The fifty-ninth Annual Meeting of the Florida Educational Research Association will be held on November 19-21, 2014, at the Hilton Cocoa Beach Oceanfront, Cocoa Beach, Florida. Following are guidelines for submitting paper and symposium proposals for the meeting.

Two changes to the paper proposal review process became effective in 2006: First, persons submitting a paper proposal for review must be current active members of FERA. Those who paid annual dues at the time of registration for the 2013 FERA Annual meeting are considered to have active membership. Non-members who wish to submit proposals will have an opportunity to join FERA at the time of proposal submission. Secondly, members whose papers are accepted will be asked to register in advance for the 2014 FERA Annual Meeting in order to ensure that the paper presentation is included in the program and appears in the program bulletin.

Paper, graduate student poster and symposium proposals will be considered for inclusion in the program according to the guidelines. If you plan to submit a poster proposal, please refer to “FERA 2014 Call for Graduate Student Poster Proposals” at FERA’s website. All proposals will be judged for significance of the research, theoretical framework, methods and analysis employed, interpretation of results, and quality of writing. At least two or more reviewers will review each proposal.

Timely submission of proposals is essential for program preparation. **Deadline for receipt of all paper and symposium proposals is 11:59 p.m. Thursday, July 31st, 2014.** In fairness to proposal reviewers, this is a firm deadline. Please forward proposals or questions about proposals to:

Donna L. Buckner  
Director, Assessment, Research & Innovation at  
Our Children’s Charter Schools and Rehab Clinic  
donna.buckner@ourchildrens.org; Office: 813-362-9222  
Text: 813.362.9222 (Please identify yourself when you text)  
Website: www.ourchildrens.org

All program proposals must be submitted electronically via e-mail attachment to: fera.proposal@gmail.com. The program will include papers, graduate student posters, and symposia on topics and issues of current interest to education professionals, especially those in Florida. Topics may include but not limited to research on:

- Teaching and Learning
- Schools and Teachers
- Schools and Leadership
- Instructional Practices
- Technology in Classrooms
- Teacher Education/Professional Development
- Classroom Assessment
- Large-scale Assessment
- Accountability
- Assessment on Special Populations
- Test Construction
- Psychometrics
- Program Evaluation
- Students in Higher Education
- Qualitative Research
- Statistics
- Research Methodology
- Meta Analysis

The program also will have invited speakers and papers or symposia presented by prominent educational research, measurement, and evaluation theorists and practitioners. The following are guidelines for submitting proposals.

Paper Presentations

Paper presentations should be prepared for an average 15 minute time span. If needed, please include a note in the Proposal Information to request a different allocation of time for the presentation. Individual papers will be grouped by topic into paper sessions. Each paper session will include an introduction by a session facilitator, presentation of the papers, and audience questions and reactions. All proposals for papers will be considered for the Distinguished Paper Award. Additional information on this award is included on the next page.

Graduate Student Posters

This is a graduate student only session. A poster session provides opportunities for graduate students to present their research accomplishments in a more interactive setting. For a paper to be presented in the Graduate Student Poster session, the first author of the paper must be a graduate student. All presented posters are considered for the Distinguished Graduate Student Poster Award. Graduate Student Poster proposals will have a separate review process. For details, please refer to “FERA 2014 Call for Graduate Student Poster Proposals” at FERA’s website. Graduate students are not limited to this category.
Symposia

A symposium is intended to provide an opportunity to examine specific problems, topics or projects from a variety of perspectives. Papers presented in a symposium should be on the same theme and should complement each other. A symposium should provide an opportunity for presentations as well as dialogue, critique and audience comments. Presentations should be organized within a 60-90 minute time period.

The organizer of a symposium is responsible for suggesting the topic, securing speakers, and arranging for a facilitator. If the symposium is accepted by the Program Committee, the organizer is responsible for assuring that everyone named as a participant (whether a presenter or facilitator) will be present at the meeting. If the organizer so desires, the Program Committee will secure a facilitator for the session. Should circumstances prevent a participant from attending the meeting, it is the organizer’s responsibility to secure a suitable replacement and notify the FERA Program Committee of the substitution as soon as possible. The organizer is responsible for notifying all other symposium participants. The Program Committee will notify only the organizer.

Other Presentation Formats

Alternative formats for presenting research will be considered. Indicate on the proposal cover sheet if you would prefer presenting in an alternative format and suggest the format you desire.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

FERA members may submit paper proposals for consideration. Non-members must join FERA at the time the proposal is submitted for review. Proposals must be submitted electronically as e-mail attachments. Microsoft Word is the strongly preferred format, but rich text files (.rtf) or plain text files (.txt) are acceptable alternatives. Create two files: the Proposal Information and the Proposal Summary. The Proposal Information should include the following specific items. You need not copy each item; simply enumerate your information in the same order as given below.

a. Title of the proposal
b. Desired format (paper, symposium, etc. For graduate student poster proposals, please refer to “Call for Graduate Student Poster Proposals” at FERA’s website.)
c. First author’s name and institutional affiliation.
d. First author's e-mail address, USPS address, telephone number, and fax number
e. Names of co-authors or co-presenters (if co-presenters will address different topics, such as in a symposium, list the topic for each co-presenter) and their institutional affiliations
f. If a symposium, list the names and institutional affiliations of the organizer(s) and facilitator of the symposium.
g. The Abstract of the proposal. It should not exceed 100 words.
h. Prepare the Proposal Summary, not to exceed five pages, double spaced.
i. Indicate authors with graduate student status so they can be included in FERA graduate student mailings.

DO NOT IDENTIFY THE AUTHOR(S) OR THEIR INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATIONS ANYWHERE IN THE SUMMARY. This will provide for a blind review of the proposal. The summary should include:

a. Title of the paper or symposium  e. Method
b. Purpose  f. Results and conclusions
c. Rationale and background  g. Limitations
d. Data source (population, sample, setting)  h. Implications

By 11:59 p.m. July 31, 2014, send the two electronic files to:
fera.proposal@gmail.com

For non-members: By July 31, 2014, go online to complete FERA membership form and pay membership dues (or print form and mail to address on form). Please note that papers will only be reviewed and considered for FERA members.

It is scheduled that you will be notified of the status of your paper by September 5, 2014. If your paper is accepted for presentation, please, submit your registration form, membership renewal, and payment for the 2014 FERA Annual Meeting no later than September 12, 2014. Please note that papers will not be included in the program if the author has not registered for the conference. If your paper is selected as a candidate for the distinguished paper award, please, send a copy of your completed paper to the chair of the distinguished paper proposal review committee no later than Friday, October 17, 2014 (four weeks before the conference).