

Call for Proposals
2009 Conference on College Composition and Communication in Louisville
Qualitative Research Network
Individual Research Presentations
Wednesday, March 17 from 1:30-5:00 p.m.

As a pre-conference research network, the Qualitative Research Network is open to everyone, including those who are already presenting at the conference in other venues.

Due date: October 19, 2008

Proposals for individual presentations for the Qualitative Research Network are now being accepted. This research network, which occurs annually at the CCCC, is offered for new and experienced qualitative researchers.

Keynote Speaker & Research Roundtables

During the first hour of the workshop, Ellen Barton will give a keynote address “If I Knew Then What I Know Now” and lead a discussion about issues that qualitative researchers face and strategies for sustaining researchers, research projects, and even the field of qualitative research itself (see abstract and speaker biography below).

The rest of the Qualitative Research Network will be organized in research roundtables where novice and experienced researchers will present work-in-progress for feedback. Experienced qualitative researchers will be on hand to offer suggestions and to lead the roundtable discussions. The goal of this annual workshop is to offer mentoring and support to qualitative researchers at all levels of experience and working in diverse areas of study within the college composition and communication community.

Presenters at the research roundtables may focus on specific concerns and/or broader issues related to qualitative research, and we encourage submissions from those at any stage of the research process (e.g., planning, data collecting, data analyzing, publishing). Each presenter will have twenty to thirty minutes for both presentation and feedback, which will necessitate that presenters offer concise and accessible summaries of their studies. After all submissions have been collected, the planning committee will provide presenters specific details about the format of the workshop.

Proposal Information

Please send via email a brief description (approximately 500 words) of your research proposal ****by October 19**** to Heidi McKee (mckeeha@muohio.edu) and Seth Kahn (skahn@wcupa.edu), Co-Chairs, Qualitative Research Network.

Be sure to include a brief overview of the research project, the stage the project is in, and the questions/issues you wish to discuss with other researchers. Place your proposal in

the body of the email and attach a file (.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf). Descriptions need not be exhaustive; we ask that you provide a general overview of your study as well as a statement about the kinds of feedback you would like to receive. If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact us.

****Presenters for research roundtables will be notified of their acceptance by November 1. *****

Keynote Speaker Biography

Ellen Barton is a Professor in the Linguistics Program and the Composition-Rhetoric Program in the Department of English at Wayne State University, where she is now Director of Composition. Her research interests include research methods, research ethics, medical communication and medical rhetoric, and, most recently, the investigation of ethics-in-interaction - the linguistic means by which ethical matters are raised, explored, negotiated, justified, and settled (or not) in medical decision-making and IRB deliberation. Her work appears in the journals CCC, Written Communication, the Journal of Business and Technical Communication, Technical Communication Quarterly, Communication & Medicine, and Qualitative Health Research. She won the 2009 CCCC Braddock award for her article "Further Contributions from the Ethical Turn in Composition/Rhetoric: Analyzing Ethics in Interaction" (CCC 39 (2008): 596-632).

Keynote Address Abstract

When I entered the field twenty-five years ago, I came armed with the standard (and terrifying) advice from graduate school -- find your niche. Only gradually did I realize that my niche was defined methodologically under the vast umbrella of qualitative research. In this talk, I discuss a number of themes that emerge from looking back at a career in qualitative research, including the following: make thinking methodologically second nature; hone your talents in identifying unique data and formulating the questions that surround the data; be ambitious; be courageous; be wary of the everything/anything trap, don't be afraid of outcomes research; help define the field; and, perhaps most difficult, figure out how to motivate future members of the field to embrace the commitment and mess of qualitative research.

*****PLEASE FORWARD TO OTHER RESEARCHERS*****