

EERA

Eastern Educational Research Association

The Eastern Researcher Newsletter Spring 2013

Enlightening Education Through Research

Summary of the EERA Conference in Sarasota

Scholarly conversation with friends and colleagues was the focus of the 2013 EERA conference in Sarasota, FL. Conference participants were able to reconnect with old friends and meet new ones while engaging in fascinating conversation about educational research. The conference kicked off with a workshop session about teaching hand calculation of a one-way ANOVA, which was followed by the Keynote Address by Dr. Barbara Lockee from Virginia Tech. Dr. Lockee had words of wisdom for all of the attendees on the research trends in instructional technology. A summary of her presentation is included in this newsletter. After the Keynote, participants were able to select from over 225 different paper, symposium, roundtable, and poster presentations to attend over the course of the two and a half days of the conference. Presentations included topics such as measuring teacher dispositions, children's literature as a component of social studies instruction, the changing role of the school administrator, and factor extraction and rotation in Q methodology.



(Andrew Snyder, Bridget Gargin, Julie Phegley, and Steven Viglianti, undergraduate students from Kutztown University making their first conference presentation)

In addition to expanding their thinking about educational research during the daytime conference sessions, EERA members also gathered to relax and rejuvenate at the different receptions and events. Sixty-two student members attended the 2013 conference and many of those students attended the Graduate Student Reception on late Thursday afternoon. At the reception attendees had the opportunity to win one of four gift-card raffle prizes while networking with professional members and other students. On Thursday night everyone gathered to celebrate the lifetime achievement of Dr. John Burton from Virginia Tech and honor the service of now Past-President Dr. Andy Shim from the University of South Dakota. Dr. Shim served as president of EERA from 2011 - 2013.



(Photo of new President Dr. Michele Parker, University of North Carolina Wilmington, past Past President Dr. Abbot Packard, University of West Georgia, Dr. John Burton, Virginia Tech and Immediate Past President Dr. Andy Shim, University of South Dakota)

On Thursday night, after the reception, some members took part in a deep discussion on mixed methods research during the Fireside Chat with Dr. Newman that lasted for more than 3-hours. We obviously have members who are enthusiastic about their research methods. However, now that the 2013 conference is behind us it is time to start planning for the future. Hopefully you will all be planning your next research project and be thinking about proposals to submit for the 2014 conference in Jacksonville, FL. The window for submissions for the next conference opens Tuesday, September 3, 2013. We look forward to seeing you all there next year!

Research 3.0: The Next Generation of Instructional Technology Inquiry

By Dr. Barbara Lockee

The use of technology for learning has drawn tremendous interest from a variety of constituents hoping for promise of educational reform through its use. However, the history of research related to instructional technology has been well intentioned, but fraught with a variety of challenges related to focus and methodology. Examining the roots of inquiry in IT that began over a century ago, the 2013 EERA keynote presentation traced the research trends in instructional technology, explaining how each new wave of innovation typically resulted in the same investigation approach that compared learning outcomes using the new technology to outcomes of the preceding innovation or to the outcomes of "traditional" teacher-led instruction. While methodologies have evolved to ask more meaningful questions, the same types of comparisons still exist, even in current federal initiatives. The presentation concluded with proposed areas of investigation for the future and the audience was urged to always be sure to look to the past for guidance on prior educational innovations that may inform current trends and extend the instructional technology research base.

Summary of the Post-Conference Survey Results

By Dr. Jennifer L. Brown

At the conclusion of this year's conference, a post-conference survey was distributed via email to all current EERA members on February 18, 2013. A total of 115 members completed the survey. The respondents included 36 (31.3%) student members and 79 (68.7%) professional members. Of those respondents, 96.6% attended the 2013 Annual Conference in Sarasota, and 72.6% of the respondents plan to attend the 2014 Annual Conference, which will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Jacksonville, Florida.

When asked about the services provided by the Hyatt Regency in Sarasota, the respondents indicated that the front desk staff, food, housekeeping, and conference facilities were satisfactory. Using a four-point Likert type scale with 1 representing *Very Dissatisfied* and 4 representing *Very Satisfied*, the front desk staff received a mean rating of 3.49 with a standard

deviation of 0.80. The food earned a mean rating of 3.32 with a standard deviation of 0.83. Housekeeping was given a mean rating of 3.59 with a standard deviation of 0.77, and conference facilities were given a mean rating of 3.31 with a standard deviation of 0.87. Some reasons listed for dissatisfaction were excessive food costs and lack of room availability at the hotel.

In terms of conference organization, slightly more than 57% of the respondents indicated that the paper sessions were the most valuable aspect of this year's conference, and 17% of the respondents indicated the roundtable sessions were the second most valuable aspect. For future conference programs, 49.1% of the respondents indicated they would prefer a downloadable PDF program, 36.0% indicated a hard copy preference, and 14.9% indicated they preferred a mobile device app. Many comments and suggestions were given about conference registration, program organization, communication of expectations to presenters, and business meeting agenda. At the next summer board meeting, the Board will review those comments and suggestions along with the quantitative survey data as they plan for the 2014 conference.

Journal of Research in Education

The current issue of JRE can be found at this [link](#). This issue includes the following articles:

1. Does Athletic Success Come at the Expense of Academic Success? by Daniel H. Bowen & Jay P. Green
2. Social Stories™ for Children with Autism: A Review of the Literature by Jessica L. Bucholz
3. Teacher Leaders Negotiating Equity-Centered Change: Empowerment and Development through Action Research by Jennifer Jacobs
4. Chinese College Students' Self Regulated Learning Strategies and Self-Efficacy Beliefs in Learning English as a Foreign Language by Chuang Wang, Jiyue Hu, Guoying Zhang, & Yan Chang
5. Examining the Relationships Among Classroom Goal Structure, Achievement Goal Orientation, Motivation and Self-regulated Learning for Ethnically Diverse Learners by David Shannon, Jill Salisbury-Glennon, & Melanie Shores
6. The complexities of teaching prime decomposition and multiplicative structure with tools to preservice elementary teachers by Terri L. Kurz & Jorge Garcia

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2014 Annual Conference Hyatt Regency in Jacksonville, FL February 19-22, 2014

Networking with diverse professionals
Presenting research in a supportive environment
Nurturing graduate students



EERA 2015
Sarasota, FL
February 25-28

EERA 2016
Hilton Head, SC
February 17-20

The purpose of Eastern Educational Research Association is to encourage the growth and practice of educational research. Promoting quality educational research and providing a forum for its dissemination enhance this purpose.



Visit it us online for more information about the conference at www.eeraonline.org/conference

Call for Paper Proposals

Submission Window Opens Sept. 3, 2013