

# Mid-Western Educational Research Association

Graduate Hotel, formerly Kingsgate Conference Center,  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
43rd Annual Meeting | Oct 13 - 15, 2021



## Call for Proposals

Proposal Deadline: **11:59pm EDT on May 15, 2021**



### Our Venue

The 2021 Annual Meeting of the Mid-Western Educational Research Association (MWERA) will be held at the beautiful Graduate Hotel formerly the Kingsgate Conference Center in Cincinnati, Ohio. This is our third year at this scenic, stylish well-situated location. The hotel will provide us with spacious and well-equipped meeting facilities and plenty of common spaces for networking with fellow MWERA members. Additionally, the conference center is a short walk to the Cincinnati Zoo and about ten minutes to downtown, so a short bus or Uber ride away from the Ohio River, National Underground Freedom Center, Over-the-Rhine, Cincinnati Museum Center at Union Terminal, and the Banks.

This year we invite all scholars, professionals, students, practitioners, and administrators —to join us in a friendly and collegial atmosphere as we connect around the issues and problems that are important to us as educational professionals. There will be opportunities to learn, reflect, make new connections, and renew old acquaintances. Prepare to be energized by attending MWERA!

### Conference Theme

Come present and learn with MWERA this year! We have an exciting program of workshops, invited speakers, and peer-reviewed scholarly works presented in a variety of session formats. This year's program theme is:

#### **Conference Theme: The Power of Educational Research: Impacting Change**

How can we share educational research and impact change? How can we use educational research to inform, persuade, and develop knowledge in our fields of study? The struggle to challenge and reaffirm particular educational practices is at the heart of educational research. As educational researchers, we have the responsibility to not only create and disseminate research for the public good but to do so in a manner by which the public may then use our research to support their advocacy. The Mid-Western Educational Research Association would like to provide this conference as an opportunity for educational researchers to collaborate with colleagues, graduate students, undergraduate students, P-12 teachers, administrators, school boards, state boards of education, legislators, unions, non-profits, and other educational stakeholder organizations to engage in innovative and perhaps even non-traditional scientific inquiry for the purpose of social progress through advocacy. We welcome presentations that include the dissemination of educational research through new forms of engagement in public spaces such as editorials, speeches, government testimonies, social media commentary, blog posts, podcasts, videos, wikis, etc.

To better meet the needs of a diverse body of educational stakeholders, educational researchers must choose activities that position research to inform civic participation, engagement, and organized action. Moreover, we may need to go

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beyond our characteristic publication possibilities so that what we learn is disseminated in a way that may be accessed by those inside and outside of our traditional paradigms. Of particular interest to the conference theme, we seek proposals that address the most immediate advocacy needs:

- High-stakes testing
- Social Emotional Learning
- Sustainability
- Schools and mental health issues
- Teacher recruitment, preparation and retention
- Over-identification of students of color and English learners in special education
- School Leadership
- Early Childhood Education
- Governance of curricular decisions
- Higher education



How might we more effectively engage in and utilize educational research that addresses these issues in education? How might we attend to such issues as power and representation? How might we more strategically and holistically distribute findings? How can we use educational research to nourish our minds and facilitate learning? Come to the MWERA conference in Cincinnati in 2021 to explore these issues and more!

### General Information

The 2021 Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Educational Research Association will be held October 13-15, 2021. We invite K-12 educators, higher educators, researchers, administrators, policymakers, and others involved in the enterprise of education to submit proposals for presentation at the meeting.

**The proposal submission deadline is 11:59pm, EDT on May 15, 2021.** Whether or not you are planning to submit a proposal to present, please consider attending to enhance your professional development by attending sessions and/or becoming more involved with the MWERA organization leadership or the MWER journal. We welcome participation from all sectors of education.

### Attendance at the Annual Meeting

The 2021 Conference Program will consist primarily of presentations selected through a blind peer-review process. In addition, there will be invited speakers and symposia; panel discussions; special sessions for graduate students, new faculty, and new members; as well as the Friday keynote luncheon and other social events open to all attendees.

All sessions listed in the Conference Program will be open to anyone who has registered for the Annual Meeting; however, enrollment may be limited for some workshop sessions and business meetings are intended for members. Tickets for the Friday luncheon and speaker are available to all pre-registrants, but ticket availability is not guaranteed for late or on-site registrants. ***\*Both membership and registration are required for attendees and presenters.***

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Membership and Conference Registration materials for the 2021 Annual Meeting will soon be available on the MWERA website (<http://www.mwera.org/>) and specific questions can be addressed to specific division chairs (contact information on the following pages) or the Program Chair at [mweraconference@gmail.com](mailto:mweraconference@gmail.com).

### Ways to Participate

**Presenter:** Any education professional may submit a proposal for the 2021 MWERA Annual Meeting, whether or not that person is currently a member of MWERA. However, before the Annual Meeting, all presenters **MUST** be members in good standing with MWERA (that is, non-members must join MWERA as soon as they are notified that their proposal was accepted). To promote broader participation in the program, *no one person should appear as a presenter on more than three proposals.*

**Attendee:** You can participate simply by attending the conference and/or encouraging your colleagues and students to participate in any way (please share this Call for Proposals with others). All forms of participation are necessary to ensure a successful Annual Meeting. Please plan to attend as many sessions as possible at the conference. Not only will you learn a lot about educational research, but you also will be providing a service to your colleagues by asking questions and offering expert feedback. All persons attending the 2021 Annual Meeting are expected to be members in good standing and to pre-register for the full meeting.

**Reviewers, Session Chairs, and Session Discussants:** Division Chairs are seeking MWERA members to serve as Proposal Reviewers, Session Chairs, and Session Discussants. Please volunteer on the conference website. If you have specific questions, contact a Division Chair or the Program Chair. All persons participating at the 2021 Annual Meeting are expected to be members in good standing and to pre-register for the full meeting.

Questions about proposals, the electronic submission process, or the meeting in general should be directed to Division Chairs or to the Program Chair: **Teresa Young, MWERA—2021 Program Chair, Xavier University, Email:** [mweraconference@gmail.com](mailto:mweraconference@gmail.com).

### **Guidelines for Submitting a Proposal**

While it is desirable for proposals to address the theme of the Annual Meeting, it is not required. Proposals **MUST be submitted electronically**, using the submission process available through the Meeting website (proposals may **NOT** be mailed or e-mailed to the Program Chair or to Division Chairs). Specific instructions for submission can be found at the MWERA website:

***<http://www.mwera.org>***

### **Deadline for Proposal Submission**

All proposals must be submitted no later than **11:59pm EDT on May 15, 2021**. All proposals that are submitted by this deadline are guaranteed to be reviewed. Submissions will then be forwarded to Division Chairs, who will coordinate a number of volunteers in a system of blind review of proposals (i.e., proposals should be submitted without author identification). Please inform your Division Chairs (contact information can be found at the end of this call) if you plan to submit more than one proposal to a division.

### **Criteria for Proposal Review**

Appropriate criteria, depending on the format and type of scholarly work being presented, have been developed and are used for the blind review process. These criteria include:

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- A. Topic (originality, choice of problem, importance);
- B. Relevance of the topic to the Division and to MWERA membership (it does NOT have to address the theme of the conference);
- C. Contribution to research and education;
- D. Framework (theoretical/conceptual/practical rationale, literature review, grounding);
- E. Analyses and interpretations (significance, implications, relationship of conclusions to findings, generalizability, or usefulness); and
- F. Overall written proposal quality (clarity of writing, logic, and organization).

Papers presented at MWERA are expected to be **original scholarship** conducted by the author(s) that has not previously been presented at any other meeting or published in any journal.

Further, it is a violation of MWERA policy to promote commercially available products or services (except as exhibits) that go beyond the limits of appropriate scholarly or scientific communication. Individuals who wish to display educationally-related products or services should contact the Program Chair at [mweraconference@gmail.com](mailto:mweraconference@gmail.com).

### Expectations of Presenters

All persons, including graduate students, presenting and participating at the 2021 Annual Meeting are expected to be **members in good standing** and to **pre-register for the full meeting**. Presenters whose papers have been accepted to a session with a Session Chair and/or Session Discussant are **expected to upload a completed version of their conference paper** through the MWERA website **no later than September 14, 2021**. Papers not uploaded to the website by this date may be dropped from the program. Presenters are also expected to attend sessions in order to demonstrate good-faith collegiality and professional courtesy. While adding to your CV is important, learning from your colleagues and offering feedback benefits all conference participants.

LCD projectors and screens will be provided by MWERA in presentation rooms. **Presenters needing additional computer or audio-visual equipment must make their own arrangements** for such equipment (rental from the hotel may be possible at the presenter's own expense). Please remember to bring the appropriate adapter/dongle for your computer.

MWERA reserves the right to reproduce and distribute summaries and abstracts of all accepted proposals, including making such works available in a printed Program Abstract, through the MWERA website, and in press releases promoting the Annual Meeting and the organization. **As a condition of acceptance, all authors of papers accepted to the 2021 Annual Meeting explicitly grant MWERA the right to reproduce their work's summary and/or abstract in these ways.** Such limited distribution does not preclude any subsequent publication of the work by the author(s).

**Authors of accepted proposals assume the ethical and professional responsibility to appear at the Annual Meeting and to participate in their presentation or assigned session.** When circumstances preclude the author(s) from doing so, it is the responsibility of the author(s) to arrange a suitable substitute and to notify the Division Chairs and Program Chair in advance.

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### Paper Presentation

Paper sessions are intended to allow presenters the opportunity to make short, relatively formal presentations in which they summarize their papers to an audience. Three to five individual papers dealing with related topics are grouped into a single session running 1 hour 10 minutes. Each paper presentation is allowed approximately 12 - 15 minutes (depending on the number of presentations in a given session) to present the highlights of the paper. In addition, a Session Discussant is allowed approximately 10-15 minutes, following all papers, for comments, synthesis, and/or constructive feedback. A Session Chair moderates the entire session.

### Poster

Poster sessions are intended to provide opportunities for interested individuals to participate in a dialogue with both the presenter(s) and other interested individuals. Presenters are provided an area in which to display a Poster, ancillary handouts, or other table-top A/V materials. Interested individuals are free to move into and out of these poster presentations as they wish. Presenters are expected to make available complete copies of the paper on which the poster was focused.

### Research in Progress

Research in Progress affords individual researchers, particularly graduate students and early-career scholars, the opportunity to submit evidence-based works that are not fully realized and/or completed but have enough progression and fidelity to warrant dissemination and discussion among peers. For example, Research in Progress papers will be arranged to provide graduate students and/or new scholars with an opportunity to receive comments on their research in progress for feedback to enhance its potential for publication or presentation at a professional conference.

### Alternative Session

The form, topics, and format of alternative sessions are limited only by the imagination and creativity of the organizer. Workshops, symposium, and best practices forum are examples of Alternative Sessions. These options are intended to afford the most effective method or approach to disseminating scholarly work of a variety of types. These sessions highlight unique and innovative programs that demonstrate promise for improving and enhancing educational practice. Additionally, these sessions may explain how to develop or improve the ability to perform some process or examine a specific problem or topic from a variety of perspectives. Proposals for alternative sessions must include a brief rationale for the alternative session being proposed, and will be evaluated on the appropriateness to the topic and audience, the ability to meet the limitations of time, space, and expense for MWERA, and the basic quality or value of the topic. The organizer of alternative sessions is responsible for all major participants or speakers, developing and providing any necessary materials, and chairing the session. **One abstract and one paper will be submitted for the session.**

## Content Required for Proposals

The following guidelines are required for proposals. If you have questions or concerns, please contact your Division Chair or the Program Chair.

### Abstracts: Paper, Posters, & Alternative Sessions

The abstract should be 100-150 words. The abstracts of accepted papers will be published in the *MWERA 2021 Annual Meeting Abstracts publication* and may be available on the MWERA website. Use clear, precise language, which can be understood by readers outside your discipline. **The abstract MUST be followed by a summary. A submission must have an abstract AND a summary.**

### Summaries: Paper, Posters, & Alternative Sessions

Generally, summaries for ALL proposals should be **approximately 2500 words.**

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Summaries for **Paper, Poster, and Research in Progress** proposals should explicitly address as many of the following as appropriate, preferably in this order: (a) objectives, goals, or purposes; (b) perspectives and/or theoretical framework; (c) methods and/or techniques (data source, instruments, procedures); (d) results and conclusions; and (e) educational and/or scientific importance of the work. **NOTE: If you do NOT yet have full results/conclusions for your research, then you must submit a Research in Progress proposal and indicate that your data analysis is in progress.**

Summaries for **Alternative Session** proposals should explicitly address as many of the following as appropriate, preferably in this order: (a) descriptive title; (b) objectives, goals, and purposes; (c) importance of the topic, issue, or problem; (d) explanation of the basic format or structure of the session, with a brief rationale for the format; (e) listing of the presenter(s), by number, not name, for blind review (e.g., "Presenter 1"), with an explanation of each person's relevant background and role in the session; and (f) anticipated audience and kind of audience involvement. **One submission for the alternative session will be accepted.** Limited program space may be available for these types of sessions.

## Important Deadlines

Proposal Submission Deadline:	May 15, 2021
Notification of Acceptance/Rejection:	August 1, 2021
Early Bird Registration:	September 14, 2021
Hotel Reservations:	September 14, 2021
Upload full papers:	September 14, 2021
<b>MWERA 2021 Annual Meeting</b>	<b>October 13-15, 2021</b>

### MWERA Distinguished Paper Award

Each year the State and Regional Educational Research Association (SRERA) special interest group of American Educational Research Association (AERA) invites its member state and regional affiliates to each present one distinguished paper at the annual spring AERA meeting. These papers are automatically accepted for presentation and do not undergo additional review. MWERA will recognize one overall distinguished paper from its exemplary proposals to submit for presentation at the next AERA Annual Meeting. The award recipient is expected to present the paper at AERA and will receive a \$350 stipend to defray the cost of registration.

### **Division Chair Contact Information**

If you want to make an inquiry about the work of the MWERA divisions, below is the contact information for the Division Chairs. Also, if you plan to submit a proposal and you are unsure about the division to which it should go, please feel free to contact the division leadership or the Program Chair.

#### **A – Administration, Organization, & Leadership**

This division is concerned with research, theory, development, and the improvement of practice in the organization and administration of education.

Chair: Stella "Ann" Burns  
Eastern Kentucky University  
Ann.burns@eku.edu

Co-Chair: Eric Dimmitt  
Cardinal Stritch University  
ejdimmitt@stritch.edu

#### **B – Curriculum Studies**

This division is concerned with curriculum and instructional practice, theory, and research.

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Chair: Lauren Angelone  
Xavier University  
angelonel@xavier.edu

Co-Chair: Stefani Boutelier  
Aquinas  
[smb009@aquinas.edu](mailto:smb009@aquinas.edu)

### C – Learning & Instruction

This division is concerned with theory and research on human abilities, learning styles, individual differences, problem-solving, and other factors.

Chair: Angela Miller-Hargis  
University of Cincinnati Blue Ash  
millai@ucmail.uc.edu

Co-Chair: Bright Da-Costa Aboagye  
University of West Florida  
ba40@students.uwf.edu

### D – Measurement & Research Methodology

This division is concerned with measurement, statistical methods, as well as both quantitative and qualitative research methods as applied to education.

Chair: Pornchanok (Porsche) Ruengvirayudh  
Loyola Marymount University  
porsche.ruengvirayudh@lmu.edu

Co-Chair: Todd Reeves  
Northern Illinois University  
treeves@niu.edu

### E – Counseling & Human Development

This division is concerned with the understanding of human development, special education, and the application and improvement of counseling theories, techniques, and training strategies.

Chair: Dorcas Ivy Oduro  
University of West Florida  
dO25@students.uwf.edu

Co-Chair: Myrtle Kudari  
University of West Florida  
[mk118@students.uwf.edu](mailto:mk118@students.uwf.edu)

### F – History & Historiography

This division is concerned with the findings and methodologies of historical research in education.

Chair: Qian Gu  
Miami University  
[guq@miamioh.edu](mailto:guq@miamioh.edu)

Chair: Kevin Krahenbuhl  
Middle Tennessee State University  
kevin.krahenbuhl@mtsu.edu

### G – Social Context of Education

This division is concerned with theory, practice, and research on social, moral, affective, and motivational characteristics and development, especially multicultural perspectives.

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Chair: Holly Endres  
National Heritage Academies-Orion  
Endres.h@gmail.com

Co-Chair: Krontayia Payne-Moss  
Ambitious Leaders Outreach  
Ambitiousleadersoutreach@gmail.com

#### H – Research, Evaluation, & Assessment in Schools

This division is concerned with research and evaluation to improve school practice, including program planning and implementation.

Chair: Audrey Conway Roberts  
Bowling Green State University  
[audrobe@bgsu.edu](mailto:audrobe@bgsu.edu)

Co-Chair: Kwabena Ofori-Attah  
Central State University  
[kofori-attah@centralstate.edu](mailto:kofori-attah@centralstate.edu)

#### I – Education in the Professions

This division is concerned with educational practice, research, and evaluation in the professions (e.g. medicine, nursing, public health, business, law, and engineering).

Chair: Joan Nkansah  
University of West Florida  
[jnn9@students.uwf.edu](mailto:jnn9@students.uwf.edu)

Co-Chair: Sandra Ayivor  
University of West Florida  
[sa92@students.uwf.edu](mailto:sa92@students.uwf.edu)

#### J – Postsecondary Education

This division is concerned with a broad range of issues related to two-year, four-year, and graduate education.

Chair: John Gillham  
University of Findlay  
[gillham@findlay.edu](mailto:gillham@findlay.edu)

Co-Chair: Leigh Dzwik  
Oakland University  
[settlemo@oakland.edu](mailto:settlemo@oakland.edu)

#### K – Teaching & Teacher Education

This division is concerned with theory, practice, and research related to teaching at all levels and in-service and pre-service teacher education, including field experiences and mentoring.

Chair: Jennifer Olson  
University of Illinois at Chicago  
[jolson21@uic.edu](mailto:jolson21@uic.edu)

Co-Chair: Grace Hui-Chen Huang  
Cleveland State University  
[g.h.huang@csuohio.edu](mailto:g.h.huang@csuohio.edu)

#### L – Educational Policy & Politics

This division is concerned with educational policy as well as political, legal, and fiscal matters related to education.

Chair: Yohanna Agyei  
University of West Florida  
[ya17@students.uwf.edu](mailto:ya17@students.uwf.edu)

Co-Chair: Cate Crosby  
Emporia State University  
[ccrosby1@emporia.edu](mailto:ccrosby1@emporia.edu)



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