

# NCARE FALL 2006 NEWSLETTER

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## 2007 ANNUAL MEETING

### CALL FOR PROPOSALS

North Carolina Association for Research in Education

**Conference Dates: March 22-23, 2007**

**Conference Location: Koury Convention Center — Greensboro**

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The North Carolina Association of Research for Education (NCARE) invites proposals for its 2007 Annual Meeting, to be held March 22-23, 2007 in Greensboro, North Carolina. This year's conference theme is "Research to Practice."

Proposals **must** be submitted by **February 1, 2007**. Those responding to this call for papers, posters, and symposia will be informed about the status of acceptance of their proposal by **February 5, 2007**. Pre-registration for the conference should be submitted by **March 6, 2007** to avoid paying the higher on-site registration fee.

The conference is scheduled for the Koury Convention Center in Greensboro. NCARE has 30 rooms reserved for March 22, 2007 at the **Sheraton Greensboro Hotel at Four Seasons**. If you plan to stay at the Sheraton on March 22, you will need to make your reservations early. There are other conferences scheduled at the same time and rooms are limited! Go to NCARE homepage for additional hotel information.

### How to Submit a Paper or Poster Proposal

A paper, poster, or symposium on any educational research or evaluation topic likely to interest North Carolina educators will be considered for the program. All proposals will be reviewed by at least two referees, using the criteria of quality, originality, and significance.

All proposals should be submitted electronically (<http://ncare.us>). Individuals need to include an abstract (no more than 250 words) and proposal summary (approximately 1200 words or 2 pages single spaced) that includes the following headings:

- a) Objectives
- b) Perspective or theoretical framework
- c) Methods or techniques
- d) Data source
- e) Results and conclusions

Details about the upcoming NCARE 2007 Annual Meeting can be found at the following website.

<http://ncare.us>

## 2007 CONFERENCE —SPECIAL PRE-SESSION EVENTS

Three sessions will be offered on **March 22, 2007** from 2pm to 5pm. A social will be held after the pre-session events.

To sign up for a pre-session email—

cpflower@email.uncc.edu

### Multilevel Linear Models

**Dr. Bill Ware**

*Multilevel (hierarchical) linear modeling allows researchers to account for the lack of independent in data. Dr. Bill Ware will provide a historical perspective and discuss the basic issues. Analyses will be demonstrated using SPSS.*

### Rasch Models

**Drs. Richard Lambert and Do-Hong Kim**

*Rasch models provide a foundation for the measurement of many educational attributes and traits. Drs. Lambert and Kim will provide a brief description of Rasch modeling and demonstrate software for estimating parameters.*

### Qualitative Method

**Dr. Jae Hoon Lim**

*This session will provide a general introduction to qualitative data analysis using an open coding system. Dr. Lim will demonstrate how to use qualitative data analysis software to analyze written survey items for program evaluation.*

## NCARE NEWS

### Call for Nominations

The Nominating Committee of NCARE is issuing a call for nominations for the office of:

- **President-elect**
- **Secretary**

Nominations are also being accepted for the following open positions on the Board of Directors:

- **K-12 Representative**
- **At-large Representative**
- **At-large Representative**

All NCARE members are eligible to serve on the Board. Nominations are due by **December 15, 2006**.

Send nominations to Dr. Helmut Feifs—  
**[hfeifs@dpi.state.nc.us](mailto:hfeifs@dpi.state.nc.us)**

### NCARE Membership Fees

Starting on **March 24, 2007** (after the annual meeting), the annual membership fees will be

- \$25 for regular membership
- \$10 for full-time students

This is the first increase in membership fees in over 10 years.

## NCARE Membership

### Renew Your Membership

Your membership may have lapsed. If you have not paid your membership dues within the past year please do so as soon as possible. Look at the mailing label for the number of days since you paid your membership dues. It is only **\$10** for the year. Go to the NCARE website for additional information about renewing your membership: **<http://ncare.us>**

### Student Involvement in NCARE

NCARE provides opportunities for students to be involved in research and interact with other researchers. Currently, student membership dues are only **\$5** annually. Students have a discounted rate for the NCARE annual meeting and student presenters are eligible for Marvin Wyne Outstanding Student Paper Award. Applications can be found at the NCARE website.

The North Carolina Association for Research in Education works to improve the quality of education in North Carolina through research and evaluation.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT GEORGE OLSON

### NCARE Direction

By all accounts, our annual meeting, held last March at the Holiday Inn in Hickory, was an acknowledged success. It marked the first time (at least as far as anyone can remember) that the conference spanned a two-day period, beginning with three pre-session workshops on the first day. The wine and cheese reception, held that evening, provided attendees a well-appreciated, informal opportunity to get to know one another. On the second day, attendees could choose among eleven paper sessions, three symposia, and a policy roundtable. All sessions were well-attended. Many individuals attending the conference remarked that it had the “feel” of a “real professional meeting.” This year’s annual meeting, to be held in March '07, promises to be an even greater success. Start making plans to attend, now!

I have observed a decline, in recent years, both in association membership and in statewide representation at our annual meeting. This decline has been particularly evident among our universities and school districts. I would like to see this trend reversed. There is much in the way of cutting-edge research—relevant to North Carolina educational policy and practice—happening at these institutions. We need to hear from the people engaged in these activities. Our annual meeting provides the perfect opportunity to highlight this work locally.

On a related matter, nominations for five positions on the board are now being accepted. We will need one representative from K-12 public education, two at-large representatives, a secretary, and a president-elect. If you would like to nominate someone (including yourself) for one of these positions, please send your nominations, before the end of December, to Helmut Feifs, Nominating Committee Chair, at [hfeifs@dpi.state.nc.us](mailto:hfeifs@dpi.state.nc.us). The vitality of the organization depends heavily upon those individuals elected to the board.

This newsletter contains the call for proposals for the upcoming annual meeting in Greensboro on March 22 & 23 in Greensboro. Initially, this newsletter may not reach all those who may be interested, both in presenting at our annual meeting and in joining our association. It is up to current members to “get the word out.” Please share this newsletter, which is available on our website, with your colleagues and other professional contacts.

George H Olson

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### Contact Information for NCARE Board

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**NCARE—<http://ncare.us>**

**NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION FOR RESEARCH IN  
EDUCATION**

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**NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION FOR  
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