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## 2010 CERA Graduate Student Outstanding Paper Award

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Graduate student authors of original, unpublished articles are invited to submit their papers for consideration as the California Educational Research Association's (CERA) "Graduate Student Outstanding Paper Award." Details of the competitive award process are as follows:

### Eligibility

- Candidates must currently be enrolled as full-time graduate students in a California college or university during the 2010-2011 school year, and provide contact information for their academic advisor (email, phone, and mailing address).
- The paper must be submitted in electronic form to the CERA Secretary by September 17, 2010, along with a written request to be considered for the award. Send papers to:

Dr. Wendell Callahan  
Director of Assessment  
San Diego County Office of Education  
5304 Metro Street, Ste. A  
San Diego CA 92111

- The paper must be original work, and may not currently be under review with another organization or journal.
- The paper must adhere to APA format guidelines and must be no longer than 30 pages.

### Judging Process

- All submissions will undergo blind review.
- A professor may not evaluate a paper submitted by his/her own graduate student.
- A supervisor may not evaluate a paper submitted by his/her own direct subordinate.
- There will be a minimum of three judges serving on the review panel. Each judge will evaluate each paper submission independently.
- Judges will evaluate each paper using the CERA Board-approved criteria listed below. Each of the six criteria will be scored on a five-point scale. The maximum score a paper can receive is 30.
- The winning paper will be the one with the highest mean score from all judges serving on the review panel. In the event of a tie, the score with the smallest standard deviation of scores will win.

### Evaluation Criteria

- Purpose of Study: clearly stated, including hypothesis and significant questions
- Theoretical Framework: well established through the use of prior research/literature
- Methods: appropriate and clearly explained, including any innovative aspects
- Results: described clearly, logically supported by data, and pertinent to state concerns/questions
- Conclusion: based on presented results, with clear interpretations of salient points
- Significance: well articulated impact on education practice or the field of educational research

### Presentation of Award

- The "Graduate Student Outstanding Paper Award" will be presented during an awards ceremony at lunch on November 18, 2010, the first day of the 2010 CERA Annual Meeting. The winner will receive a certificate of award at the ceremony.
- The award winner and the title of the winning paper will be posted on the CERA Web page.
- An abstract of the winning paper will be published in the CERA Newsletter.

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Note: We need a prize for the winner (i.e., opportunity to present at CERA, AERA, or another conference, post paper on CERA website, publish shorter version of paper in CERA newsletter). We can insert information about the prize in the introduction, eligibility, and presentation sections.