

2020 NERA CONFERENCE [PRELIMINARY PROGRAM]

Wednesday, October 14th, 2020 | 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Start – End	Location	Session Description
1:00-1:30pm		<p>Welcome to NERA 2020!</p> <p>Join the conference co-chairs, NERA president, Membership Committee, and Conference Ambassadors to kick off NERA 2020, virtual style!</p>
1:30-2:45pm <i>Invited Session</i>		<p>Validity Evidence Based on Testing Consequences</p> <p>Panelists: <i>Kristen Huff, EdD; Vice President of Assessment and Research, Curriculum Associates</i> <i>Keith Markus, PhD; Professor, CUNY</i> <i>Steve Sireci, PhD; Professor, Distinguished University Professor, UMass Amherst</i></p> <p>Moderator: <i>Debbi Bandalos, PhD; Professor, James Madison University</i></p>
3:00-5:00pm <i>Invited Workshops</i>		<p>A Practical Introduction to Extracting Linguistic Variables from Text <i>Victoria Yaneva, PhD; NBME</i> <i>Christopher Runyon, PhD; NBME</i></p> <p>Come to this two-hour workshop if you want to learn how to extract a variety of linguistic variables from text. We are going to present practical ways to do so and provide an example of how these can be used in a simple machine-learning model for predicting variables of interest (stay tuned for details). More broadly, this workshop will also be an introduction to techniques from the field of Natural Language Processing (NLP), which allow extracting rich linguistic data corresponding to multiple levels of linguistic processing.</p>
		<p>Using Critical Qualitative Methods and Research to Examine Daily Life Invited Workshop <i>Maleka Donaldson, EdD; University of Hartford</i> <i>Aubry Threlkeld, EdD; Endicott College</i> <i>Chris Buttimer, EdD; Massachusetts Institute of Technology</i> <i>Wendy Sims-Schouten, PhD; University of Portsmouth</i></p> <p>Interested in expanding your methodological repertoire? Join this two-hour workshop that will introduce you to four applied qualitative approaches that can be used to explore the workings of daily life: portraiture, autoethnography, action research and critical realist discourse analysis. The workshop will first offer an overview of each method—including insights into study design, data collection, and</p>

		analysis—that is anchored in examples drawn from past research studies. After a discussion of the particularities and the differences among this set of approaches and a Q&A session, workshop participants will be invited to field their own research ideas, receiving critical feedback and support for future projects from the facilitators and fellow attendees.
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Thursday, October 15th, 2020 | 8:00 AM – 5:30 PM

Start – End	Location	Session Description
8:00-10:00am		<p>New Member Breakfast</p> <p>Join the Conference Ambassadors and Membership Committee for a virtual breakfast/coffee hour. Drop in and ask questions about NERA as an organization and connect with new and seasoned conference members.</p>
9:00am-12:00pm <i>Invited Workshops</i>		<p>Quasi-experimental Research Designs within the Educational Context <i>S. Jeanne Horst, PhD; James Madison University</i> <i>Beth A. Perkins, MA; James Madison University</i></p> <p>It is the fortunate educational researcher who has the privilege of randomly assigning students to experimental conditions. Thus, within the context of educational research, quasi-experimental research designs are common. In this three-hour webinar, we will explore quasi-experimental research designs. The first hour will offer an overview of quasi-experimentation, including pros and cons of several quasi-experimental methods (e.g., regression discontinuity designs, propensity score matching, and generalized boosted models). The remaining two hours will offer applied examples of traditional and current quasi-experimental approaches. Resources, including R code, will be provided for participants' use following the workshop.</p>
		<p>New to R? A Beginner's Workshop Starting with the Basics <i>Derek Sauder, PhD; American Board of Internal Medicine</i></p> <p>In this workshop, participants will be introduced to R assuming no previous knowledge. As such, the workshop is geared towards R novices. The workshop will cover topics such as: 1) what is R and why to use it, 2) how to get data into R, 3) how to manipulate data in R, 4) R packages, and more! Participants will be provided all R code used in the demonstration and be given the opportunity to practice with R during the workshop. A laptop with R installed will be required.</p>
12:15-1:00pm		<p>Awards Ceremony</p> <p>Join the NERA Awards Committees as they present the winners of this year's awards. Please feel free to bring your lunch as we celebrate this year's award winners.</p>
1:00-2:15pm <i>Coordinated Session</i>		<p>Effective Leadership Communication in the time of COVID <i>Michael J. Wolter, PhD; Goodwin University</i> <i>Lisa M. Wisniewski, PhD; Goodwin University</i></p>

		In the time of the COVID-19 pandemic, the entire world had to adjust to changes in communicating through technological mediums. The researchers have conducted a meta-analysis to explore effective communication practices and strategies for leaders during this pandemic. The researchers have explored previous research and evidence-based practices focused on leading and communicating in virtual environments. To fill this gap, the researchers are proposing training and assessment methods to gauge effective best practices that will be conducted online. The framework that the researchers are using to develop this academy is the Full Range Leadership Model developed by Avolio & Bass (1991). In this model, the researchers discussed the importance of transactional, transformational, and laissez-faire leadership styles.
GSIC Session		<p>Navigating the In-person or Virtual Interview Process Panelists TBD</p> <p>In this panel session, attendees will have the opportunity to discuss how to navigate in-person and virtual interview processes with professionals from different fields. Panelists will share their expertise and tips for interviewing for different opportunities. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions of the panelists during the session.</p>
2:30-3:45pm Invited Session		<p>Using Scores for Multiple Purposes in the Professions</p> <p>Panelists: <i>Carol L. Barry, PhD; Senior Psychometrician, American Board of Surgery</i> <i>Daniel P. Jurich, PhD; Manager, Psychometrics, NBME</i> <i>Pamela K. Kaliski, PhD; Senior Measurement Scientist, American Board of Internal Medicine</i></p> <p>Moderator: <i>Drew Wiley, PhD; ACS Ventures</i></p>
4:00-5:30pm		<p>President's Address and Happy Hour</p> <p>Join NERA President Dr. Ross Markle for his Presidential Address. After, we invite you to attend one of our virtual Happy Hours. Grab your favorite beverage and snack and choose to attend the General Happy Hour, Graduate Student Happy Hour, or New Member Happy Hour!</p>

Friday, October 16th, 2020 | 7:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Start – End	Location	Session Description
7:30-8:30am		<p>NERA Business Meeting</p> <p>We invite you to attend the Annual NERA Business Meeting. This is an opportunity to have your voice heard and vote on issues important NERA and its members.</p>

<p>9:00-10:15am</p> <p><i>Coordinated Session</i></p>		<p>Higher and Adult Education Stakeholder Responses to the Challenges Posed by the COVID-19 Pandemic <i>Catherine A. Manly, Claire Wladis, Alyse C. Hachey, Katherine M. Conway; City University of New York</i> <i>Ane Turner Johnson and Monica Reid Kerrigan; Rowan University</i> <i>April Zenisky and Jennifer Lewis; University of Massachusetts Amherst</i> <i>Rebecca Natow; Hofstra University</i></p> <p>From community college students to doctoral students, from faculty to college presidents, the COVID-19 pandemic necessitated a swift and dramatic shift in how teaching and learning occurred in the Spring of 2020. This session presents four papers that investigated the perspectives of each of these stakeholders (community college students, doctoral students, faculty, and college presidents) as they navigated the life, pedagogical, and mission changes necessitated by the pandemic. The common themes explored in this session focus on perceived struggles, the utilization of resources, and the purposeful actions taken by each of the different stakeholders as they adapted to a “new normal” in higher education during the global health crisis.</p>
<p><i>GSIC Session</i></p>		<p>A Good Dissertation is a Finished Dissertation, but What Comes Next?: Post-Dissertation Potential <i>Panelists TBD</i></p> <p>Successful completion and defense of your dissertation is often the culminating event of years of learning, research, and engaging in the field. You spent at least one year (often longer) working on the dissertation, so what happens after it is finished? In this session, a panel of professionals (who are recent graduates from a doctoral program) will discuss their post-dissertation career. Using the Socratic method to help panelists articulate guiding career values, the chair will introduce a holistic coaching model to identify possibilities based on the G.R.O.W. process (Goal, current Reality, Options, Way forward [Will]).</p>
<p>10:30-11:30am</p>		<p>Keynote Address <i>Nathan Kuncel, PhD; Marvin D. Dunnett Distinguished Professor of Psychology, McKnight Presidential Fellow, University of Minnesota</i></p> <p>Dr. Kuncel's research is focused on the measurement of human cognitive and non-cognitive characteristics and their relationship to important life outcomes, including academic and job performance. Don't miss what's sure to be a great talk. More details on his Keynote Address to come in the final program!</p>
<p>11:45am-12:00pm</p>		<p>Farewell Join the current conference co-chairs as we wrap up the 2020 conference and welcome next year's conference co-chairs!</p>