



AERA Introduces Education Research Conference Program

A New Opportunity for Scholars

The American Educational Research Association (AERA) is pleased to announce the launch of a new program of support for conferences in education research. AERA seeks proposals for research conferences that aim to break new ground in substantive areas of inquiry, stimulate new lines of study on issues that have been largely unexplored, or develop innovative research methods or techniques that can contribute more generally to education research. Conferences may focus on conceptual, empirical, or methodological issues important to understanding the state of knowledge and charting directions for future research. It is anticipated that research conferences will draw upon diverse disciplines and fields of inquiry where there is relevant scientific and scholarly expertise. The purpose of this program is to foster the accumulation of knowledge, to enhance dissemination, to encourage innovation, and to advance studies of the highest quality in education research.

This program is intended to complement and extend the ongoing programs of the Association. Research conferences on nascent or unexamined topics, on research and science policy issues, or on research matters of substantial significance to educational policy or practice are undertaken and planned by AERA staff as linked to the Association's programmatic objectives. In some instances, ideas for such meetings emanate from AERA Council or Committees and in other instances from staff and are considered and approved by Council. These efforts are part of the Association's ongoing intramural program of work and actively involve members of the

education research community. The purpose of this new initiative is to institute an extramural program of conference support to widen the net of important issues in education research that are proposed and led by scholars well situated to identify areas that could be advanced through research conferences. In many instances, these conferences will be so centrally focused on fundamental conceptual issues, methods, or techniques that they are most likely to be brought to the fore by research experts most closely engaged in a field of education research. Through combining intramural and extramural opportunities, the Association seeks to promote work of the highest quality that can help enrich education research and add to the base of

knowledge for years to come.

This program is established initially for 3 years, with a deadline of August 15, 2009, for the first call for conference proposals. It is expected that the conferences approved for funding in fall 2009 would be held in summer or fall 2010 (or later). The AERA Research Advisory Committee (RAC) will serve as the selection committee for this initiative along with one appointed member of the Social Justice Action Committee and the staff and Council liaison. RAC will report to Council on this program at the end of its second year and advance any recommendations on its continuation and future directions. Inquiries can be directed to EdResearchConf@aera.net.

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Call for Proposals AERA Education Research Conferences

Deadline: August 15, 2009

*For more background and details, read the Call for Proposals
at <http://www.aera.net>.*

Direct inquiries to EdResearchConf@aera.net.

Educational Researcher, Vol. 38, No. 4, p. 294
DOI: 10.3102/0013189X09339301
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