

2010 Outstanding Dissertation Award AERA, Division J

We are pleased to announce the acceptance of nominations for the annual AERA Division J competition for the outstanding doctoral dissertation in Higher Education.

Our emphasis is on recognizing a doctoral student who, through his or her dissertation work:

- * advances our overarching values in higher education, broadly defined;
- * makes innovative use of methods, extending the approaches available to conducting research in our field;
- * integrates research and theory grounded in a variety of intellectual traditions into his or her own research; and
- * suggests particularly insightful implications for improving practice or generates and/or extends theory in potentially useful ways for researchers and practitioners.

We request that nominations be from the student's dissertation chair or a dissertation committee member and be delivered by e-mail message to the chair of the competition: Benjamin Baez, Florida International University, benjamin.baez@fiu.edu.

In nominations, we ask that the dissertation chair or committee member speak to the four areas of emphasis above and indicate that the dissertation has been completed, or will be completed, and accepted by the institution between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2009. The nomination letter should not exceed 500 words. Only dissertations dated 2009 are eligible for the award.

We also ask that each nominated student submit, via attachment (Microsoft Word) to the competition chair, an abstract of his or her dissertation of not more than 2000 words, along with his or her complete contact information in the body of the message.

The competition chair must receive all materials by December 7, 2009.

The competition chair will invite the authors of the most promising abstracts (usually the top 4 or 5) to submit a complete version of the dissertation, again by e-mail attachment. The committee will complete its selection by February 8, 2010, inviting the competition winner to present his or her work in a special session at the AERA Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado, April 30 – May 4, 2010.

Please contact Benjamin Baez via e-mail (benjamin.baez@fiu.edu) with any questions.