

**OPEN CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS EXTENDED**

**2018 WERA World Congress**

[www.wera2018.co.za](http://www.wera2018.co.za)

***Reimagining Worldwide Education Research***

**3 August – 5 August 2018**

**The Westin Grand, CTICC, Cape Town, South Africa**

**Final Deadline for Submission:**

**20 February, 2018; 23:59 South African Time (GMT +2)**

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The World Education Research Association (WERA) invites submissions for papers, symposia, and posters for the 2018 WERA World Congress to be held in Cape Town, South Africa on 3 August to 5 August, 2018. WERA is an association of major national, regional, and specialty education research associations dedicated to sharing scholarship, developing networks, mutually supporting capacity building, and promoting the use and application of education research around the world. WERA aims to undertake initiatives that are global in nature and thus transcend what any one association can accomplish in its own country, region, or area of specialization. WERA also includes individual and institutional member affiliates.

### **World Congress Theme**

Around the world, education research across contexts of learning addresses strikingly similar issues and aims to be relevant to policy and practice. Whatever the topic—access and equity, language diversities, STEM learning, teaching effectiveness, policy impacts, or workforce preparation, to name but a few—common questions and concerns drive inquiry. Over the past decade, scholars and students alike have been increasingly drawn to connecting their work to research in other countries, cultures, and contexts. There is also growing interest in building cumulative knowledge and critiquing the strengths of findings and inferences through the lens of multiple perspectives enriched by studies in the global North and South. Yet, despite these transformations, single-site or within-country studies continue to dominate even when research is situated within a broader literature or when comparisons are drawn.

The 2018 WERA World Congress invites papers, symposia, and posters from submitters drawn to the opportunity to advance knowledge and foster a reimagining of education research with a worldwide perspective at its core. This first-ever WERA Congress in particular seeks to attract significant international, transnational, and comparative scholarship and to encourage presentations that critically examine methodologies, measures, and modes of inquiry to support such work. Submissions that explore and explain commonalities and differences across countries and regions are sought. Also, welcomed are submissions that address worldwide opportunities or constraints in advancing education research and fostering innovations in communication, collaboration, and networking. The scope of the Congress is wide in its reach to include studies under this overarching theme across the life span from early learning to workforce and adult education and that take place in formal and informal contexts of education and learning. The emphasis of the Congress is on papers, posters, and symposia *with a lens that is worldwide in perspective*. Otherwise there is no restriction on the education research topics appropriate for consideration, although priority will be given to submissions that focus on research and findings addressed to significant trends, issues, and challenges worldwide.

### **Who Should Submit?**

Scholars and advanced graduate students engaged in education research and related fields and disciplines are encouraged to submit papers, posters, and symposia to the 2018 WERA World Congress. The Congress seeks to feature research that includes more than one country or is comparative, cross-cultural, international, or transnational in conceptualisation, scope, or design. Paper and poster submissions need to extend beyond a single-country; symposia submissions can include papers from single sites or countries as long as the presentations combined are from different countries and the aims of the symposium are anchored in worldwide or global issues.

## Guidelines for Submission to WERA

Paper, symposia, and poster submissions must be submitted through the online portal on the WERA Conference website at [www.wera2018.co.za](http://www.wera2018.co.za).

The deadline to submit is **20 February, 2018; 23:59 South African Time (GMT +2)**.

### *Paper Submissions:*

Paper summaries are a maximum of 750 words on: a.) "Proposal Information/Research/Questions and Theoretical Approach" (350 words); b.) "Methods" (150 words); and c.) "Conclusion & Findings, Scientific Significance" (250 words) in addition to the paper title, information on the authors, and so forth. Up to ten references may be included in the summary, and must be set forth in the reference list. Also, a 250-word abstract suitable for publication must be submitted. For multiply-authored papers, the first author of the paper is responsible for submission, even if that individual is not the paper presenter.

Please follow the link to submit a paper submission:

[https://www.conftool.com/wera2018/index.php?page=newPaper&form\\_contributiontypeID=1&newpaper=true](https://www.conftool.com/wera2018/index.php?page=newPaper&form_contributiontypeID=1&newpaper=true)

### *Symposium Submissions:*

A symposium provides opportunities, not afforded by a single paper, to examine a specific education research problem or topic through an international, comparative, or worldwide lens and to bring to bear diverse perspectives, intensive discussion, or a wide range of expertise.

Symposium abstracts are a maximum of 250 words. Submissions also include 150-word summaries for each presentation/paper in a symposium, and allow for up to ten references for each presentation. References cited in the summaries must be set forth in the reference list. Symposium proposals are submitted by an organizer who may or may not be a chair, presenter, or discussant. A WERA symposium can include a minimum of three and maximum of five participants in addition to the chair and discussant. Participants include all presenters and any discussants.

Please follow the link to submit a symposium submission:

[https://www.conftool.com/wera2018/index.php?page=newPaper&form\\_contributiontypeID=3&newpaper=true](https://www.conftool.com/wera2018/index.php?page=newPaper&form_contributiontypeID=3&newpaper=true)

### *Poster Submissions:*

Poster sessions are visual displays of research findings, which provide the presenter with an opportunity for discussion of the research and findings. Submissions for poster sessions parallel the requirements for paper submissions, including a summary of up to 750 words that additionally addresses any unique elements particularly appropriate for a poster. Poster summaries are a maximum of 750 words on: a.) "Proposal Information/Research/Questions and Theoretical Approach" (350 words); b.) "Methods" (150 words); and c.) "Conclusion & Findings, Scientific Significance" (250 words) in addition to the poster title, information on the authors, and so forth. Up to ten references may be included in the summary, and must be set forth in the reference list. Also, a 250-word abstract suitable for publication must be included. Work with initial findings or in early stages of development and studies that are best conveyed with data analytic methods or pictorial or hands-on displays might be especially appropriate for a poster.

Please follow the link to submit a poster submission:

[https://www.conftool.com/wera2018/index.php?page=newPaper&form\\_contributiontypeID=5&newpaper=true](https://www.conftool.com/wera2018/index.php?page=newPaper&form_contributiontypeID=5&newpaper=true)

*If you would like to submit to the 2018 WERA World Congress:*

**Submissions accepted online at [www.conftool.com/wera2018](http://www.conftool.com/wera2018).** Click 'Your Submissions' (after account registration and login). Once you enter your submission portal from the main submission page, you will have options for paper, symposium, and poster submissions. For submission questions, please email the WERA World Congress at [admin@wera2018.co.za](mailto:admin@wera2018.co.za).

### Peer Review of Submissions

All submissions are peer reviewed by the WERA Review Committee. Criteria include the worldwide significance of the research questions, the soundness of the methodology, the appropriateness of the methods to the research questions, the importance of the findings, and the overall logic and clarity of the conclusions and implications of the research.

### Guidelines for Accepted Submissions

Notification of acceptance decisions will be provided by 4 April, 2018. Presenting authors of accepted papers, posters, AND all participants in accepted symposia are expected to attend and register for the 2018 WERA World Congress.

### Registration

Registration is available online on the WERA 2018 World Congress website at [www.wera2018.co.za](http://www.wera2018.co.za). WERA World Congress registration will open for Early Bird registrants on 5 December, 2017 and end on 30 April, 2018. Discounted rates will apply. Regular registration at full conference rates will start on 1 May, 2018 and end on 31 July, 2018 [www.wera2018.co.za](http://www.wera2018.co.za).

### Final Paper

Final papers, including the underlying paper for a poster presentation, must be submitted online by 2 July 2018. Acceptance letters will include instructions for submitting final papers. Final papers will be eligible for consideration for publication in a future volume of WERA's *Global Perspectives on Education Research*.

### Important Dates

January 11, 2018	Submission starts
February 20, 2018	Submission ends
April 4, 2018	Decisions announced
December 5, 2017 – April 30, 2018	Early bird registration
May 1 – July 31, 2018	Registration
July 2, 2018	Submission of final papers to WERA
August 3 – August 5, 2018	WERA conference

### Co-Chairs

Liesel Ebersöhn, WERA Secretary General  
Felice J. Levine, WERA President

For further information on the WERA World Conference, including information on lodging, workshops, special tours and events, and so forth, visit the conference website at [www.wera2018.co.za](http://www.wera2018.co.za).

For submission questions, please email the WERA World Congress at [admin@wera2018.co.za](mailto:admin@wera2018.co.za)

For travel and accommodation queries, please contact [travel@wera2018.co.za](mailto:travel@wera2018.co.za)