Douglas Harris’ research has helped inform and influence national debates over a range of education policies, especially in charter-based school reform, teacher evaluation, accountability and college access. Photo by Paula Burch-Celentano.

Tulane University economics professor Douglas N. Harris is one of 11 prominent national scholars selected as a 2018 fellow by the American Educational Research Association (AERA), the nation’s largest interdisciplinary research association devoted to the scientific study of education and learning.

Harris is the Schleider Foundation Chair in Public Education at Tulane and founding director of the Education Research Alliance for New Orleans, a research organization dedicated to understanding school reforms in the city following Hurricane Katrina.

Harris’ research has helped inform and influence national debates over a range of education
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policies, especially in charter-based school reform, teacher evaluation, accountability and college access. He has advised the White House, the U.S. Senate and several governors on education policy. His recent publications focus on the impact of the post-Katrina school reforms in New Orleans, looking closely at changes in school segregation, school spending and teachers’ perceptions of their work environments.

"AERA is one of the largest, oldest, and most well-known associations of education scholars," Harris said. "It is a real honor to be recognized this way."

AERA fellows are selected on the basis of their notable and sustained research achievements, after being nominated by their peers, selected by the AERA Fellows Committee and approved by the AERA’s elected governing body. Fellows will be inducted April 14 at AERA’s annual meeting in New York City.

Founded in 1916, AERA advances knowledge about education, encourages scholarly inquiry related to education, and promotes the use of research to improve education and serve the public good.