



Art as Research & Research as Art

January 7 – January 9, 2005
Athens, Georgia

The University of Georgia
Center for Continuing Education
College of Education

Conference Organization

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Kathleen deMarrais, Professor, Qualitative Research Program, College of Education

Melisa Cahnmann, Assistant Professor, Language Education, College of Education

Richard Siegesmund, Assistant Professor, Language Education, Lamar Dodd School of Art

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Deans' Welcome

Dear Colleagues:

We are delighted to welcome you to the 18th annual QUIG conference. As increasing numbers from many disciplinary backgrounds have become engaged in qualitative research and have helped develop an understanding of complex societal issues, the scope of the QUIG conference has expanded.

This year's QUIG conference builds on a rich tradition and marks a time of increasing multidisciplinary collaboration among the human sciences and across campus here at University of Georgia, as evidenced in the keynote speakers, presenters, and the leadership team coordinating the conference.

The theme for this year's conference, "Art as Research and Research as Art" serves as an invitation for you to envision the future in qualitative research within current debates about the nature of scientific inquiry. The keynote speakers were all selected for their innovative work at the nexus of art and qualitative research traditions and for combining their scholarly work across disciplines. We are very pleased to have Elliott Eisner, Tom Barone, and Ruth Behar to share their work with you. Each of these scholars will serve to stimulate participants in exploring new and productive relationships between discourse analysis and qualitative inquiries.

The QUIG Steering Committee, under the combined leadership of Professors Melisa Cahnman, Richard Siegesmund, and Kathleen deMarras, is to be commended for its fine work in constructing a conference that promises to challenge your thinking. The conference offers an impressive variety of workshops, presentations, panel sessions, and individual consultations with expert researchers. In addition, the committee has planned an assortment of social events to build community as novice and experienced scholars share their work with one another. We extend our sincere wishes that the conference will be a productive learning experience for you.

Again, welcome to the 18th QUIG conference on Interdisciplinary Qualitative Studies. Enjoy your stay at the University of Georgia.

Sincerely,

Louis Castenell
Dean
College of Education

Larry Nakarud
Interim Dean
School of Social Work

Sharon K. Nickols
Dean
Family & Consumer Sciences

Co-Chairs Welcome Letter

Dear QUIG Conference Attendees:

Welcome to the 2005 Annual Conference on Qualitative Studies (QUIG). This is our 18th annual conference at the University of Georgia. The vision of QUIG continues to grow and we continue to encourage researchers from a diversity of disciplines to participate in the conference. We are pleased to welcome participants from across the United States and around the world. “Art as Research & Research as Art” was chosen as the theme for the 2005 QUIG Conference on Interdisciplinary Qualitative Studies due to recent and growing interest in mergers between social scientists and artists. Both have explored the space where aesthetics and communication of social meaning overlap, documenting human life in ways that are both artistic and scientific adding dimensionality, complexity, and accessibility to their works.

The keynote speakers were selected with great care for their interesting work in qualitative research. We will begin the conference on Friday evening with Elliot Eisner, Professor of Education and Art and the Lee L. Jacks Professor of Education at Stanford University. His current research focuses on the role of artistic modes of thought in the conduct of social science research and on the development of programs to further arts education in American schools. His opening session topic will be “What do we mean by arts-based research: Conjectures, conundrums, and the future?”

We continue this voyage with Tom Barone speaking on “Making educational history: How arts-based research can change minds” on Saturday. Tom Barone is a professor of education at Arizona State University (ASU) and has explored, conceptually and through examples, a variety of narrative and arts-based approaches to contextualizing and theorizing about significant educational issues. Today, he is especially interested in issues of authority and audience as related to research-based narrative constructions.

Saturday evening we will end our keynotes with Ruth Behar expounding on “Between Poetry and Anthropology: Searching for Languages of Home.” Ruth Behar is a professor of anthropology at the University of Michigan and has written about her experience of crossing cultural borders as a poet, essayist, fiction writer, editor, and ethnographer. She is now turning to documentary filmmaking to seek yet another expression of her unique vision of the meaning of home in an age of travel and homesickness.

We have had an overwhelming response to the call for papers from participants interested in sharing their work during the concurrent sessions. The concurrent, invited, and keynote sessions promise to offer food for thought regarding both qualitative research and art. This year’s conference includes a diverse congregation of scholars who are bound together by their interests and experiences in qualitative research and commitment to continue to examine the relationship of art to qualitative research. We hope that these days provide space to critically examine an important and under-recognized zone of possible collaboration and potential for generating new research methodologies and new knowledge, stretching each of us beyond our current ways of seeing and knowing.

Planning, organizing, and administering a conference requires many people. We wish to thank the QUIG Steering Committee, the proposal reviewers, the Georgia Center Staff, graduate student volunteers, and Jaret Walton, the QUIG graduate assistant. We look forward to greeting and meeting and learning from every one of you.

Sincerely,

Melisa Cahnman
College of Education

Richard Siegesmund
College of Arts & Science

Kathleen deMarrais
College of Education