



**SIG/Research in Mathematics Education**  
**American Educational Research Association**  
<http://www.SIGRME.org>

**Summer 2010 Newsletter**

**SIG/RME Executive Board**

**Co-Chairs**

Arthur B. Powell  
Rutgers University  
2009-2011

**Electronics**

Indigo Esmonde  
OISE, University of Toronto  
2009-2011

Jinfa Cai

University of Delaware  
2010-2012

**Awards**

Joanne Lobato  
San Diego State University  
2010 - 2012

**Treasurer**

Tonya Gau Bartell  
University of Delaware  
2010 - 2012

**Events**

Jeffrey Shih  
UNLV  
2009-2011

**Communications**

Despina Stylianou  
City College, The City University of New York  
2009-2011

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## **Call for Officer Nominations**

Nominations are being sought for the SIG/RME Executive Board positions of Co-Chair, Events, Communication and Electronics Board Members for terms to run from April 2010 – April 2012. A nomination form is included at the end of this newsletter, or you may e-mail your nomination to Indigo Esmonde at [iesmonde@oise.utoronto.ca](mailto:iesmonde@oise.utoronto.ca) by **September 15, 2010**. 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.

## **Call for AERA Proposals**

The 2011 AERA Annual Meeting will be held Friday, April 8, through Tuesday, April 12, in New Orleans, Louisiana. The theme is *Inciting the Social Imagination: Education Research for the Public Good*.

**All proposals must be submitted electronically by 11:59 p.m. (Pacific Standard Time) July 15, 2010.** Please note the change in submission closing date.

It is important to note that the number of slots allocated to Special Interest Groups (SIGs) is now based on the proportion of the number of proposals submitted. The more proposals that are submitted to our SIG, the more slots that will be available for faculty and graduate students to present their work. Therefore, we strongly encourage you to submit proposals.

AERA's electronic Annual Meeting management system, *All Academic Convention™*, supports web-based electronic proposal submission, peer review, proposal evaluation, session creation, scheduling, and program generation for the AERA Annual Meeting. After you submit, you can check the result to ensure that it is as you intended. However, you may not be able to view your submission until 48 hours after you submit. WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL EARLY AND THAT YOU TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE FEATURE THAT ENABLES YOU TO VIEW YOUR SUBMISSION. Some who have previously submitted did not realize their submissions had not been appropriately received, and the co-chair has no way to recognize this situation.

Through AERA's Online Proposal Submission system, staggered opening and closing submission dates have been instituted. Please visit the URL <http://www.aera.net/meetings/Default.aspx?id=386&id=5316> for details. (You can also download the proposal requirements from this URL.)

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

- If you submit a proposal through SIG/RME, please indicate whether another SIG or Division could co-sponsor it.
- If you are a member of SIG/RME and are willing to serve as a reviewer for AERA proposals, please use AERA's website to sign up as a reviewer for the SIG.
- If you are willing to serve as a chair or discussant for AERA sessions sponsored by SIG RME, please use AERA's website to sign up as a Chair/Discussant for the SIG.

## **Call for AERA Proposal Reviewers**

SIG/RME needs volunteers to review AERA proposals submitted to the SIG. Please volunteer by signing up before July 15:

- a) If you are an AERA member, you can do this on-line at [www.aera.net](http://www.aera.net). You will need to login as a member and then go to the page for the 2011 meeting.
- b) If you are not an AERA member, please join AERA and SIG/RME so that you can become a reviewer, discussant or chair for AERA.

## **Call for Proposals for NCTM Research Pre-Session in Indianapolis, IN April 11-13, 2011**

<http://www.nctm.org/researchpresession.aspx>

The Research Presession is sponsored by the NCTM Research Committee and the Special Interest Group on Research in Mathematics Education of the American Educational Research Association.

The NCTM Research Presession serves multiple purposes. First, it annually brings researchers together to examine and discuss current issues in mathematics education. Second, it is a chance for researchers to receive feedback on their work and to benefit from exposure to alternative points of view. Third, the Research Presession is an opportunity to capitalize on the collective wisdom available when researchers and practitioners come together to discuss mathematics education and research. Finally, the Research Presession affords beginning scholars opportunities to interact and network with veteran researchers in the field.

NCTM has adopted Linking Research and Practice as a priority for the Council. The Annual Meeting strengthens the links between research and practice in the Council's ongoing work. In support of the Council's ongoing work to strengthen the links between research and practice, the 2011 Research Presession program planning committee will give priority to proposals that address one or more of the following critical problems of practice:

- the characteristics of **assessment systems** that provide instructional guidance, support educational decision-making, and measure growth;
- the goals of **professional learning** and how to document the attainment of these goals in terms of teacher growth; and
- **instructional interventions** (activities and programs) that help teachers reach students who they perceive have difficulty developing mathematical proficiency

The **opening session** is Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. There will be **concurrent sessions** from 8:30am to 6:00pm on Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, and from 8:30am to 4:30pm on Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>.

A **plenary session** on Wednesday morning, April 13, will highlight the theme, Linking Research and Practice. Sessions including individual papers, research symposia, and work sessions will be scheduled, allowing members of the National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics (NCSM)

and other practitioners interested in research to attend. These sessions will focus on the interface between practice and research.

**Proposals** will be accepted starting early in June until August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010 (11:59 PM PST). Information about proposals can be found at <http://www.nctm.org/researchpresession.aspx>.

### SIG/RME Website

Please check our website at <http://www.SIGRME.org> for information related to SIG/RME announcements, positions available, upcoming conferences, and much more. The 2010 Membership Directory can also be accessed through the website. (The user ID is **math**, and the password is **SIGRME**.)

If you have any information you think should be posted on the SIG/RME website, please contact Indigo Esmonde at [iesmonde@oise.utoronto.ca](mailto:iesmonde@oise.utoronto.ca).

### Membership Dues & Contact Information

A few years ago, a change occurred in our membership policy as dictated by AERA. You may now renew your SIG/RME membership when you renew your AERA membership. (Download the form at [http://www.aera.net/uploadedFiles/Membership\\_Info/MembershipForm.pdf](http://www.aera.net/uploadedFiles/Membership_Info/MembershipForm.pdf).) This way, your SIG/RME dues are processed by AERA, and your membership dates are always the same.

AERA has changed its membership procedures. All SIG-RME members must also be active members of AERA. (In other words, it is no longer possible to be a member of SIG-RME and not a member of AERA.)

If your mailing address or other contact information is incorrect, please update your contact information through the AERA website.

### Call for Early Career Publication Award Nominations

In 2001, the Special Interest Group for Research in Mathematics Education established the "SIG/RME Early Career Publication Award". The first award was presented in 2002. The most recent award was presented to Dr. Andreas Stylianides.

The purpose of the Early Career Publication Award is to recognize an outstanding mathematics education research publication by an individual within six years of receiving her/his doctoral degree. 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 publication 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 publication). Note that only a peer-reviewed research publication is eligible for nomination; the award will not be given for a dissertation. The nominee should have received her/his doctoral degree in mathematics education no more than 6 years prior to the nomination deadline (i.e., no earlier than September 2004 for this year's nominations).

Nominations should include (and are restricted to) the following items:

1. A letter nominating the author of an early career publication. Please include the name of the 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 publication is based on the author's dissertation, please include the name of the 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 paper, including complete bibliographic information.
3. A copy of the Table of Contents of the journal or other peer-reviewed research publication in which the paper appeared.

Nominations will be considered by a committee consisting of the Steering Committee members and the Electronic Communications Secretary of the SIG/RME Executive Board. The decisions of that committee will be final. Please send nomination materials **no later than January 15, 2011** to Joanne Lobato. **Electronic submissions to <[clobato@math.sdsu.edu](mailto:clobato@math.sdsu.edu)> are preferred.** Alternatively, you may submit **two copies** of the above items to:

Joanne Lobato  
Center for Research in Mathematics and Science Education (CRMSE)  
San Diego State University  
6475 Alvarado Road, Suite 206  
San Diego, CA 92120

## Important Dates

### 2010

Early June	AERA Online Proposal Submission System <b>will begin accepting</b> all proposals. Please check the AERA website at ( <a href="http://www.aera.net">http://www.aera.net</a> ).
Early June	NCTM Online Proposal Submission System <b>will begin accepting</b> proposals for the 2010 NCTM Research Pre-Session. Go to <a href="http://www.nctm.org">www.nctm.org</a> and click on Conferences.
July 15	<b>Closing date</b> for all AERA Divisions, Committees, and SIGS (11:59 PM Pacific Standard Time).

**No late submissions will be accepted.**

- August 2      Deadline for NCTM Research Pre-Session proposals. Go to <http://www.nctm.org/researchpresession.aspx> for further information.
- September 15    Nominations for SIG/RME officers due to Indigo Esmonde at [iesmonde@oise.utoronto.ca](mailto:iesmonde@oise.utoronto.ca).

## 2011

- January 15      Nominations for SIG/RME Early Career Publication Award due to Joanne Lobato at **lobato@saturn.sdsu.edu**.
- January 27-29     Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators (AMTE) Annual Meeting in Irvine, CA (<http://www.amte.net/conferences>).
- April 11-13       NCTM Research Pre-Session in Indianapolis, IN.
- April 8-12        AERA in New Orleans, Louisiana (<http://www.aera.net>)

**Minutes of the SIG/RME Business Meeting**  
**Denver, Colorado**

**Handout:**

- SIG/RME Treasurer's Report

**I. Reception and Mingling**

**II. President's Report**

Arthur Powell read the President's Report from Jim Middleton, who was unable to attend.

**A. Bylaws**

1. AERA has required that all SIGs make their bylaws fit the new template.
2. Some changes to our current structure had to be made to do this:
  - a. SIG/RME members must be members of AERA. Only AERA dues-paying members will be counted towards the SIG allocation in determining the number of sessions for the annual meeting.
  - b. The Required Officers are now the Chair, the Secretary/Treasurer, and a third officer which we have designated the Communications Board Member because that person is given access to AERA's member databases and communications lists.
    - i. The Chair for the bylaws purposes is our Senior co-Chair. That office will have the same duties.
      1. The Junior co-Chair will remain as an officer, but not be designated one of the three required by AERA.
    - ii. The Secretary/Treasurer is merely the new name for our Treasurer. That office will have the same duties.
    - iii. We may have any other officers we want to do the job of the SIG.
      1. The Junior co-Chair, Electronics Board Member, Events Board Member, and Awards Board Member all remain the same.
3. All other bylaws have been inserted into the template with as little change in wording as possible.
4. The draft is currently under review by the AERA Central Office and the SIG Executive Committee. A subcommittee of the AERA Council will be appointed by President Carol Lee to review and provide final approval in the coming weeks. Shortly after the Annual Meeting the SIG Chair will be contacted with feedback on the draft you submitted. The approval by the Council subcommittee will take place May through June/July.

Once the draft is approved by the Council subcommittee, AERA will be able to conduct a special membership referendum via e-electronic ballot so that the bylaws can be adopted by SIG members. This process will take place from July – September.

**B. AERA Membership Rules; Impact on SIG/RME**

1. Only Dues-paying members to AERA can be members of SIG/RME and count towards our session allocation. This is a new AERA rule.
  - a. It is unclear how this will impact our overall session allocation.
    - i. This year we were allocated significantly fewer sessions
      1. Partly this is due to the fact that AERA reduced the number of sessions to 1000 total;

2. Part of this is also due to NCTM being in San Diego and AERA in Denver (western locales are attended by fewer members than eastern locales)
3. Part is also due to the economy with fewer dollars available for travel;
4. Part, however is due to the new rules for the proportion of sessions allocated to each SIG (see below).

#### **C. Discussion of Roles of SIGs at AERA**

1. With nearly 500 members, SIG/RME is currently bigger than many Divisions in AERA. Given the new rules governing SIGs at AERA, it *may* behoove the membership to task a subcommittee of the SIG/RME board to explore the relative advantages and disadvantages of becoming a Division. It looks, from my perspective, that the advantages of membership in a SIG at AERA, at least as far as they pertain to participation in the annual meeting, are diminishing as a result of the recent policy decisions (Outlined above).

#### **D. Report on Sessions**

1. We were allocated a total of 14 paper/symposium sessions, each of which could have up to 5 presentations, and 27 poster/roundtable sessions.

	Symposia	Paper	Roundtable/Poster	Total
Accepted	8 (57%)	32 (25%)	27 (21%)	67 (48%)
Rejected	6(43%)	67 (53%)*	*	73 (52%)
Total	14	99	27	140

\*Papers were assigned to Roundtable/Poster sessions to maximize opportunity for SIG/RME members to participate in this year's conference. The 67 rejected were from this common pool of proposals. 6 of these 67 were proposals submitted to SIG/RME in error. Those proposals were re-routed to other SIGs and Divisions.

2. Most of you know that we were originally notified that we had 40 roundtable/poster sessions. Shortly thereafter we were reduced to 23. Through subsequent exchanges with AERA, we were allocated an additional 4 sessions. But because of all of this, I had to notify 13 of our members, whom I had originally congratulated on having their proposal accepted, that their proposal was in fact *rejected*. I want to re-iterate to all of you that I am *still* sorry for this mix-up.
3. We *really, really* need members to volunteer to be reviewers. You must do this early, as we can only select reviewers from those who have volunteered. This year, we barely had enough to do the job, and some people reviewed up to 10 proposals each.
  - a. This is not just a numbers issue. We need a variety of expertise in our reviewers to be able to provide appropriate critique, feedback, and decisions regarding quality. This year, it was barely enough. *Please volunteer online!*

#### **4. New Rules for Allocation of Sessions**

- A. (from AERA SIG Handbook) The allocation of substantive sessions (i.e., Symposia and Paper Presentation Sessions) to each SIG for the Annual Meeting is based on a joint consideration of *two* things: (a) the number of proposals submitted to the SIG and

- (b) the number of members who belong to the SIG.
1. The implication of this policy (whose exact calculus is not reported anywhere I can find) is that we need to submit as many proposals as possible to increase our overall proportion in relation to the total number of proposals submitted by all SIGs.
  2. The second implication is that we need to maintain and increase our number of members.

## 5. Discussion of Roles of SIGs at AERA

1. With nearly 500 members, SIG/RME is currently bigger than many Divisions in AERA. Given the new rules governing SIGs at AERA, it *may* behoove the membership to task a subcommittee of the SIG/RME board to explore the relative advantages and disadvantages of becoming a Division. It looks, from my perspective, that the advantages of membership in a SIG at AERA, at least as far as they pertain to participation in the annual meeting, are diminishing as a result of the recent policy decisions (Outlined above).

## 6. Parting Words to the SIG from Jim

*It is probably just my luck to finish up my stint as SIG Chair in a year of such turmoil. The changes at AERA regarding bylaws, membership and sessions, though frustrating, were minor in comparison to the financial and existential difficulties education researchers are facing in the US. Some schools have been closed and faculty redistributed to other departments. Others are facing work furloughs and assorted hardships resulting from a stagnant economy. I have, unfortunately, gone through both.*

*But I have to say there still isn't a better time to be a mathematics education researcher! I have such fantastic colleagues. When I read through ALL of the proposals submitted, it gave me a renewed sense of optimism at the brilliance of our young scholars, and the ways in which "more seasoned" researchers are focusing on the key issues of teacher knowledge, practice, equity and learning. I am especially thankful to you for your kindness to me as SIG Chair. I ask you to give Arthur the same consideration and assistance as he shepherds the bylaws forward, and as he continues the discussion on how we can improve and sustain our field through membership in AERA.*

*I am sorry I cannot attend AERA this year. I always look forward to meeting with you and learning from you.*

*Cheers,  
Jim*

## 7. New Board Members and Thanks to Outgoing Members

The new Board members were introduced: Jinfa Cai (Co-Chair), Joanne Lobato (Awards), and Tonya Gau Bartell (Secretary/Treasurer). The outgoing SIG/RME Board members are James

Middleton, Amanda Jansen, and Corey Drake. SIG/RME is grateful for the service the outgoing members provided.

### **III. Treasurer's Report**

Amanda Jansen presented the Treasurer's Report, which appears below.

#### SIG-RME Treasurer's Report March 1, 2009 – March 31, 2010

BEGINNING BALANCE (3/1/09)	\$30,024.68
INCOME	
SIG-RME membership dues (through 3/31/10)	\$7,580.41
Total income	\$7,580.41
Subtotal	\$37,605.09
EXPENSES	
AERA Annual Meeting (2009)	
SIG-RME reception at business meeting	\$3,047.66
Awards	
Plaques (Early Career Publication & Senior Scholar)	\$100.54
Early Career Publication Award 2009 Stipend	\$500.00
Senior Scholar Award 2009 Stipend	\$525.00
Senior Scholar Travel 2009 Reimbursement	\$1,284.46
NCTM Research Pre-Session (2009)	
Keynote Speaker Honorarium	\$750.00
Administrative Charges	
Website domain	\$17.97
AERA management fee	\$300.00
Total expenses	\$6,525.63
ENDING BALANCE (3/31/10)	\$31,079.46

SIG/RME Membership total as of 3/31/10: 535 members

### **IV. Awards Report**

Corey Drake reported that the early career publication was awarded to Andreas Stylianides for his 2007 article in JRME, Proof and Proving in School Mathematics. Corey also reported that the deadline for nomination for the Senior Scholar Award was extended to May 15.

### **V. Discussion About Appropriate Use of the SIG/RME E-mail List**

There was discussion about using the SIG/RME e-mail list for job announcements. The opinions included: having the SIG/RME web site primarily house the job announcements, allow for the e-mail of job announcements with the rationale that more dissemination is a good thing, limiting the job announcement e-mails to one/month, combining both mediums, making sure that

the e-mail subject headers are explicit, and that e-mail would be extra work since the announcements are on the web site already.

Following up on this discussion, the board decided to post job opening announcements only in the designated space on the SIG/RME website.

**VI. Performance of “Wherever You Go, There You Are” by Mary Foote and Tonya Bartell**

Immediately following the performance SIG/RME members asked Mary and Tonya questions, including about the process of their production, how they selected the music, what were their plans for sequels, and whether and where they had published reports of the research upon which the performance is based.

**VII. Adjournment**

Minutes recorded by Jeffrey Shih

### **Call for Officer Nominations!!!**

Please indicate your nominations for the following offices. Your nominees must 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Awards Board Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Send your nominations to Indigo Esmonde by e-mail by **September 15, 2010**.

Indigo Esmonde  
[iesmonde@oise.utoronto.ca](mailto:iesmonde@oise.utoronto.ca)