

Call for Proposals

49TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

October 17-19, 2018

Trumbull Marriott Merritt Parkway, 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. 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: “Honoring the Past in Educational Research, While Looking Ahead: What Does the Future Hold?”

"Oh, how quickly we forget" is a quote that my parents would use when nudging my complaining siblings and I to consider all of the good things they've done for us. They wanted to teach us not to forget the sacrifices made or the hard work that went into creating the environment that we currently enjoy. The production of educational research can be traced back to the mid-19th century in America. Since this time, researchers have been able to stand on the achievements of peers that have come before them for the sole purpose of achieving more in the field of education. These achievements have been seen in educational research methodology, technology, and in more effective and efficient educational practices. Even more, the expansiveness of educational research has allowed us to investigate the impact of our educational systems and interventions on groups of students that truly reflect the diversity of our nation.

These past achievements in educational research will help today's researchers build the logical case for their papers and presentations at the annual NERA Conference. By reflecting on the past work of our peers, we can better appreciate the hard work in research and in practice that has led us to this moment. This solid foundation, built by previous research will allow today's researchers to be bold in their assertions about the future, with the security of knowing that the hard work will continue.

For the 2018 conference, we encourage NERA members and affiliates to be thoughtful about the research that predates your work and to be bold in your assertions about the future of your research. **Although we 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**).
 - Proposal should include: study purpose, theoretical framework, methodology, results, conclusions, and educational implications. *Only completed or nearly completed (i.e., all data collected, most analyses completed and summarized) research will be accepted.*

- *Note:* Refer to the Proposal FAQ for details about organization for proposals that may not lend themselves to each of the sections listed above
- 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, 2018. 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 **Monday, June 4th, 2018 (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.

SESSION-SPECIFIC GUIDELINES – 2018 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 (preference will be given to completed research). 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 completed research project 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.

Link your proposals to the conference theme

We would like to encourage individuals submitting proposals to indicate on the proposal form how their research directly touches upon our conference theme of *Honoring the Past in Educational Research, While Looking Ahead: What Does the Future Hold?* for possible inclusion in a spotlight session centered on the theme. **Note that this is not a requirement for proposals.**

Special call for teacher researchers!

See the website for more information about the special call for teacher researchers to attend NERA and present their research: <http://www.nera-education.org/>

Call for conference volunteers and reviewers!

We will be sending out a survey asking for NERA members to volunteer as proposal reviewers, session chairs, or discussants. Keep an eye out for the survey!

Here is a video, highlighting key aspects of this call: <https://www.powtoon.com/m/eNtQkomynSk/1/m>

If you have any questions, please contact the conference chairs at nera18conference@gmail.com

Thank you,
Tabitha McKinley, New Jersey Department of Education
Jade Caines Lee, University of New Hampshire
NERA 2018 Conference Chairs

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Network with NERA members using our [Linkedin group page!](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/881287)

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