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# **Front Matter**

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# MID-WESTERN = EDUCATIONAL RESEARCHER

• Official Publication of the Mid-Western Educational Research Association •



Columbus, Ohio

### About the Cover

Located in central Ohio on the banks of the Scioto River, Columbus has grown to become the 15th largest city in the United States. Its vibrant downtown features a variety of entertainment districts, restaurants and hotels. The Arena District, located adjacent to the Greater Columbus Convention Center, is built around the Nationwide Arena, home of the Columbus Blue Jackets, concerts and family events. The Arena District ofers restaurants, nightclubs, the PromoWest Pavilion music house and the Arena Grand Theater movie house. Other downtown districts and neighborhoods include the Short North Arts District, German Village and the Brewery District. The Short North features art galleries, restaurants and pubs, while German Village is the nation's largest privately restored historic nieghborhood. The Brewery District is one of the city's top entertainment districts and features restaurants and several nightclubs that routinely have live music. The downtown is also home to the Ohio Statehouse, which recently underwent an extensive restoration project. For more information about Columbus visit www.SurpriseItsColumbus.com.

Photo courtesy of Rod Berry

### Information for Contributors to the Mid-Western Educational Researcher

The *Mid-Western Educational Researcher* accepts research-based manuscripts that would appeal to a wide range of readers. All materials submitted for publication must conform to the language, style, and format of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 4th ed., 1994 (available from Order Department, American Psychological Association, P.O. Box 2710, Hyattsville, MD 20784).

Four copies of the manuscript should be submitted typed double-spaced (including quotations and references) on 8½ x 11 paper. Only words to be italicized should be underlined. Abbreviations and acronyms should be spelled out when first mentioned. Pages should be numbered consecutively, beginning with the page after the title page.

Manuscripts should be less than 20 pages long. An abstract of less than 100 words should accompany the manuscript.

The manuscript will receive blind review from at least two professionals with expertise in the area of the manuscript.

The author's name, affiliation, mailing address, telephone number, e-mail address (if available), should appear on the title page only.

Efforts will be made to keep the review process to less than four months. The editors reserve the right to make minor changes in order to produce a concise and clear article.

The authors will be consulted if any major changes are necessary.

Manuscripts should be sent with a cover letter to:

Mary K. Bendixen-Noe, *MWER* Co-Editor 1179 University Dr., The Ohio State University at Newark, Newark, OH 43055

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## Wanted: MWERA WebMaster

The Mid-Western Educational Research Association (MWERA) is seeking a qualified individual to take over the duties of WebMaster. Currently the association operates an informational web site (<a href="http://etra.cedu.niu.edu/MWERA">http://etra.cedu.niu.edu/MWERA</a>) That serves as a primary point of information concerning the annual meeting. Prospective presenters are able to obtain information about the meeting-in-planning, and to submit presentation proposals electronically over the web. This same system is used by Division Chairs and reviewers in considering submitted proposals, and by the Program Chair in planning the entire program. Once the meeting program is complete the web site is updated to present a complete and searchable program, including information about invited speakers and the host city, to prospective attendees. In addition, the association web site provides basic information about the association, its officers, and other goings on. Year-round functionality is expected, with peak work times occurring in late Spring and early Summer (as submissions for the program are reviewed and program is planned), then again in mid-to late-Summer (as the program is finalized).

The WebMaster is responsible for operating and maintaining the web site, including adding new features and functionality as desired by the Board, Council and membership. Qualifications would include a good knowledge of HTML and web server operation, including the use of dynamic pages driven by a backend database, on a dedicated Dell computer with 196Mb of RAM, 9 Gb of fast SCSI hard disk, and a 10Mbit Ethernet connection to the Internet. The current web site operates on a Windows XP Professional operating system computer running Microsoft's IIS web server software. The pages were designed in Microsoft FrontPage XP, with additional coding done in VBScript and Jscript. The back end database is a Microsoft Access XP database. Knowledge of Microsoft Word and Word-Access merge functionality is also desired since the final, printed program is merge produced from the on-line Access database.

Year-round functionality is expected, with peak work times occurring in late Spring and early Summer (as submissions for the program are reviewed and the program is planned), then again in mid- to late-Summer (as the program is finalized). Individuals will receive an honorarium.

Interested individuals should contact:

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