



SIG/Research in Mathematics Education
American Educational Research Association
Summer 2003 Newsletter
<http://www.sigrme.org>

SIG/RME Executive Board

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University of Maryland
2002-2004

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San Diego State University
2003-2005

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2002-2004

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2003-2005

Electronic Communications Secretary

Cengiz Alacaci
Florida International University
2003-2005

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University of North Carolina-Charlotte
2002-2004

Patricio Herbst
University of Michigan
2003-2005

What's Inside

Call for Officer Nominations	p. 1
Directory On-Line at Website	p. 1
Call for AERA Proposals	p. 2
"What Works Clearinghouse" Request	p. 2
Call for Award Nominations	p. 3
Important Dates	p. 4
Minutes of Annual Meeting	p. 5
NCTM Pre-session Call for Proposals	p. 10
Award Nomination Form	p. 13
Address Correction Form	p. 13

Call for Nominations for Officers

Nominations are being sought for the SIG/RME Executive Board positions of Co-Chair, Treasurer, and one Steering Committee Member for terms to run from April 2004–April 2006. A nomination form is included at the end of this newsletter, or you may e-mail your nomination to Vic Cifarelli at vcifare@email.uncc.edu by **September 15, 2003**. Self-nominations are also encouraged. The by-laws require that we have two candidates for each office. The duties of officers are posted on the SIG/RME web site.

Directory On-line at Website

The SIG/RME membership directory is now accessible through the permanent website. Go to the SIG/RME web site (<http://www.sigrme.org>), and click on the link that says "Membership Directory." You will be asked for a user ID and password (in order to protect you from being bombarded by unwanted email from non-members). The user ID is **math**, and the password is **sigrme**.

Call for AERA Proposals

The 2004 AERA Annual Meeting will be held Monday, April 12, through Friday, April 16, in San Diego, California. The theme of the conference is: "Enhancing the Visibility and Credibility of Educational Research."

AERA will be using a new electronic Annual Meeting management system this year. The system, *All Academic Convention*TM supports web-based electronic proposal submission, peer review, proposal evaluation, session creation, scheduling, and program generation for the AERA Annual Meeting. One reason for moving from the TIGER system to this one is that the new system allows a person to see what the system has in its files. Once you submit, you can check the result and make sure that it matches what you thought you entered. PLEASE MAKE USE OF THE CAPACITY OF THIS SYSTEM! Some sessions on last year's AERA program did not have complete descriptions because such a capacity was not available through TIGER.

AERA's Online Proposal Submission system will open on June 2, 2003. Please visit the URL <http://www.aera.net/meeting/> to see what is involved. (This URL also has details on the requirements of proposals.)

All proposals must be submitted electronically by 11:59 p.m. (Pacific Time) on August 1, 2003.

Proposals submitted by fax, mail, and e-mail will **NOT** be accepted.

- If you submit a proposal through SIG/RME, please indicate whether there is another SIG or of Division that could be a co-sponsor.
- If you are a member of SIG/RME and are willing to be a reviewer for AERA proposals, please send an email that includes your institutional affiliation to dchazan@umd.edu or use AERA's website to sign up as a reviewer for the SIG.

"What Works Clearinghouse" Request

URGENT: *The "What Works Clearinghouse" needs to know about research studies on the effectiveness of mathematics curricula.*

The "What Works Clearinghouse" (WWC; see <http://www.w-w-c.org/>) is conducting meta-analyses of the research literature to distill information regarding the effectiveness of instructional materials and practices. One of its first studies concerns "curriculum-based interventions for increasing K-12 mathematics achievement." (See <http://www.w-w-c.org/topic2.html> for definitions and detail.) To make sure the analysis captures what is known, it is essential for the Clearinghouse to gather as many published *and* unpublished studies as possible of mathematics curricula. All studies conducted over the past 20 years containing quantitative information regarding content, process, or dispositional outcomes of students' experience with specific mathematics curricula at the elementary, middle, and high school levels will be considered for the meta-analyses.

If you know of a study you think should be included in the WWC's database, please contact WWC with the relevant information. See <http://www.w-w-c.org/topicnom.html#5> for information regarding how to submit studies and curricula for consideration.

If you have any questions, please contact Alan Schoenfeld alans@socrates.berkeley.edu, Senior Content Advisor for the mathematics curriculum study, or project coordinator Stephane Baldi SBaldi@dc.air.org, for information. Thanks for your help!

Call for Nominations for Research Award

The Special Interest Group for Research in Mathematics Education established the "SIG/RME Early Career Publication Award" in 2001. The first award was presented to Michelle Zandieh in 2002 (see Summer 2002 Newsletter) and the second award was presented to Patricio Herbst in 2003 (see Winter 2003 Newsletter). The purpose of the award is to recognize outstanding mathematics education research publications by individuals within five years of receiving their doctoral degrees. The award includes a stipend of \$500, announcement in the SIG/RME newsletter and on the SIG/RME website, and recognition at the annual NCTM Research Pre-session.

The paper being nominated for the SIG/RME Early Career Publication Award may be based on the dissertation work of the nominee or other recent research the nominee has conducted. The nominee should be either the single author or the first author (in the case of a jointly authored paper). Note that only published articles are eligible for nomination; the award will not be given for a dissertation. The nominee should have received his/her doctoral degree in mathematics education no earlier than 5 years prior to the nomination deadline (e.g., no earlier than September 1998 for this year's nominations).

Nominations should include (and are restricted to) **2 copies** of the following:

(1) a letter nominating the author of an early career publication. Please include the name of author, the date he/she received the doctoral degree, and the name of the institution that conferred the degree. The nominator should also include reasons that the paper should be considered as an example of an outstanding mathematics education research publication. If the article is based on the author's dissertation, please include the name of dissertation director and complete bibliographic information about the dissertation (including the dissertation

abstract's number). (Self nominations will be accepted.)

(2) a copy of the published paper, including complete bibliographic information.

(3) a copy of the Table of Contents of the journal in which the paper appeared.

Nominations will be considered by a committee consisting of the Steering Committee Members of the SIG/RME Executive Board. The decisions of that committee will be final. Please send nomination materials **by January 16, 2004** to

Patricio Herbst
School of Education, University of Michigan
610 East University Ave. # 1350
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1259

Check Your Membership!

Please remember that there has been a change in the membership policy as dictated by AERA. You should now renew your SIG/RME membership when you renew your AERA membership. (Download the form at http://www.aera.net/member/SIG_renewal_for_m.rtf.) This way, all funds will be processed by AERA, and your membership dates will always be the same. If you wish to be a member of SIG/RME only, download the membership form from the SIG/RME web site, and send it to Cindy Langrall with your dues.

Because slots on the AERA annual meeting program are allocated to our SIG based on the number of people who are members of both SIG/RME and AERA, we strongly encourage you to become a member of both organizations.

If your mailing address is incorrect, please use the form at the end of this newsletter to send corrections to Cindy Langrall.

Important Dates

2003

- June 2 AERA Online Proposal Submission System will open
(<http://www.aera.net/meeting>)
- July 13-18 PME-NA and PME International joint meeting at University of
Hawaii-Manoa (<http://www.pmena.org>)
- August 1 Deadline for AERA proposals (all SIGs and Divisions)
(<http://www.aera.net/meeting>)
- August 31 Deadline for NCTM Research Pre-session proposals
(<http://www.nctm.org/meetings/>)
- September 15 Nominations for SIG/RME officers due to Vic Cifarelli
(vcifare@email.uncc.edu)

2004

- January 16 Nominations for SIG/RME Research Publication Award due to Patricio
Herbst
- January 23-24 Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (AMTE) annual
meeting in San Diego (<http://www.amte.net>)
- April 12-16 AERA in San Diego (<http://www.aera.net>)
- April 19-21 NCTM Research Pre-session in Philadelphia
(Note that this is a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday.)
(http://www.nctm.org/about/committees/rac/rac_pre-session.htm)
- April 21-24 NCTM Annual Meeting in Philadelphia
(<http://www.nctm.org/meetings/philadelphia/index.htm>)

Minutes of the SIG/RME Business Meeting

April 23, 2003

Chicago, IL

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Co-Chair Linda Ruiz-Davenport.

I. Approval of Minutes from the April 4, 2002 Business Meeting in New Orleans, LA

Jim Middleton moved to approve the minutes from the 2002 Business Meeting. Janet Warfield seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by the members in attendance at the 2003 Business Meeting of SIG/RME.

II. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Cindy Langrall presented a report on the finances of the SIG/RME. The current balance of SIG/RME funds stands at \$22750, which is approximately \$2000 more than the balance last year. Income derived from membership dues was approximately \$5400. Expenses for the Annual Meeting were approximately \$1100 and expenses for printing and mailing the newsletters and directory were approximately \$1300. Other administrative expenses were approximately \$800. A complete report appears at the end of the minutes.

Cindy presented graphics to show trends in the status of SIG/RME funds over the past nine years (1994 – 2002). One graphic showed a steady increase in the yearly balance of SIG/RME funds over the years. The other graphic showed much fluctuation in funds collected from membership dues to SIG/RME over the years. A big drop in the amount of money collected from SIG/RME dues occurred in 2001-2002. Cindy noted that this time period corresponded to the time when AERA assumed responsibility for collecting both AERA and SIG/RME dues and a quarter was missed in reporting funds collected from SIG/RME dues. Cindy also noted that she thought the missing quarter accounted for the large drop in SIG/RME dues for 2001-2002. Cindy further noted that although there has been much fluctuation in the amount of money collected from dues, the graphics show that SIG/RME can expect to collect approximately \$5000 in dues each year.

Sarah Berenson asked if there was a correlation between the fluctuation and recent drop in SIG/RME dues and trends associated with AERA dues. Cindy said that she did not currently have that information but would obtain it.

Cindy noted that according to the AERA Comptroller, SIG/RME is "rich" and should spend some of its money. Cindy said that suggestions for ways to spend some of the SIG/RME funds would be discussed later in the meeting under "New Business."

David Kirschner made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, which was seconded by Cengiz Alacaci. The Treasurer's Report was accepted by the SIG/RME members in attendance.

III. *Election Results*

Linda Ruiz-Davenport thanked the current officers for their work. In particular, Linda thanked Alfinio Flores, Denise Mewborn, and Jeff Shih for serving on the Executive Board for the past two years. Linda also thanked Dan Chazan for the work he did on organizing the NCTM Research Pre-session and Cindy Langrall and Vic Cifarelli for their work associated with the current SIG/RME Business Meeting.

Linda announced that Randy Philipp will serve as Co-Chair, Nancy Mack as Recording Secretary, Patricio Herbst as Steering Committee Member, and Cengiz Alacaci as Electronics Communication Secretary. Linda welcomed these individuals to the SIG/RME Executive Board.

IV. *Research Pre-session*

Dan Chazan reported that 804 people registered for the NCTM Research Pre-session in San Antonio, TX. There were 64 sessions at the meeting. The opening and closing talks focused on a related theme – scientific research in education.

V. *AERA Meeting*

Linda Ruiz-Davenport reported that SIG/RME received 46 proposals (37 proposals for paper sessions, 9 proposals for symposia). Of the proposals submitted, 25 were accepted (18 for paper sessions, 7 for symposia). All proposals were reviewed by three reviewers.

The invited address was presented by Paul Black of King's College, London. The talk was entitled *Turning Research Results into Practice: How Does the D Fit into R & D?*

Linda thanked the reviewers for their work. She also thanked everyone for participating in sessions sponsored by SIG/RME.

VI. *Early Career Award Announcement*

Vic Cifarelli announced that the Early Career Publication Award was presented to Patricio Herbst of the University of Michigan during the Research Pre-session at NCTM. Patricio received a \$500 honorarium and a plaque.

Vic reported on the process of selecting the Early Career Award Recipient. He noted that this year the committee had "greater than two but less than 10" strong papers to choose from. He encouraged members to nominate even more deserving individuals for this award next year.

VII. *Web Site*

Jeff Shih reported that the SIG/RME web site now has a permanent home that can be accessed at www.sigme.org. Jeff also reported that when he originally assumed

responsibility as the Electronic Communications Secretary, he created the SIG/RME web site on his personal computer along with the electronic voting capacity and the password protected SIG/RME directory link. The on-line voting and password protected directory are not yet available through the new permanent web site. Jeff said that members can currently access these items through his computer. He also said that he would work with the new Electronic Communications Secretary to establish these features on the permanent web site. Linda Ruiz-Davenport thanked Jeff once again for the work he did as Electronic Communications Secretary.

VIII. *NSF Funding Announcements*

Kathryn Chval of NSF announced a funding opportunity entitled "Teacher-Professional Continuum." There are four categories for funding: (1) Research Studies, (2) Research and Development of Educational Models and Systems, (3) Professional Resources Development, and (4) Conferences and Symposia. Kathryn noted that proposals do not need to focus on only one of the four categories but may combine some of them. She also noted that proposals that do not fit any of the four categories can also be submitted. Awards will range from \$250,000 to \$1 million for 5 years, depending on the category. Preliminary proposals, which are required for Categories 1-3, are due May 19, 2003 and full proposals are due September 10, 2003. More information about this funding opportunity can be found at www.nsf.gov/pubs/2003/nsf03534/nsf03534.htm.

Kathryn also noted that NSF wants to provide small amounts of funding to young researchers. She encouraged new and novice PI's to submit proposals for funding.

Kathryn announced that NSF is trying to broaden their pool of reviewers and is also looking for new program officers. She encouraged members who are interested in either of these opportunities to contact her at kcval@nsf.gov or (703) 292-5088.

IX. *Proposals for Use of SIG/RME Funds*

Cindy Langrall presented a list of suggestions that had been made throughout the year regarding ways to spend some of the SIG/RME funds. The following suggestions were discussed by members in attendance.

A. *Movement of SIG/RME Funds to High-Interest Bearing Account*

Cindy Langrall asked members for their approval to move a significant amount of funds from the AERA portion of the SIG/RME account to a high-interest bearing account. Cindy noted that money in the AERA account generates interest for AERA but not for SIG/RME. Virginia Stimpson moved that the Treasurer move a significant amount of money from the AERA account into a high-interest bearing account. Ed Silver seconded the motion. The motion was approved by members in attendance.

B. *Graduate Student Support*

Several ideas were suggested regarding ways that SIG/RME funds could be used to support graduate students in Mathematics Education. These suggestions included establishing a listserv for graduate students, holding a graduate student reception with a speaker at AERA next year, having a graduate student poster session at AERA, and having a graduate student representative serve on the SIG/RME Executive Board. No consensus was reached about which option(s) to pursue.

David Kirschner moved that \$500 of SIG/RME funds be used for some sort of graduate student reception next year at AERA. Robert Capraro seconded this motion. Jim Middleton proposed a friendly amendment to David Kirschner's motion. The friendly amendment called for the SIG/RME Executive Board to put together a proposal that could be voted on electronically regarding how \$500 can be used for the empowerment of graduate students and for developing a graduate student community within SIG/RME. Jinfa Cai seconded the friendly amendment. The motion with the friendly amendment was approved by the members in attendance.

C. *Senior Scholar Research Portfolio Award*

Cindy Langrall noted that a suggestion had been previously made to institute a research portfolio award for a senior scholar in the field. Several members expressed support for the idea but asked questions about procedures for both assembling and reviewing the portfolios. It was noted by members that both AERA and NCTM have streamline procedures in place for reviewing materials and granting awards. Members were encouraged to examine these procedures. It was suggested that the Senior Co-Chair appoint a subcommittee to review award granting procedures of NCTM and AERA and determine if and how an award for senior scholars should be given by SIG/RME. No formal motions were made for the Co-Chair's action, but Linda Davenport, the current Senior Co-Chair, agreed that the incoming Senior Co-Chair, Dan Chazan, would appoint a subcommittee for this purpose.

D. *Graduate Assistant for Co-Chair*

Cindy Langrall noted that a suggestion had been previously made for hiring a graduate student to assist the Co-Chair in the review process for proposals submitted for presentations at AERA. Norma Presmeg noted that a provision was already in place for the Co-Chair to take this action. Past co-chairs mentioned how they had, or would have like to have used graduate students in the past to help them with the review process. Cindy Langrall noted that because of the existing provision, no action needed to be taken to approve this suggestion, the practice just needed to be reinstated with the next Senior Co-Chair.

E. *Novice Scholars*

Dan Chazan noted that a suggestion had been sent to him regarding using SIG/RME funds to provide seed money for novice scholars (non-tenured tenure track) to attend summer research institutes. It was noted by members in attendance that groups such as NSF currently provide such support. Members were encouraged to examine what other groups are currently doing to see if SIG/RME wants to build on these existing programs.

X. *Role of SIG/RME*

Linda Ruiz-Davenport showed and read the SIG/RME By-Laws Article II: Purpose, which described the purpose of SIG/RME. Linda asked members if the SIG/RME has or should have an official presence in national policy discussions related to educational issues, particularly those involving mathematics education and mathematics education research. It was noted by some members in attendance that many people in AERA are concerned about current political educational issues and that the larger body of AERA may have more influence on discussions and policy than the smaller SIG/RME. David Kirschner made the following motion: SIG/RME urges the larger body of AERA to be more active in the political policy discussions related to education that are currently occurring. SIG/RME asks the AERA board to specifically represent mathematics education research in these policy discussions. Ed Silver seconded the motion. The motion was approved by members in attendance.

XI. *Adjournment*

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. by Linda Ruiz-Davenport. A reception followed.

TREASURER'S REPORT
April 2002 – April 2003

Balance 4/4/02			\$17259.00
Income			
	SIG Memberships (March 02 – April 03)	\$5379.00	
			\$22638.00
Expenses	Annual Meeting 2002	\$1101.00	
	Newsletters and Directory	\$1321.00	
	Early Career Award	\$570.00	
	Web Site	\$96.00	
	SIG Dues	\$150.00	
	Total Expenses	\$3238.00	
Balance 4/23/03			\$19400.00
Fidelity Money Market Account		\$3350.00	
Combined Balance 4/23/03			\$22750.00

Respectfully Submitted by: Nancy K. Mack, SIG/RME Recording Secretary

**Call for Proposals for
Research Preession in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
April 19–21, 2004**

The SIG/RME and the Research Committee of the NCTM will jointly sponsor a research preession before the NCTM Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The opening session will be held the evening of Monday, April 19, with concurrent sessions throughout the day on Tuesday, April 20, and Wednesday, April 21. **The deadline for receipt of proposals is Sunday, August 31, 2003.**

The SIG/RME Executive Committee and the Research Committee of the NCTM believe that the research preession of the NCTM Annual Meeting provides a unique opportunity for examination of issues of current interest to the mathematics education research community. These sessions typically differ from traditional research-reporting sessions in that they include more integration across the individual presentations and more opportunities for audience participation. Sessions are 90 or 150 minutes.

Various formats may be used; the following formats have been successful in past preessions.

Research Symposium

This format includes several presentations focusing on the same issue from different perspectives or research orientations, usually followed by a reaction. This format typically includes time for audience discussion. The presenters, who should be chosen to reflect conflicting or complementary points of view, provide information on how those in their research subcommunities currently are thinking about or are addressing the issue. The presenters should exchange outlines of their papers in advance so that differences and similarities in the presentations can be emphasized. Having received these outlines in advance, the reactor is expected to give a compare-and-contrast, state-of-the-art summary. A symposium is to be more than a collection of loosely related papers that deal with similar topics.

Thematic Presentation

One substantive presentation on a major theme (an accompanying prepared paper would be appropriate) with two or three prepared critiques/responses comprise this type of session. Some time should be reserved for audience discussion. The primary presentation is a report on a *program* of research or a particular view of a research issue; it should not be a report of a single research study. Reactors would receive an outline of the major presentation in advance of the session to provoke thought and discussion.

Work Session

Work sessions are designed to allow for sustained interactions around one topic for both attendees and organizers. The topic may be one that is gaining interest, one to which significant resources are being committed and for which sufficient conceptualization is lacking, or it may be a topic of more established interest.

Poster Session

Poster sessions are designed to encourage the exchange of ideas. They combine the visual display of materials with opportunities for individual informal discussion. Poster-session reports on research in progress are particularly encouraged.

Other formats. These suggested formats are not restrictive; other formats that achieve the goals specified above equally well will be considered. The regular NCTM and AERA programs have ample room for proposals, such as for individual paper presentations,

with other goals. However, we urge those submitting pre-session proposals to consider these four formats seriously. Our goal is to stimulate useful, informative, thematic interaction among members of the research community.

Limits on Proposal Submission

Each participant will be allowed to appear on the program no more than once as a presenter and no more than once as a discussant/reactant. Proposals with overlapping presenters or discussants/reactants will not be sent forward for review until the overlaps are resolved.

NCTM has gone to on-line speaker application for many of its conferences, and this year they offer on-line application as an option for applying to present at the Research Pre-session. The URL is <http://www.nctm.org/meetings/>, and once on the site, click on “Research Pre-session.” You will have 40 minutes to input data, so you will need to prepare your submission beforehand so that you can paste your 500-word abstract and your 50-word description. Note, the on-line system does not maintain text formatting for the 500-word abstract. All submitters must either use the on-line system or submit an electronic file to research@nctm.org using the Speaker Proposal Form provided below. You may submit using both methods.

Format for Submission of Proposals

The on-line application form requires the following information:

- Introductory information, including name, address, phone, email, fax, affiliation, NCTM Member number, presentation length, and a list of three recent speaking experiences
- Presentation Format
- A Title, limited to 75 characters
- An abstract and timeline, limited to 500 words that includes the following:
 - an overview of the topic the session will address,
 - a description of the scientific and educational significance of the topic,
 - a summary of each participant’s presentation, and
 - a description of the session’s timetable.
- A Description, limited to 50 words, to be included in the program book.
- a list of all participants, including names, mailing addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses. Briefly describe each participant’s qualifications with respect to the proposal. **Please follow the directions to add more than one speaker**

Proposals will be evaluated according to their significance, quality, and interest to the mathematics education community. **Proposals must be received by August 31, 2003.**

Registration

To preregister, see the registration form in the 82nd Annual Meeting conference-preview brochure coming by mail this fall to all NCTM members. You do not need to be an NCTM member to attend the conference, and you may preregister for the Research Pre-session even if you are not attending the Annual Meeting. If you are not an NCTM member, you may request an 82nd Annual Meeting conference-preview brochure by calling NCTM at (800) 304-7709. Registration will also be accepted at the door.

Additional Information

If you have questions, e-mail research@nctm.org or call (703) 620-9840, ext. 2151.

2004 NCTM Research Pre-session
Speaker Proposal Form
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
April 19–21, 2004

Title (limited to 75 characters) _____

Organizer _____

Affiliation _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone Numbers: Work () _____ Home () _____

E-mail _____

Length of Format _____ 90 minutes _____ 150 minutes _____ Poster Session

Preferred Day. _____ Tuesday, April 20 _____ Wednesday, April 21 _____ Either Day

Participants. Identify the participants and indicate their roles (i.e., presenter, presider, discussant).

Format. _____ Symposium _____ Thematic _____ Work Session _____ Poster Session

Other _____

An abstract and timeline, limited to 500 words that includes the following:

- an overview of the topic the session will address,
- a description of the scientific and educational significance of the topic,
- a summary of each participant's presentation, and
- a description of the session's timetable.

Description. Write a concise, specific description of the essential content of your presentation. Please limit it to no more than 50 words. On acceptance of your proposal, the description you provide here will be printed in the program book, subject to editing by NCTM.

Email one copy of the NCTM Research Pre-session Speaker Proposal Form to research@nctm.org.

Call for Nominations!!!

Please indicate your nominations for the following offices. Your nominees should be members of SIG/RME. Please note that officers may not serve consecutive terms. Current officers are listed on p. 1 of this newsletter. It is not necessary to secure an individual's permission before making a nomination as the Steering Committee members will confirm that nominees are willing to run for election.

Co-Chairperson: _____

Treasurer: _____

Steering Committee Member: _____

Send your nominations to Vic Cifarelli by e-mail or post by **September 15, 2003**.

Vic Cifarelli

vcifare@email.uncc.edu

Dept of Mathematics, UNC Charlotte

9201 University City Blvd.

Charlotte, NC 28223-0001

Address Correction Requested!

If your newsletter did not reach you at the correct address, please e-mail Cindy Langrall (langrall@ilstu.edu) with updated information, or mail the form below to her. If any of your contact information has changed since the last SIG/RME directory (e-mail address, phone number, etc.), please provide corrected information.

Please update my information!

Name _____

Institution _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone Number _____ Fax Number _____

e-mail Address _____ AERA Member Number _____

(This information will assist us with keeping our membership records accurate and up-to-date with AERA.)

Cynthia Langrall
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Campus Box 4520
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langrall@ilstu.edu

Nancy K. Mack, Recording Secretary
SIG/RME
Grand Valley State University
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Allendale, MI 49401-9403