

**CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS
WERA FOCAL MEETING
DEADLINE: JUNE 30, 2012**

Research on Education and Learning Through a Worldwide Lens
December 2-6, 2012
Sydney, Australia

The World Education Research Association (WERA) invites submissions for papers and symposia for the WERA Focal Meeting to be held in Sydney, Australia December 2-6, 2012. WERA is an association of major national, regional, and specialty education research associations dedicated to sharing scholarship, developing networks, and mutually supporting capacity building. The Focal Meeting is an integral part of the joint conference of the Australian Association for Research in Education (AARE) and the Asia-Pacific Education Research Association (APERA). The Focal Meeting consists of a strand of paper and symposium sessions on topics of international scope and significance that are embedded in the program of a WERA member association.

WERA symposia and paper sessions are intended to complement and extend those presented at the main conference under the AARE-APERA Call for Papers. The WERA Focal Meeting seeks to feature research that includes more than one country or is comparative, cross-cultural, international, or transnational in conceptualization, scope, or design. Abstracts for papers need to meet these criteria; symposia abstracts can include papers from single sites or countries as long as the presentations combined are from different countries and the aims of the symposium are anchored in worldwide or global issues. Duplicate submission through the AARE and WERA online submission systems is not allowed.

Who Should Submit?

Scholars and advanced graduate students worldwide whose research extends beyond a single-country site are encouraged to submit papers to the WERA Focal Meeting. Scholars wishing to organize symposium that feature research paper presentations from different countries or parts of the world are also encouraged to submit.

Scope of Focal Meeting

The scope of the Focal Meeting is wide in its reach to include studies across the life span from early learning to workforce and adult education and that take place in formal and informal contexts of education and learning. The emphasis of the Focal Meeting is on papers and symposia with a lens that is worldwide in perspective. Otherwise there is no restriction on the education research topics appropriate for consideration, although priority will be given to submissions that focus on research and findings addressed to significant trends, issues, and challenges worldwide.

Guidelines for Submission to WERA Focal Meeting

Paper and symposia abstracts must be submitted in Microsoft Word or another word processing application using the templates provided on the WERA website at www.weraonline.org. Submissions must be received with all information complete as e-mail attachments to wera@aera.net. The Subject line of the e-mail should state: 2012 WERA Focal Meeting Submission.

Paper Abstract:

Abstracts for research papers are a maximum of 750 words in addition to the paper title, information on the authors, and so forth. Up to ten references may be included in the abstract and must be set forth in the reference list. The first author of the paper is responsible for submission, even if that individual is not the paper presenter.

Symposium Abstract:

A symposium provides opportunities, not afforded by a single paper, to examine a specific education research problem or topic through an international, comparative, or worldwide lens and to bring to bear diverse perspectives, intensive discussion, or a wide range of expertise.

Abstracts for symposium are a maximum of 400 words for the general description and 150 word summaries for each presentation/paper. Symposium proposals are submitted by an organizer who may or may not be a chair, presenter, or discussant. A WERA symposium can include a maximum of five participants in addition to the chair. Participants include all presenters and any discussants. The abstract allows for up to ten references for each presentation and must be set forth in the reference list.

Peer Review of Submissions

All submissions are peer reviewed by the Focal Meeting Planning Committee. Criteria include the worldwide significance of the research questions, the soundness of the methodology, the appropriateness of the methods to the research questions, the importance of the findings, and the overall logic and clarity of the conclusions and implications of the research.

Guidelines for Accepted Submissions

Presenting authors of accepted papers AND all participants in accepted symposia are expected to attend and register for the AARE-APERA 2012 Conference—site of the WERA Focal Meeting.

Narrative papers for accepted paper and symposium abstracts must be submitted by e-mail to wera@aera.net by November 5, 2012. Papers will be accessible through the WERA online paper portal in February 2013. Authors wishing to revise their papers for the paper portal may do so up to January 15, 2013.

Important Dates

- June 30: Closing date for abstracts for papers and symposia
August 10: Last day for notification of acceptance of abstracts
August 29: Presenter registrations close
Early-bird (discount) registration rate closes
November 5: Submission of final papers to WERA
December 2: Opening of Conference and President's Reception
December 3: Conference presentations commence
December 6: Conference closes
January 15: Submission of revised final paper

Focal Meeting Planning Committee

Co-Chairs:

Felice J. Levine, WERA Secretary General; American Educational Research Association
Ong Kim Lee, WERA Vice President-elect

Members:

Eva L. Baker, WERA President; University of California, Los Angeles
Jos Beishuizen, European Association for Research on Learning and Instruction
Yin Cheong Cheng, WERA President-elect
Ying Yao Cheng, President, Taiwan Educational Research Association
Woon Chia Liu, President, Educational Research Association of Singapore
Sunil Behari Mohanty, General Secretary, All India Association for Educational Research
Oon Seng Tan, Educational Research Association of Singapore