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Editors' Notes

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Happy Fall and Winter! We would like to start by congratulating the entire MWERA Executive Board – and especially Dr. Lauren Angelone who served as the Program Chair for this year's conference for another excellent annual conference of the Mid-Western Educational Research Association held in Cincinnati, Ohio.

As we mentioned in the previous issue, MWER is now located at Scholarworks, an online repository. We are still in the process of moving all aspects of the journal from the email system. As of now, all issues from 1996 to the present are now located on Scholarworks, and we hope to have the earlier issues transferred soon. If you are interested in submitting a new manuscript for review, you should do that through Scholarworks. If you need to correspond with us, you can do so by emailing us at <u>MWER1922@gmail.com</u>.

An important change is that now, since we have an online repository, MWER will publish each article as they are accepted rather than collecting them into Issues. We suggest that you subscribe to our email list – you can do so by clicking on the "receive email notices" on the MWER journal home page. If you do so, you will receive notifications when articles are published.

The Editorial Team from Bowling Green State University is pleased to present this Fall issue of the Mid-Western Educational Researcher for 2023. There are two feature articles, a commentary, a book review and a mentoring corner article. Once again, this issue demonstrates the broad base of educational research that exemplifies the Mid-Western Educational Research Association.

Thank you for your continued support of our association and our journal. Be well.

Feature Articles

In Examining the Digital Divide in Education during COVID-19 from Teachers'

Perspectives, Elife Ceviker and Tuba Gezer from the University of Massachusetts sought an understanding of teachers' perspectives on the digital divide—SES-related differences in access to technology-dependent education and resources—in the context of online education during the COVID-19 pandemic. They conducted a multi-method study and found that teachers found both first-level (pertaining to access) and second-level (pertaining to skills) digital divides to be the main "problems affecting online education during the COVID-19 outbreak." They discuss implications for practice aimed at reducing these inequities.

A group of researchers from the University of Arkansas presents Using Intercultural Sensitivity to Predict Culturally Responsive Classroom Management Self-Efficacy Among Preservice Teachers. Christopher Estepp, Jennifer Beasley, Stephen Burgin, and Donald Johnson describe their research, which "examined the relationship between preservice teachers" perceptions of their intercultural sensitivity and their self-efficacy for tasks related to culturally responsive classroom management" at one university in the mid-south U.S. They found that in this setting, "preservice teachers are confident in their ability to manage classrooms in a culturally responsive manner and that intercultural sensitivity significantly predicted and explained about a third of variance in culturally responsive classroom management selfefficacy." They discuss implications for future research on intercultural sensitivity development and teacher training and preparation.

Commentary

In Emergent Design Thinking, Rigorous Research, and Perseverance: Comments from a Keynote Address, John Hitchcock expands on his 2022 keynote address given at the Midwestern Education Research Association conference. He reviews national, contemporary challenges to conducting applied education research. Then, he relates them to the "broad principles of embracing emergent design thinking, flexibility, and perseverance to that might help researchers continue to conduct high-quality research."

Book Review

Clyde Barnett III of Discover Without Barriers Consulting LLC provides an excellent review of Margaret Vaughn's *Student Agency in the Classroom: Honoring Student Voice in the Curriculum*, which was published by Teachers College Press in 2021. Along with a summary and analysis of each chapter, Barnett poses though-provoking questions that would be effective catalysts for deep classroom discussions about the text, and would also be useful for practitioners and researchers.

Mentoring Corner

As editors of MWER, Christy Galletta Horner, Sherri Horner, and Richard Maguire from Bowling Green State University present a brief article called **Making the Most of the Peer Review Process** to mentor those who wish to publish their work in MWER or similar peerreviewed journals. They focus on clarifying what the various editorial decisions mean (e.g., accept with revisions; revise and resubmit; reject: revise and resubmit), discussing factors you might consider when deciding what to do next (e.g., resubmit or move on) and considering how to best approach the revisions. They also provide guidance on effective communication with editors, including an example of a successful response to review table and cover letter.

Opportunities with MWER

We are interested in expanding the number of reviewers, so if you are interested in reviewing, please email us at <u>MWER1922@gmail.com</u> with your name, affiliation, areas of expertise, and a brief description of your experience in reviewing.

MWER Editorial Team (2023-2025)

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