

1999

## A Letter From the Editors

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## *A Letter From the Editors*

It has been a great delight and challenge for us to serve as co-editors of the Mid-Western Educational Researcher for the past three years. We started off with lofty goals and some general notions of how to maintain the high standards of the journal and, as we reflect back on our editorship, are pleased with the direction which the journal has taken. It has been a joy to work with an active editorial board which has freely shared suggestions and new directions, which we've endeavored to carry out.

Allow us to summarize for you what we feel have been major accomplishments of the past three years for the journal, and for us as editors.

- Reduced the average manuscript review time from 17 weeks to 13 weeks. There's still room for improvement, but we're headed in the right direction for quick manuscript turnaround!
- Established a cycle of issues that reflects the nature of MWERA. That is, the Winter issue is devoted solely to conference addresses and papers, informal photographs, and conference-related briefs from the president and conference chair. The Spring and Autumn issues present refereed research manuscripts from across the divisions of MWERA. On alternate years, the Autumn issue focuses on a special, timely topic and is organized by a guest editor. The Summer issue provides the conference program.
- Initiated a feedback program for reviewers. In conjunction with the MWERA commitment to the professional development of its graduate student and faculty members, blind copies of reviews and the ultimate editorial decision regarding manuscripts are shared with reviewers. This enables reviewers to see how others rated and commented on a manuscript with which they were involved and to polish their skills and approaches to manuscript review.
- Set up a rotation schedule for the editorial advisory board. To provide continuity to the editorial board of the journal, membership was staggered so that one third of the board rotates off each year, and two thirds continues. This has provided more balance across divisions, mentoring and training in board responsibility for new members, and kept the group young and lively!

With this, the Autumn issue, our term as co-editors expires. We will serve in an advisory capacity to the new editorial team for one year as they become established and set their own goals for the journal to reflect the evolution of MWERA.

Who is the new editorial team? It's a "dynamic duo," both who have been highly active and visible in MWERA over the years. Mary Bendixen-Noe is assistant professor at The Ohio State University at Newark. Mary will manage the review of manuscripts and the logistics of publication and mailing of the journal. Kim K. Metcalf, past president of MWERA, is associate professor at Indiana University. Kim will oversee the production of the journal and assist with reviews in his area of expertise.

While there is a backlog of manuscripts ready for publication which we will pass along to the new editorial team, this is a great time for you to dust off the old computer and retool your conference paper into a publishable manuscript. It's also a good time to break into publishing by offering to serve as a reviewer of manuscripts.

Guidelines for submitting your manuscript are found elsewhere in this issue. Please send your manuscript to Mary Bendixen-Noe. Better yet, go up and introduce yourself to her and Kim during this year's conference. One of the highlights for us as editors has been to meet so many of you and to become familiar with your research efforts. You have been supportive, patient, and encouraging...and have made the past three years a pleasure for us to serve both you and the organization.

Thanks to all of you for your help and support!

Sincerely,

Deborah L. Bainer

Gene A. Kramer

Richard M. Smith

# MWERA-99 Conference Registration Form

October 13 – 16, 1999 – Holiday Inn Mart Plaza, Chicago, IL

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(First Name) (Middle Initial) (Last Name)

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Office Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Highest Degree: \_\_\_\_\_ Institution Awarding Degree: \_\_\_\_\_

MWERA Division Preference: \_\_\_\_\_ Area of Specialization: \_\_\_\_\_

Is this your first MWERA conference?  Yes  No

If YES, how did you learn about MWERA? \_\_\_\_\_

**Workshop Registration**

Advance registration for workshops is strongly encouraged. All workshops are subject to cancellation for insufficient registration, and are open to on-site and same-day registration on a space-permitting basis only.

W.1510.AH No Fee

T.1030.ST No Fee

F.1510.LH No Fee

F.1610.AH No Fee

S.0800.AH No Fee

<u>Meeting Registration</u>	<u>By</u>	<u>After</u>
	<u>09/24/99</u>	<u>09/24/99</u>
MWERA Member	\$45.00	\$55.00
Non-Member	\$50.00	\$60.00
Student member (see note below)	\$30.00	\$35.00
Attending Luncheon Only	\$25.00	\$28.00

**TOTAL Registration Fee Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Membership Dues</u>	<u>Regular</u>	<u>Student</u>
	1999 Membership (see note below)	\$25.00
2000 Membership	\$25.00	\$15.00
Life Membership	\$250.00	

**TOTAL Membership Dues Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

<u>MWERA-99 Materials</u>	<u>Cost per</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Total</u>
MWERA Membership Directory	\$8.00	_____	_____
MWERA-99 Program Abstracts	\$6.00	_____	_____

**TOTAL Materials Costs Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED:** \_\_\_\_\_

The Friday Luncheon is included in the Registration Fee. Please help us plan for the correct number of attendees!

Will you be attending the Friday Luncheon?  Yes  No

Will you require a special menu?  Yes  No If YES, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be staying at the Holiday Inn Hotel?  Yes  No If YES, which nights (circle) **Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat**

Make your check or money order payable to "MWERA." **Register before September 24, 1999 to receive the lowest conference rates!** Persons applying for Student membership must provide proof of student status (copy of a current student ID or registration or letter from advisor). All presenters must register for the meeting and be a current (1999) member of the Association. New presenters may join using this registration.

**Mail completed form and payment to:**

Dr. Jean Pierce  
 Northern Illinois University  
 Department EPCSE  
 DeKalb, IL 60115

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# Holiday Inn Mart Plaza Hotel Reservation Form

## Mid-Western Educational Research Association Meeting

### October 13 – 16, 1999

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(First Name) (Middle Initial) (Last Name)

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Telephone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

### Accommodations Requested

Arrival Date: \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_

Departure Date: \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_

Bed Type:  Single (1 King)  Double (2 Doubles)

Smoking Preference:  Smoking  Non-Smoking

Number of People:  Single (\$125.00 / night)

Double (\$140.00 / night)

Triple (\$155.00 / night)

Quad (\$170.00 / night)

Name(s) of Roommate(s) (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

*To confirm your reservation, the hotel requires a first nights deposit or a credit card guarantee.*

### Method of Payment

Check or Money Order

Credit Card (Indicate card):  MasterCard  Visa  American Express  Discover  Diners Club

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

You must cancel this reservation prior to 6:00pm on your expected date of arrival to avoid billing on your credit card for the first night's room and tax or the loss of your deposit. The above rates do not include state and local taxes.

Automobile parking (non-valet) is available at the hotel for an additional \$12 per day (plus taxes) for registered hotel guests. Check in time is 3:00pm; check out time is Noon. On site luggage storage is available for early arrival and late check out. **The above group rates are only guaranteed until SEPTEMBER 24, 1999!**

### Mail FAX, or telephone completed form and deposit information to:

Holiday Inn Mart Plaza

350 North Orleans

Chicago, IL 60654

(312) 836-5000

FAX: (312) 222-9508