

2007

Front Matter

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MID-WESTERN EDUCATIONAL RESEARCHER

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DePaul University—Lincoln Park Campus; Home of the LINK-INitiative

On The Cover—DePaul University's School of Education LINK-INitiative

DePaul University is the largest Catholic university in the United States. More than 23,000 students who reflect a broad range of ethnic, religious, geographic and economic backgrounds attend DePaul. The university, which offers courses at six campuses throughout Chicago and its suburbs, is comprised of eight schools and colleges.

The School of Education was established in 1962 to offer students from diverse backgrounds high-quality teacher preparation skills at the graduate and undergraduate levels. Its programs are guided by a conceptual framework that prepares urban, professional, multicultural educators to bring knowledge and understanding to their roles as educators.

A signature of the School of Education's teacher preparation is its community collaborations. It currently partners with teachers and administrators in six public and private elementary and secondary professional development schools in Chicago. The partnership offers DePaul students the opportunity to engage in research-based clinical practice in classrooms while providing professional development support to practicing teachers and administrators.

Another key community partnership is the School of Education's LINK-INitiative Professional Development School Network. Launched in 2003, the program represents a unique model of teacher education that transcends traditional approaches to teacher preparation. It involves a more cohesive induction, preparation and inquiry approach to education that involves Chicago area elementary and high schools. The schools become an integral part of the teacher education program at DePaul and DePaul becomes an integral part of the school environment.

The initiative, which is supported by the Searle Funds at the Chicago Community Trust, also draws on DePaul faculty expertise to create professional learning communities focused on improved pupil learning. The program's unique structure links all stakeholders including education, liberal arts and sciences and music faculty from DePaul; teachers from the partnering schools, principals and parents. Its activities support and encourage research, best practice teacher professional development and school improvement.

Call for Manuscripts

The *Mid-Western Educational Researcher* is a scholarly journal that publishes research-based articles addressing a full range of educational issues. The journal also publishes literature reviews, theoretical and methodological discussions that make an original contribution to the research literature, and feature columns. There are four issues of the journal published annually.

The journal is accepting manuscripts for review and possible publication. Manuscripts are submitted to blind reviews by three researchers with knowledge of the literature in the appropriate area. The editors will review the manuscript and make the final decision. The review process requires approximately four months.

Manuscripts are accepted from faculty, students, and professionals working in educational or non-educational settings. Membership in the MWERA is not required in order to submit a manuscript for review. The editors encourage the submission of revised papers that have been presented at the annual meetings of the MWERA, AERA, and other professional organizations.

Manuscripts may be submitted for review electronically. Submit the manuscript to Deborah Bainer Jenkins, Co-Editor, at mer@westga.edu as an email attachment. Indicate in the subject line that this is a MWERJ manuscript. Manuscript should be formatted as a MS Word document using 12 point Times New Roman font. Manuscripts should conform to the style and format described in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 5th edition*. All manuscripts should be typed, double-spaced, with 1 ½ inch margins on all sides, and contain page numbers. An abstract of less than 100 words should accompany the manuscript. The author's name, contact information, and affiliation should appear on the title page only. Submissions typically are less than 20 pages in length, including references, title page, and abstract.

All manuscripts will be acknowledged electronically upon receipt. Please note that authors are responsible to submit manuscripts that are free of grammatical and mechanical errors. Manuscripts will be initially screened for format and fit for the journal by the editors. Appropriate manuscripts will be submitted to blind review. The editors reserve the right to make minor modifications in order to produce a more concise and clear article. Contributors acknowledge by virtue of their submission to the journal that they will consent to have their work available internationally through the EBSCO portal, as part of an agreement with the MWERA.

Questions regarding the journal should be directed to the co-editors listed below.

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