NERA NORTHEASTERN EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

Call for Proposals

50TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
October 16-18, 2019
Trumbull Marriott Shelton, Trumbull, Connecticut

As a regional affiliate of the American Educational Research Association, NERA invites proposals for our annual meeting spanning all areas of educational research. We welcome proposals from new and experienced researchers and will consider both completed and in-progress research. Below you will find the conference theme, general requirements for NERA proposals as well as specific guidelines corresponding to the four session formats. For more information about the conference, including FAQs about NERA proposals, visit NERA at **www.nera-education.org**.

Conference Theme: "Transformation by Design"

This is a banner year for NERA – our 50th Conference! The field of educational research has moved and transformed in the 50 years we've hosted conferences. Some of those changes have been purposeful while others have not – and just about all have had consequences. Over a thousand years ago (and in Latin), St. Jerome wrote "Good, better, best. Never let it rest. 'Til your good is better, and your better is best." Let's make NERA relevant a thousand years from now; the research our members conduct can still have an impact then. Recall that what is often considered the first standardized test, the civil servant evaluations of the Han Dynasty, existed two thousand years ago. With that in mind, what is the goal of your research? What do you hope it leads to? How will it impact the future? As the 2019 theme suggests, let's be purposeful in our research so that we transform the education field *by design*. Who knows what the future holds, but it may be your work that is quoted centuries later for how it transformed education.

As our president, Rochelle Michel, has stated: "In order to enact meaningful change, we need to be intentional in our actions." For the 2019 conference, we encourage NERA members and affiliates to be thoughtful about the change they seek to affect and how their research supports that transformation. **Although we STRONGLY encourage session proposals related to the conference theme, this is not a requirement for submissions.**

Submission Requirements
- Complete information for author(s) including affiliation(s)
- Descriptive title (**maximum: 15 words**)
- Three keywords
- Description of paper to appear in conference program (**maximum: 50 words**).
- Proposal, NOT including tables, figures, and references (**maximum: 1000 words**).
  - o Proposal should include: study purpose, theoretical framework, methodology, results, conclusions, and educational implications.
  - o *Note:* Refer to the Proposal FAQ for details about organization for proposals that may not lend themselves to each of the sections listed above
  - o *Warning:* Proposals with more than 1000 words will not be accepted.

Submission Format

The proposal submission form will be online and accessible from the NERA website by April 30th, 2019. At the time of submission, authors will be required to select from a list of descriptive keywords to categorize the proposal.

Submission Review Process

- Proposals *must* be submitted electronically by **Sunday, June 2nd , 2019 (11:59pm EST)**.
- 2 to 3 NERA members will blindly review each proposal.
- Each proposal will be judged according to the following criteria: educational or scholarly significance, perspective or theoretical framework, appropriateness of methodology, clarity of expression, and appeal to NERA membership.
- Proposal decisions will be emailed to first authors in mid-August. Details about session dates and times will follow when the program is finalized.
    - It is important to maintain the **June 2nd deadline** so that reviewers have time to review each proposal, authors can be informed of proposal decisions expeditiously, and a program can be finalized and shared with members in a timely manner

SESSION-SPECIFIC GUIDELINES – 2019 NERA CONFERENCE

When submitting your proposal, you will be asked to indicate which of the following session formats you prefer for your research. We encourage submitters to select more than one possible option, as selecting multiple options increases your likelihood of acceptance. Regardless of the session you choose, your paper will be subjected to rigorous peer review by NERA volunteers. As each format provides a medium for contributing your research to the field, all session formats are equally important. We hope to maintain a variety of sessions this year to maximize the educational experience for NERA members.

1. *Individual Presentations*

   a. *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. In most paper sessions, a discussant will be assigned to read the set of papers in advance and present a 10-15 minute synthesis, critique, or analysis of the set of papers to spur discussion.

   b. *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.

   c. *Individual 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. Specific directions for the size of the poster will be posted on the NERA Conference website.

2. *Theme-Based Paper Session/Symposium*
   Proposals should describe a set of 3-5 presentations organized around a common theme. The chair and discussant for this session must be identified in the proposal. The format and procedure for these sessions are identical to the *Individual Paper Presentation* sessions.

Call for conference volunteers and reviewers!
NERA is a volunteer-based organization. If you want to be a part of what keeps it going – volunteer to be part of a committee or to help the conference as a chair discussant, and/or proposal reviewer here:
https://www.viethconsulting.com/members/form.php?orgcode=NERA&fid=3097449

If you have any questions, please contact the conference chairs at NERA.CoChairs@gmail.com

Thank you,
Alejandra Garcia, Paola Heincke, and Bridget Thomas
NERA 2019 Conference Chairs

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