Call for Symposia Proposals
15th Annual South Florida Education Research Conference
Saturday June 4, 2016

Guiding Principles: Honoring Inquiry, Promoting Mentoring, and Fostering Scholarship

Conference Mission: The purpose of the Annual South Florida Education Research Conference (SFERC) is to enhance the existing research culture in South Florida. The research culture is enhanced when faculty mentor students and colleagues through the writing and submission process, reviewers and editors provide feedback with the intent of helping to develop the authors’ writing and research skills, and when faculty share their scholarship with colleagues. The conference provides a meaningful vehicle for the preparation, mentorship, and presentation of scholarly work by students and faculty of member institutions and the community.

Conference Philosophy: Decades of educational research indicate that the practice of educating our nation’s citizens cannot be judged from a single vantage point. Individuals come to the educational enterprise with different needs and goals often addressed through educational research that weaves a tapestry among knowledge, theory, practice and possessing the habits of mind for showing curiosity and passion about learning through inquiry. Work is welcome that uses diverse applications of educational research and the behavioral, psychological, and cultural viewpoints that exist at local, national, and international levels. Conference participants are encouraged to consider the richness of the diverse content areas in education across the lifespan in and out of school and across disciplines.

Who Should Submit: Symposia proposals are welcomed from practitioners, students, and faculty from any discipline interested in any aspect of education, teaching, or learning across the lifespan and across fields; management and administration of organizations such as schools, community outreach, parks and recreation, not for profit and for profit; and workforce development, globalization, international and urban issues. Students are encouraged to submit proposals to discuss issues raised in their theses/dissertations, class papers, or other scholarly work.

What is a Symposium: Symposia are a place for dynamic and innovative practice and professional development oriented discussions. Symposia can be valuable for promoting interchange and developing new concepts in a way that crystallizes thinking in particular areas. This particular format also helps investigators and practitioners keep abreast of developments in fields that may not be intimately related to their own major research and professional interests.

Types of Symposia:
- A discussion of scientific ideas, evidence-based practices
- A presentation of an initiative in a school or community setting
- A presentation of a novel activity with students, Pre K-higher education
- A discussion of a novel approach to professional development

Conference Timeline
Symposium Submission Deadline – Monday January 18, 2016

Authors Notified of Submission Status – Monday, March 14, 2016
Camera-Ready Symposium abstracts – Monday, April 4, 2016

Submission Instructions: To submit a symposium proposal go to digitalcommons.fiu.edu/sfec.

Create an account and provide information about yourself (and your co-panelists, if applicable) and the symposium. For each proposal submission you will be asked to provide the following:
- All author(s) identification/contact information and institutional affiliation (university, department, and program).
- Authorship category: student(s)-only, student(s)-faculty, or faculty-only symposium
- The Warrant Statement.

Upload a blind copy of the symposium proposal:
Name this file attachment with the first two words of the symposium title (e.g., TeacherEfficacy.doc). The blind copy of the symposium proposal has to include the following elements:
- A title in 14 pt. Bold letters
- Abstract (100 words maximum)
- Description of the practice, initiative, approach, or activity (250 words maximum)
- Goal(s) of the symposium (50 words maximum)
- Format/agenda of the symposium (e.g., moderator, presentations, Q&A, power point, activities for the audience) (250 words maximum)

The South Florida Education Research Conference
hosted by Florida International University in partnership with Barry University, DeVry University, Florida Atlantic University, Florida Memorial University, Johnson and Wales University, Keiser University, Miami Dade College, Nova Southeastern University, St. Thomas University, and University of Miami
Call for Symposia Proposals
15th Annual South Florida Education Research Conference
Saturday June 4, 2016
Guiding Principles: Honoring Inquiry, Promoting Mentoring, and Fostering Scholarship

- Bio from each participant (50 words maximum)
- Abstract of each participant's talk or presentation (50 words maximum)

The proposal should
- Be written in MS Word, font Times New Roman 12 pt (except for the title).
- Have one inch margins on all sides.
- Provide references at the end of the proposal. References should be provided for the enter proposal as a whole, not for each session summary individually. References are not included in the 1000 word length requirement for the symposium justification or 500 word summaries for each presentation.

Research with Human Subjects: Please follow the research protocol of your institution.

Review and Selection Process

The Symposia Review and Selection Committee will screen proposal submissions for adherence to the submission instructions and APA (6th ed.) guidelines. Proposals that do not conform these basic instructions will be returned to author(s) for corrections and possible re-submission within two weeks of receipt. All submissions will undergo a review by the Steering Committee, who will review each proposal for content, clarity, and organization. Proposals may be accepted, accepted with revisions, or rejected.

Monday, March 14, 2016
Notification of Submission Status
Authors will receive a letter with notification of submission status and feedback from reviewers. Authors are expected to either make revisions or address the reason the revision was not made in a cover letter within three weeks of receipt.

Monday, April 4, 2016
Submission of Camera-Ready Symposia 100 word Abstract to the Proceedings Committee
Authors are expected to incorporate reviewer feedback and return their revised abstracts to be published in the proceedings. Please assist us in our efforts to produce high quality proceedings by following instructions, addressing editors/reviewers suggestions for improvement, meeting deadlines, and adhering to APA 6th edition guidelines.

Symposia Presentations on the Day of the Conference: Each symposium is scheduled for 45 minutes. One possible format for a symposium consists of a 5 minute overview by the chair, 2-3 speakers giving 10-15 minute talks, 5 minutes for discussion between talks, and concluding with 10-15 minutes for summary and discussion. Other formats used in the past have been video presentations, program participants demonstrating learned skills with audience members, and interactive teaching.

Note: All steering committee members, moderators, and other volunteers, presenters, their family, friends, and other guests are expected to register for the SFERC.

For more information about the conference or questions, please, visit education.fiu.edu/research_conference/ or contact Dr. Tonette S. Rocco roccot@fiu.edu or any member of the Steering Committee.