



News@NCME

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Editor: Cheng Hua

President's Message

By Amy Hendrickson, NCME President, February 5, 2026

Dear NCME Colleagues,

February may be delivering ice on the streets and chill in the air for many of us, but NCME is very much in a warm, forward-moving season. The new year is already off to a strong and productive start, with momentum building across governance, programming, and community connection. From board decisions to conference planning, there's a lot happening—and a lot to be excited about.



Incoming Board Members and Book Series Editor: Congratulations and Welcome!

I would like to thank our colleagues who agreed to run for a position on the NCME Board of Directors. The results of the 2026 election are below:

- Vice President/President Elect: **Susan Davis-Becker**, ACS Ventures
- Representative of a State or Federal Agency or Organization: **Chris Rozunick**, Texas Education Agency
- Board Member at Large: **Laura Hamilton**, The National Center for the Improvement of Educational Assessment

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you in my final year on the board. I also want to thank the NCME Nominations & Elections Committee—Andrew Ho, Derek Briggs, and Kristen Huff—for putting together such a talented and competitive set of candidates.

Congratulations also for **Mary Pitoniak** who was chosen as the next editor of the NCME Book Series, starting in April 2026 through April 2030. Many thanks to Mary for her continued service in support of NCME's publications.

January Board of Directors Meeting: Moving NCME Forward

The board held a very productive virtual meeting on January 21. In accordance with advancing our strategic plan, the board reaffirmed its commitment to the [mission and the vision](#), adopted a set of [eight values](#), and preliminarily approved a set of [strategic goals](#). These actions are designed to strengthen NCME's long-term impact and better support our members across career stages and professional contexts.

We also voted to approve the 2026 (positive balance) budget, along with several updated financial policies, a new chartering process for SIGIMIEs, and expansion of the Training and Professional Development Committee (T&PD). I am especially thankful for the board's approval of my proposal to expand the T&PD Committee to a full six-member committee with a three-year rotation cycle, commensurate with other NCME committees. I look forward to working with this committee to evaluate and develop expanded year-round and lifelong training, learning, and professional development opportunities for NCME members.

RSVP by February 8 for Making Our Way to LA – Regional Meet-Up in Iowa City on February 19

I am excited to host a second NCME regional meet-up, this time in Iowa City, Iowa, on February 19. This informal gathering is designed to foster connection, conversation, and community among measurement professionals at all career stages. Whether you're local to the area or passing through, I hope you'll join me and your colleagues for good company, good discussion, and a chance to connect with fellow NCME members. [Please register by February 8.](#)

NCME 2026 Updates: Preliminary Program, Early Bird Registration, and the Informal Presidential Closing Reception

The [preliminary program](#) for the [NCME 2026 Annual Meeting](#), to be held at the InterContinental Los Angeles Downtown April 8–11, is now available! [Registration](#)

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Many thanks to Program Co-Chairs Pamela Kaliski and Stefanie Wind, along with Training and Professional Development Co-Chairs Joe Grochowalski and Wenchao Ma, for putting together a fabulous program. Please plan to stay through the end of sessions on Saturday, April 11, and join me for a closing reception in the early evening.

We are grateful to be able to provide a limited number of travel grants to attendees this year. Additional support is always welcome; [contributions to the Mission Fund](#) marked “to support travel grants” will be dedicated to the Annual Meeting or other NCME events.

Upcoming Fall 2026 Events:

AIME-Con and Classroom Assessment

Building on the success, energy, and feedback from the 2025 AIME-Con (Artificial Intelligence in Measurement and Education Conference), the NCME Board of Directors approved plans for AIME-Con 2026 this October. More information will be shared soon.

In addition, the sixth NCME Special Conference on Classroom Assessment will be November 12–14, at the Radisson Blu in Bloomington, Minnesota. This year’s conference will focus on advancing effective classroom assessment practices across educational contexts. Information regarding the call for proposals, registration details, hotel accommodations, and travel guidance will soon be available [online](#).

It’s going to be a busy fall for NCME, and we are grateful and excited to offer these events for our members.

Committee Focus: Archives and History Committee

Later in the newsletter, read more about the important projects the Archives and History Committee has been advancing to preserve and elevate artifacts, documents, and ideas from across NCME’s history. Working with Atria staff, the committee is improving the organization, accessibility, and visibility of these materials so they can better serve members, researchers, and the broader measurement community. In particular, you should check out the [interviews](#) with select influential educational measurement scholars and practitioners that offer first-hand perspectives on the field’s evolution, major debates, and enduring challenges. We deeply appreciate the committee’s sustained efforts in this area.

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NCME. I look forward to the months ahead and to connecting with many of you—virtually and in person—as we continue this work to move forward together.

Warm regards,
Amy Hendrickson
President, NCME

NCME Updates



Registration Open for NCME 2026!

We are excited to announce that the [preliminary program for the 2026 NCME Annual Meeting](#) is now available! All presenters and participants (chairs and discussants) should review the program to verify that all of the information for your session/paper is correct.

If you have not yet [registered for the conference](#), do so by the early bird deadline of February 13 to get the best rate! We look forward to seeing you all in April!

Next Goal Set for the NCME Endowment

Thanks to the generosity of NCME members, over \$90,000 has been raised toward the new NCME Endowment—a vital step toward sustaining excellence in educational measurement for generations to come. Donors include past

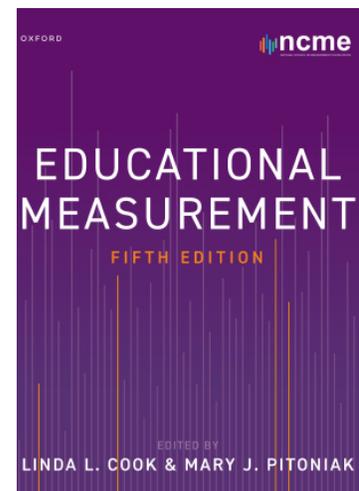
🎯 Help us meet our next goal of \$150,000 by the Annual Meeting in April! [Learn and donate today!](#)

Explore Fifth Edition of Educational Measurement

NCME is excited to announce that the [fifth edition of Educational Measurement](#) was published in December 2025. This edition is sponsored solely by NCME and was edited by Linda Cook and Mary Pitoniak.

This newly released edition summarizes cutting-edge research and guidance on all major topics in the field of measurement science through 21 chapters written by acknowledged experts in their respective areas.

Thanks to donations from Susan Trent and the family of former NCME Board Member Steve Ferrara, this edition of *Educational Measurement* is available via open access, including as a downloadable PDF on the [NCME website](#). It may also be [ordered online](#).



Archives and History Committee Update

NCME has a rich history dating back nearly a century and the Archives and History Committee has been working on making this history more accessible and more vibrant.

This work has been taking place in conversation with the larger set of changes being made to the NCME website, and we are excited to begin unveiling some of these changes (and some of the ones that are soon to come!).

Led by Won-Chan Lee, with the help of graduate students at the University of Iowa, the committee

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conference programs going back into the 1970s! These programs will help you imagine what must have been some epic conference parties in the midst of the disco era!



Ben Domingue,
Archives and History
Committee Chair

The committee attempted to develop documentation of the history of NCME leadership by assembling brief biographies of all past presidents and completing its listings of NCME board members. These efforts, led by Sanford Student (carrying on the work of Steve Sireci) and Won-Chan Lee, will go live soon and should improve the documentation related to the people that have managed NCME during its existence and offer additional context for the work that they did to complement their professional service to NCME.

Another feature that we are excited to incorporate into the website is a [set of videos](#) of critical NCME members from the recent past discussing their work and the organization. These videos will help to retain a record of the people and ideas that have shaped the current version of this organization.

We think that these changes—especially in the context of a much-improved website—will help NCME members better understand the history of this organization and have access to critical information about the nature of work done on its behalf. The [history page on the NCME site](#) has also been updated to support this broader goal. If you have other suggestions as to how the committee could advance its work, please feel free to reach out.

Volunteer Interest Form Now Open

Are you ready to help shape a more inclusive, representative, and forward-thinking measurement community? Whether you're passionate about advancing equity, selecting award and funding recipients, or contributing to NCME's knowledge base—[now is the time to get involved](#). By volunteering for an NCME committee, you can:

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- Grow your professional network and connect with peers
 - ✓ Make a meaningful impact on the future of NCME
-

NCME Book Series Editor Announced

The NCME Publications Committee is excited to announce that [Dr. Mary Pitoniak has been selected](#) as the editor of the NCME Applications of Educational Measurement and Assessment Book Series through April 2030.

Pitoniak is an executive director at ETS. She co-edited the recently released Fifth Edition of *Educational Measurement* and has authored/coauthored articles in other publications.

Remembering Jim Popham

The NCME and measurement community joins colleagues across the world in mourning the passing of Jim Popham. Teaching was at the heart of everything W. James (Jim) Popham did. Whether in the classroom, leading a conference session, authoring an article, or even chatting in the car, he was always a teacher first. [Read the full In Memoriam post.](#)

Find more NCME news online.

Upcoming Events

Classroom Assessment Series Part 2: From the Classroom to the Capitol

The NCME Classroom Assessment Committee invites you to attend the second session in its three-part Classroom Assessment Series. This session—"From the Classroom to the Capitol"—focuses on how classroom assessment can inform and

Featured Speaker

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate](#) ▼**February 12, Noon–1 p.m. Eastern |****Virtual**[👉 Read More & RSVP](#)**Dr. Zach Warner**

*Assistant Commissioner for the
Office of State Assessment, New
York State Education Department*

Latest from the Nation's Report Card: Tools, Tips, and Tricks

Join us for a two-part webinar on recent developments in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). Part 1 will cover program updates, and Part 2 will highlight tools for using NAEP data.

Dr. Erol Dogan, pictured, will present alongside Ebony Walton, both from NCES.

February 18, 4–5 p.m. Eastern | Virtual
[Read More & RSVP](#)

Presenters

**Dr. Erol Dogan**

IMHM Monthly Meeting

Join us for the next Innovative Methods in Human Measurement SIGIMIE monthly meeting as we share updates from the recent member survey, plan for our annual conference event, and discuss potential speakers for upcoming sessions. Your input is valued—we look forward to your participation!

**February 20, 11 a.m.–Noon Eastern | Virtual**[👉 Join Meeting](#)

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ASSESSMENT FIELD'S WORK IN THE MODERN ERA

Join colleagues for an interactive virtual meetup focused on building community, sharing support, and addressing the evolving challenges of classroom assessment research. This session invites classroom assessment scholars at all career stages to engage in open, peer-facilitated discussions around critical questions shaping the field today.

 **February 20, Noon–1 p.m. Eastern | Virtual**

 [Read More & RSVP](#)

Getting Ready for the NCME Annual Meeting

Are you planning to attend the NCME Annual Meeting—or considering it in the future? This 60-minute webinar is designed for graduate students at all stages. Join GSIC leaders and NCME board members for a welcoming and informative session packed with real experiences, practical advice, and insights on making the most of your time at the conference.

March 6, Noon–1 p.m. Eastern | Virtual

[Read More & RSVP](#)

Hot Topics in Classroom Assessment: Highlights from AERA & NCME 2026

Join us for a dynamic field-building session exploring critical issues in classroom assessment, inspired by themes from the 2026 AERA and NCME Annual Meetings. This meetup provides space for open discussion, collaboration, and shared learning across career stages.

 **March 6, 3–4 p.m. Eastern | Virtual**

 [Read More & RSVP](#)

Find a full calendar of upcoming events online.

Educational Assessment

Examining the Predictive Validity of an Open-Response Situational Judgment Test with Typed-Response and Video-Response Items

By Christopher G. Lechuga, Jeffrey Matayoshi, and Shayan Doroudi

Traditional assessments often reduce student performance to a single score—but what if that score masks individual strengths? This study uses data from the adaptive tutoring system ALEKS to explore how multidimensional measures of mathematical ability can provide a richer, more nuanced understanding of student learning.

The authors compare three metrics capturing different constructs of mathematical knowledge and find that module-specific performance reveals variation that overall ability scores often miss. Notably, 80% of students—including many in the bottom overall quartile—ranked above the median in at least one skill area.

These findings suggest promising implications for instructional practices, including strength-based teaching and more flexible approaches to grouping students, offering educators actionable insights for personalizing instruction.

👉 [Read the full article in Educational Assessment](#)

Educational Measurement
ISSUES AND PRACTICE

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Detecting Aberrant Test-Taking Behaviors in Computer-Based Testing Using One-Dimensional Convolutional Neural Networks

By Chunyu Piao, Jiwei Zhang, and Jing Lu

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dimensional convolutional neural networks (1D-CNNs) paired with a sliding window technique to analyze both item responses and response times.

Simulations targeting two key aberrant behaviors—test speededness and item preknowledge—show that the 1D-CNN model outperforms traditional statistical and machine learning methods (e.g., person-fit stats, logistic regression, and XGBoost) in detecting complex patterns. The model achieved higher accuracy, sensitivity, specificity, and AUC across conditions.

Results from real-world testing data further confirm the method's effectiveness and practical value for improving test security and validity in digital assessments.

👉 [Learn more about this article and EM: IP](#)

教育测量与评估双语期刊
CHINESE/ENGLISH
JOURNAL OF EDUCATIONAL MEASUREMENT AND EVALUATION



Treatments of Ordinal Scales in Latent Profile Analyses: A Comparison with Monte Carlo Simulations

By Chongming Yang, Joseph Olsen, and Caleb Carlyle

How do different treatments of ordinal data affect latent profile analysis (LPA) outcomes? This simulation study compared various approaches—means, sums, standardized scores, and latent factor scores—across sample sizes and response scales.

The findings show that factor score-based LPAs provided slightly better recovery of class proportions and univariate differences, particularly with small samples and fewer response options (2–3 categories). When sample sizes are sufficient, factor mixture analysis (FMA) with Bayesian estimation is recommended over traditional mean or sum-based approaches.

For smaller samples, using factor scores in a two-step LPA process may yield more accurate and interpretable results.

👉 [Learn more about this article and CEJEME.](#)



Finding Words Associated with DIF: Predicting Differential Item Functioning Using LLMs and Explainable AI

By Hotaka Maeda and Yikai Lu

Can large language models (LLMs) help detect differential item functioning (DIF) before test items are administered? This study fine-tuned several Transformer-based LLMs to predict DIF from item text, using a dataset of over 42,000 ELA and math items from grades 3–11.

Prediction accuracy varied across group comparisons (ranging from .04 to .32), and explainable AI (XAI) methods identified specific words contributing to DIF. Interestingly, many of these words aligned with minor subdomains in the test blueprint—suggesting that DIF may arise from intentional content rather than bias.

This approach offers promising tools to:

- Flag potentially DIF-related words during item writing
- Support traditional DIF review with AI-driven insights
- Predict DIF when sample sizes are too small for statistical analysis

👉 [Learn more about this article and JEM](#)

News@NCME welcomes submissions from editors or authors of NCME-affiliated journals who wish to recommend specific research articles for newsletter coverage. Eligible journals include: Educational Assessment, Educational Measurement: Issues and Practice, Journal of Educational Measurement, and Chinese/English Journal of Educational Measurement and Evaluation. Articles must have been published within the past 3 years. If a study is older, it may still be considered if it has been cited over 100 times. Contact news@ncme.org.

Hiring: Director – Psychometrics and Quantitative Research at CAL

The Center for Applied Linguistics (CAL) is seeking a Director of Psychometrics and Quantitative Research to lead technical and operational psychometric work for the CAL-WIDA Partnership.



👉 [Find Out More & Apply](#)

Hiring: Psychometrician at ABIM

The American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) is hiring a Psychometrician to support certification exam development and lead psychometric analyses, including IRT calibration, scoring, equating, and standard setting.



[Find Out More & Apply](#)

Hiring: Research Scientist at the ABA

The American Board of Anesthesiology (ABA) is seeking a Research Scientist to lead and manage applied research studies supporting the validity, fairness, and impact of ABA's certification programs.



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520 S Walnut Street, Suite 2388 | Bloomington, IN 47402

ncme.org | ncme@ncme.org | 812.245.8096

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