



MAY 2013

## Rural360°

Reaching Researchers, Educators and Communities

The National Center for Research on Rural Education (R<sup>2</sup>Ed) invites you to peruse the newest edition of the Rural360° – an electronic newsletter that aims to provide researchers, educators and community leaders with insights into the dedicated efforts of our personnel and collaborators throughout the United States.

### News & Events



#### **Connect-Inform-Advance** Resources Now Available Online

In early April, R<sup>2</sup>Ed hosted more than 150 researchers, practitioners and policymakers at **Connect-Inform-Advance**, the 2013 National Conference on Rural Education Research. R<sup>2</sup>Ed recently posted [videos of the conference's research presentations](#), [special addresses and panels](#); a [summary and slideshow of conference proceedings](#); and [abstracts of research posters](#) presented at the two-day event.

For access to these and other resources, please visit [r2ed.unl.edu/2013](http://r2ed.unl.edu/2013)!

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### Follow Us on Twitter



R<sup>2</sup>Ed provides regular updates on center- and rural education-related news, events and more via its Twitter account: **@RuralEdCenter**. We also encourage **Connect-Inform-Advance** participants to continue conversations and provide feedback on the conference by tweeting at us.

[Visit Our Twitter Account](#)

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### Funding Opportunities

R<sup>2</sup>Ed has updated its list of funding opportunities offered through agencies, associations and foundations from across the country. To view this list, please visit the following link and scroll to the "Funding Opportunities" heading.

[Learn More](#)



## Rural Spotlight



### Elizabeth Autio

Education Northwest – Center for Research, Evaluation and Assessment

Elizabeth Autio is a senior associate in the Center for Research, Evaluation and Assessment at Education Northwest. She has extensive experience in education research and works on a number of projects that serve rural students throughout the Pacific Northwest region. With funding from the Institute of Education Sciences, Autio is currently coordinating an efficacy study of an instructional model for English-language learners in Idaho. Her prior work focused on evaluations of the Reading First program in six states, including rural areas of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Washington and Wyoming. Autio has particular interest in the use of rigorous research to inform educator decision-making and convey findings to stakeholders in digestible, usable formats.

**Presentation:** [Including Rural Schools in Randomized Controlled Trials](#)

Autio's presentation at **Connect-Inform-Advance** examined the recruitment of rural schools for education research and described the development of an approach that was used to recruit Idaho schools for a randomized controlled trial. Autio specifically explained how she and her colleagues created this recruitment approach according to input from multiple sources and a literature review. She also illustrated how the approach's focus on understanding local context, establishing personal connections, and offering high-quality professional development allowed her team to recruit a sample of schools that proved sufficient to power its study and reflected the proportion of rural schools in the state.

***Watch Autio's Presentation***



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