

The AER Voice



Welcome to the August 2022 Issue of AER The Voice

Volume 4, Issue 8

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A NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hello AER!

The 2022 AER International Conference "Gateway to Community" was a great success. Thank you to all our presenters, exhibitors, volunteers, and attendees for your participation. I hope you were able to leave St. Louis with a refreshed mind, renewed energy, and new ideas. The AER Staff have begun the selection process for the host site of the 2024 International Conference. We will have the announcement of the host city by September 1st, and dates and hotel information shortly thereafter.

On July 12, 2022, Elly du Pre, AER Accreditation Manager, John McAllister, Chair of the Higher Education Accreditation Council, and myself, met with the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) Committee on Recognition to discuss AER Accreditation Council's application. We have since been notified that the Committee is recommending deferral of recognition pending receipt and review of additional information. AERAC has already met and is working diligently to provide the requested information in advance of CHEA's deadline. Elly will be sharing more information about this process in upcoming issues of the Voice.

The President of AER's Board of Directors is responsible for selecting and appointing the chair and members of the Board's standing and ad hoc committees. AER has been blessed over the years with many members volunteering to serve and improve our association. If you are interested in serving, or to continue to serve, on a committee, please let us know. The official call for volunteers to serve on these committees is included in this issue of the Voice. Our goal is for the membership of the committees to have an equal and appropriate representation of Chapters and Divisions.

One of my performance goals for this upcoming year is to increase the membership of AER. I will be working closely with the current Membership committee and specific subcommittees on this project. We will be evaluating

all aspects of membership in AER including recruitment, retention, pricing structure, benefits, and incentives, with the overall goal of increasing and promoting the value of AER membership. I will keep you updated on the progress of this project.

I enjoyed meeting so many of you at the conference, in person, not just via Zoom. I am very appreciative of the warm welcome I received. I am truly blessed to be able to work with an amazing group of professionals who positively impact the lives of others daily. I look forward to working with you as we expand and improve this amazing professional association.

Lee Sonnenberg, Executive Director, AER

lee@aerbvi.org

CONFERENCE CORNER!

Thank you to all of you that attended the AER 2022 International Conference. Because of you, it was a huge success!

We will soon be sending all of the attendees detailed instructions on how to submit you session evaluations, enter your opening and clogin codes, and generating your CE Certificate.

Thank you for your patience as the programmers complete this progress. Stay tuned!

[2022 AER International Conference Website](#)

NEWS YOU CAN USE

AER is seeking volunteers:

AER is looking for dedicated volunteers to sit on one or more of our committees. Our goal, as always, is to improve our members' educational programs, membership, and conference experience. Therefore, if you are interested or know someone who might be interested, please have them complete the link below.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8L6YCFB>

To be considered, please complete the survey and submit your CV/resume via email to Tiffany McCoy at tiffany@aerbvi.org no later than August 16, 2022.

The AER eLearning Center

Keep your summer going strong with CEs and AER!

Looking to stay inside from the heat and earn some CE credits? Check out the AER eLearning Center for all your elearning needs! Earn credits and learn from colleagues from some of our courses below:



- [Videos & Presentation Slides in the Classroom](#)

- [CVI Companion Guide Implementation](#)
 - [O&M College in South Africa: A Vision for the Future](#)
 - [Work Smarter, Not Harder: Tips, Tricks and Resources for Assistive Technology Assessment](#)
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Disertation Research Study

My name is Molly Pasley and I am an Assistant Professor at Northern Illinois University in the Special and Early Education Department (SEED). Building on my dissertation research, I am expanding my work with participants in order to collect additional data for my study about understanding the experiences of people with low vision/blindness as they navigate the built environment, their experiences with vision loss, and the lengths to which they feel they have to appear “capable” within an ableist definition.

While you are under no obligation to participate in my study, I would very much value and appreciate your input. My hope is this research will lead to improvements in transition experiences for people with visual impairment. If you decide to participate, I will schedule an initial, 45-minute interview sometime between May 23, 2022 and May 23, 2023. I am also likely to want to interview you again, as a follow-up for another, approximately 45-minute interview.

If you would like to participate in this study or would like additional information, I’d be more than happy to speak with you and answer your questions. Feel free to contact me (mpasley@niu.edu) or calling me at 309-338-3716. Thank you for your time!

Sincerely,

Molly Pasley
Assistant Professor
Northern Illinois University



TNR Is Ready For YOU!

After three years of intense planning and “construction,” AER’s new practitioner-focused journal—*The New RE:view*—is ready for your participation! Please don’t be shy!

Article genres in *The New RE:view* (TNR) include *practice reflections* and *practice reports* that detail successful strategies and promising instructional techniques; *applied research reports* that share data and findings that have direct application for practitioners; *book reviews* with an emphasis on new publications; and opinion pieces for our *Views from the Field* segment. We encourage you to share your best ideas by authoring a potential article or to support the publication of articles by serving as a peer reviewer. And always, we encourage you to become a reader of TNR’s content!

TNR’s **Call for Papers** can be found on the TNR page of AER’s website at [TNR Call for Papers](#).

The **Submission Guidelines for TNR** are located at [TNR Submissions Process](#) on the AER website.

Our **Invitation to Be A Peer Reviewer** is also on the TNR page of AER’s site at [TNR Invitation to Be a Peer Reviewer](#)

TNR follows in the footsteps of the historic journal *RE:view*, which was discontinued in 2008. With YOUR HELP, *The New RE:view* will become a dynamic professional resource that helps us all address key questions of our work.

We hope you will join us in making this happen!

Perkins E-Learning

AER members receive a 20% discount on the total cost of Perkins self-paced tutorials. Each provides an opportunity to enhance your knowledge, skills and abilities, and job performance! AER members only may use the voucher code 20aer20 to take advantage of this member benefit and earn CE hours. Click here to get started: [Perkins Discounts](#)

Instructions: Select the tutorial. Add to your cart and when checking out enter code 20AER20 in the Voucher Box. Enter re-calculate and the discount will appear.

On the next screen, sign in (if you already have an account with Perkins Learning Center or Register if you do not yet have a Perkins Learning Center account.

On the final page, enter your AER member number in the Phone Number field. Your AER member number will be verified. If you encounter any problems or have any questions, please email perkins.elearning@perkins.org.

WELCOME TO THE NEWEST AER MEMBERS!

Join us in welcoming the newest members, who [joined AER in July 2022](#). We are glad to have you!

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Check out the new positions that are available in the field. There are many exciting jobs that are posted via the AER Job Exchange:

[Orientation and Mobility Specialist and/or Vision Rehab Therapist](#)

Colorado Springs, Colorado
State of Colorado, Dept of Labor & Employment, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

[Vision Rehabilitation Therapist](#)

Pensacola, Florida
Independence for the Blind of West Florida

[Orientation and Mobility Specialist](#)

Pensacola, Florida
Independence for the Blind of West Florida

[Director of Vision Rehabilitation Services](#)

New Orleans, Louisiana
Lighthouse Louisiana

[Occupational Therapist – Early Intervention Specialist](#)

New Orleans, Louisiana
Lighthouse Louisiana

For more jobs that are available, please visit: [Job Exchange](#)

The AER Voice is a monthly newsletter that serves as an information hub for members and offers an easy and dependable way of keeping current. This electronic newsletter includes AER updates, events, special announcements, useful tidbits and so much more. If you have news, resources, information, recipes, or any updates that you would like to share with the membership, please send them to AER at news@aerbvi.org.

The deadline for the September issue is 8/25/2022.



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