



Call for Outstanding Dissertation Award Applications

The Research Committee of the Association of Literacy Educators & Researchers sponsors competitions for an outstanding dissertation in literacy. Winners will receive certificates of merit and will be invited to discuss the dissertation or paper at ALER's 2017 Conference. The award recipients will be invited to submit a manuscript to the ALER Yearbook based on a version of their dissertation.

To apply for the dissertation award

1. **Entries should be in the form of a manuscript and should not exceed 5000 words (20 pages).** Manuscripts must be typewritten and double-spaced, including quotes and references. Tables and appendices that provide essential information (e.g., instrumentation or other procedures central to the investigation) may be included. References, tables, and appendices will not be counted as a part of the total number of pages or word count.

The **title page** should provide the following information:

- complete title of the dissertation
- name of the university
- degree and date of its award
- name, mailing address, and e-mail address of the faculty sponsor
- name, mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone number of the applicant.

An abstract of 75-150 words should provide a summary of the purpose and major findings of the study. The title of the study should appear on the abstract, but there should be no other identifying information.

Entries must be accompanied by a signed letter from the faculty sponsor on official letterhead indicating the degree and the date of its award. Letters on electronic letterhead with a scanned signature may be emailed to michael.manderino@gmail.com.

Dissertations that have been completed for Ph.D. or Ed.D. programs **between December 1, 2015 and June 1, 2017** will be considered. More than one dissertation may be submitted from a single university.

2. The applicant's degree can be in any discipline; however, the dissertation must have direct relationship to some aspect of literacy.
3. Entries should conform to APA style guidelines for manuscript submissions. Refer to the latest edition of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*.
4. An entry may be eliminated from the competition if the applicant fails to follow submission guidelines, exceeds word limits, or submits an incomplete entry. Final determination will be made by the co-chairs of the ALER Research Committee.
5. All entries will be judged by no fewer than three judges who are members of ALER. The decision of the judges will be final.

E-mail dissertation entries to michael.manderino@gmail.com by August 5, 2017. Send PDF (preferred) or Word documents as attachments including the title page, abstract, and manuscript.

Signed letters from the faculty sponsor may be emailed to michael.manderino@gmail.com.