scores and survey measures. A new frontier of innovative possibilities in data utilization now exists. Successfully harnessing the deep data footprints now accessible to more people than ever before can create endless and invaluable opportunities for exploration by a collective and collaborative research community such as ours. Through effective design and collection, insightful analysis, and thoughtful interpretation of all this new information, researchers and the school community can truly partner to face and solve education's challenges.



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*Every form of educational activity in this age generates valuable data readily available at our fingertips. Whether **quantitative, qualitative, or anything in between**, this data possesses inherent power and potential to improve teaching and learning, inform important instructional decisions, and to ultimately drive student success and substantive societal change. Technological advances have given birth to **vast quantities of user interaction data** as supplements to the more familiar test scores and survey measures. A new frontier of innovative possibilities in data utilization now exists. Successfully harnessing the **deep data footprints now accessible to more people than ever before** can create endless and invaluable opportunities for exploration by a collective and collaborative research community such as ours. Through effective design and collection, insightful analysis, and thoughtful interpretation of all this new information, **researchers and the school community can truly partner** to face and solve education's challenges.*



Keynote Speakers



*Sarah Cohodes, Associate Professor of
Economics and Education, Teachers
College, Columbia University
(Wednesday 10/13)*



*Jennifer Bell-Ellwanger, President and
CEO of Data Quality Campaign
(Thursday 10/14)*



Invited Panel – Thursday, October 14th Perspectives on Incorporating Institutional Data into P-20 Infrastructure, Research, and Policy



*Moderator: Heather Kelly
University of Delaware*

Panelists



*Jennifer Bell-Ellwanger
Data Quality Campaign*



*Lynn Letukas
SAS*



*Kate Akers
PA State System of
Higher Education*



Invited Symposium – Date TBD

Developing Intercultural and Global Competencies for Teachers through Global Education



*Chair: David Moss
University of Connecticut*

Current Presenters



*Laura Baecher
Hunter College*



*Helen Marx
Southern Connecticut State
University*



*Jon Simmons
University of Connecticut*

Discussant



Invited Workshops – Dates TBD



*Ellen Mandinach
WestEd
Culturally Relevant
Data Literacy*



*Monica Erbacher, James Smith, Sergio Castro
University of Arizona
R Basics and Data Visualization*



*Aronté Bennett
Villanova University
Allyship*



*Christine Stevens, NEIT
Heather Harris, Independent Consultant
Creating a Strong Personal Brand for Your Services*



Proposal Information



Historical Context

“Traditional” List (until 2019)

Accountability

Cognitive Science / Cognitive Development

Computer and Educational Technology

Curriculum & Instruction - Content Areas

Diverse Learners, including ELLs and Special Ed

Early Childhood Education and Intervention

Educational Leadership

Educational Measurement

Non-Cognitive/Behavioral Skills

Personnel Evaluation/Certification/Selection

Policy in Education/School Reform

Postsecondary Education

Program Evaluation

Qualitative and Mixed Methods

Quantitative methods and statistical theory

Research Methodology

Teacher Education - Teaching & Learning

Test design and development

Use and Interpretation of Results

2020 List

Measurement and Psychometrics

Policy and Politics

Social Context in Education

Research Methods

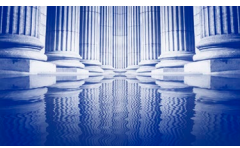
Teaching and Teacher Education

Technology in Education

Education and Psychology

The Professions

Graduate Student Issues



2021 Content Strands

Miscellaneous

Solving Educational Policy Challenges

Education & Educational Research Workforce

Innovations in Quantitative Research Methods & Resources

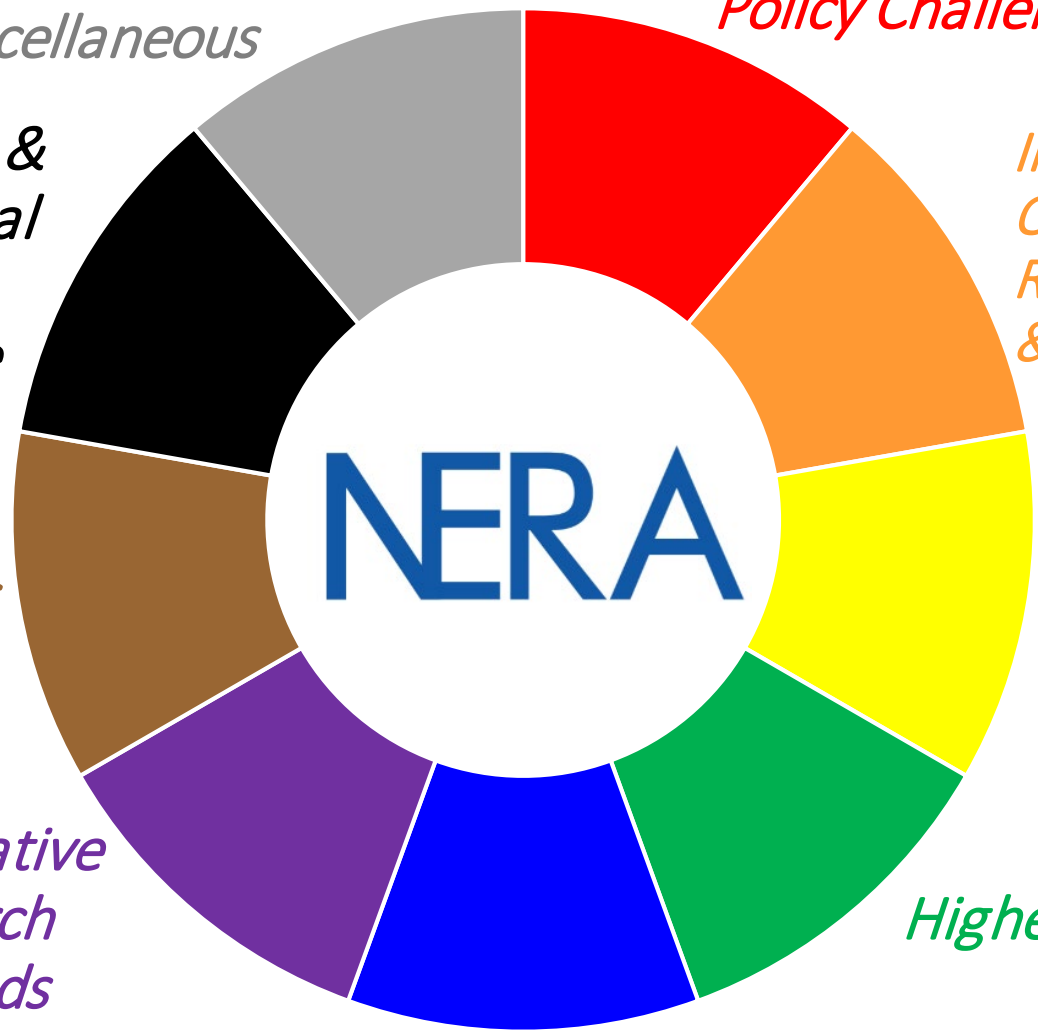
P-12 Educators as Researchers

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Alternative Research Methods

Higher Education

Global Education



Process

- Proposals will be submitted using the online system as in past years
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all presenters will be allowed to present virtually OR in person (if we go hybrid)
- We hope this allows everyone interested to submit proposals



Proposal Review System Overview



NERA 2021 Regular Proposal Submissions

Author Info | Topic & Proposal Type | Details | Title, Abstract, File Upload

*- indicates field is required

For all presentation types besides symposia, please leave the title as "Presenter" for all co-authors. For symposia, please designate your chair and discussant.

Author *

First Name: *

Last Name: *

Alternate Role:

Organization:

Position Title:

Email: *

Email 2:

Address line1: *

Address line 2:

City: *

State/Province: *

ZIP/Postal: *

Country:

Work Phone: *

Fax:



Add Author 5

Add Author 6

Add Author 7

Add Author 8

Add Author 9

Add Author 10

Save & Exit >> Save & Continue >>



NERA 2021 Regular Proposal Submissions

Author Info

Topic & Proposal Type

Details

Title, Abstract, File Upload

Please select the Topic & Proposal Type that best fits your submission...

Topic Selection

1. Solving Educational Policy Challenges

The 2020 NERA conference featured a coordinated session discussing stakeholder responses to challenges posed by the pandemic. As these have persisted into 2021, social culture has been impacted by how the digital divide, the ability to re-open schools, assessment of student learning and accountability, and the inherent impacts on students, teachers, administrators, and parents cut across geographic and demographic lines. Submissions are encouraged regarding current research into ongoing and future challenges on these topics and how existing or needed data collections might inform education policy.

2. Innovations in Quantitative Research Methods & Resources

The ongoing expansion of the data science and AI movements, increases in computing power and programmer skills, and local, state, and federal data dashboards, repositories, and both analysis and visualization tools contribute greatly to enabling researchers to investigate a variety of issues related to education and educational measurement. Submissions are encouraged regarding applications of established analytic and psychometric methods (e.g. predictive modeling, quasi-experimental designs), programs (e.g. R, Mplus), databases (e.g. IPEDS, NCES surveys), and innovative approaches (e.g. data mining, machine learning, use of Python, use of AERA-ICPSR PEERS database).

3. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The recent surge in advocacy for social justice reform presents an opportunity to educate ourselves in how we recognize, value, and respect differences in people and learners on many levels. This could be based on personal characteristics (e.g. gender, race/ethnicity, age, religion, language, immigration status, disability, sexual orientation), geographic characteristics (e.g. states, regions), economic characteristics (e.g. household income), or institutional characteristics (e.g. R1, HBCU), among others. Submissions are encouraged around applying best practices particularly in test design and analysis, but more broadly in educational research, related to diversity, equity, and inclusion in this social context, including emerging data repositories related to civil rights and other relevant issues.

4. Higher Education

Higher education has been transformed because of the pandemic and emerging questions related to the value of and access to a postsecondary experience. This has been reflected recently along social lines in the reconceptualization of campus life, along economic lines in how institutions may be struggling to stay afloat, and along instructional lines through distance learning. More prominently, there has been substantive change with the massive increase of colleges and universities adopting test optional policies and how this may affect the demographic profile of future incoming undergraduate and graduate student classes. Submissions are encouraged around data related to general student and institutional research in higher education, particularly concerning issues related to the pandemic.

5. Global Education

Even in the face of a pandemic, the global economy continues to rely on incorporating new insights about culture, communication, and citizenship in order to evolve. For all students, this allows for opening doors to explore

initiatives aimed to grow the pipeline of educational research professionals that incorporate any or all of data science, educational measurement, educational assessment, educational leadership, and educational policy.

9. Miscellaneous

While hopefully this year's theme greatly appeals to you, NERA has an honored tradition of welcoming submissions to the annual conference that may not necessarily relate to the primary topic, but are relevant to the field and to those attending the conference. Please be assured that submissions on miscellaneous topics will be evaluated according to the same benchmarks as all those under the other strands so that these viewpoints can hopefully also be shared with the NERA conference community.

Proposal Type Selection

Individual Paper

Proposals should describe completed or nearly completed research to be presented in 10-15 minutes. Sessions will be organized so that 3-5 other individual presentations will be grouped according to similar research areas. A discussant will be assigned to read the papers in advance and offer a 10-15 minute presentation to spur discussion.

Poster

Proposals should describe a research project, either completed or nearly completed, that lends itself to a visual display and would benefit from informal individualized discussion and feedback. Similar to the individual paper presentations, each poster will have a discussant.

Roundtable

Roundtable sessions allow maximum interaction among presenters and with attendees. There is greater emphasis on discussion between the authors and participants during a roundtable session. Each table will have 3-5 researchers of accepted papers clustered around shared interests. Each session will have a designated chair knowledgeable about the research area, to facilitate interaction and participation, and when appropriate a discussant will be assigned to a roundtable session as well.

Theme-Based Paper Session / Symposium

These sessions contain a set of 3-5 presentations organized around a common theme. Themes may range from a quantitative method to a broad policy topic, and should connect all papers in the session. In addition to submitting individual paper proposals for each presentation, the organizer must also provide a rationale for the relevance and importance of the theme itself. The chair and discussant for this session must be identified in the proposal submission.

Save & Exit >>

Save & Continue >>



NERA 2021 Regular Proposal Submissions

Author Info Topic & Proposal Type **Details** Title, Abstract, File Upload

Does your proposal address the theme of this year's conference?

This year's conference theme is "Using Data to Solve Education's Challenges."

AV Requirements

Do you have any specific audio-visual (AV) needs for your presentation? If so, please describe in the field provided below. We will make an effort to accommodate all reasonable requests for additional equipment.

Testing, testing, testing...

Scheduling Limitations

Are there any scheduling conflicts that would prevent you from presenting your paper at NERA? If so, please describe in the field provided below. Efforts to accommodate for conflicts will be made but cannot be guaranteed.

Testing, testing, testing...



Please check here if you are a teacher or administrator at any level in grades P-12.

Please select up to two additional content areas to describe your submission.

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Solving Educational Policy Challenges | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2. Innovations in Quantitative Research Methods & Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Higher Education | <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Global Education | <input type="checkbox"/> 6. Alternative Research Methods |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7. P-12 Educators as Researchers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 8. Developing the Education and Educational Research Workforce | <input type="checkbox"/> 9. Miscellaneous |

select 0 to 2 options

Please check below if your submission meets the length requirements.

Proposals must be less than 1,000 words (not inclusive of references, tables, figures).

Save & Exit >>

Save & Continue >>



NERA 2021 Regular Proposal Submissions

- Author Info
- Topic & Proposal Type
- Details
- Title, Abstract, File Upload**

Title

Please provide a title for your Proposal

Haifa's Testing Proposal

No more than 120 characters

Abstract

Please provide an abstract for the conference program.

Testing, testing, testing....

Word Limit: 50 - Words Used: 3 = Words Remaining: 47

Please ensure that all proposals are completely blinded. Please remove all author names and affiliations.

Proposal File

Please use the browse button to select the proposal document you would like to submit.

Choose File no file selected

Select proposal file on your computer. Only files with .pdf, .docx, or .doc, extensions may be uploaded.

Max File Size: **550MB**

- Save & Exit >>
- Save & Continue >>



Schedule

- April 13th - Call for Proposals Released
- May
 - Online Proposal System Opens
 - Call for Reviewers Released
 - Final Decision on Conference Format
- June 7th – Call for Proposals Closes
- August – Proposal Decisions Released
- October
 - Final Papers and Presentations Due
 - October 13th-15th – Conference Takes Place

