

is clear: there is a wide range of advocacy work that we can engage in as an organization that is not lobbying. There is also universal agreement that 501c3s can lobby for ideas and legislation (not candidates) to a certain extent (5% of the organization's annual budget). LRA is nowhere near this amount. If the Board decided to substantially increase funds spent on lobbying than the IRS provides a form/status that organizations can elect, and activities are reported annually. At our Board meeting in April, I shared this information and also a resolution passed by the Board in 1997 during Kathy Au's presidency. Au's resolution authorized the Executive Committee and Board to respond on behalf of the organization about federal legislation or other policy initiatives. The point was made that the Board's views, not individual perspectives would be represented. In April of 2017, the Board approved LRA becoming a member of Institute of Education Sciences (IES) with the Chair of our Policy & Legislative committee serving as the liaison. You will see short informational reports from Devon Brenner, Chair of the Policy & Legislative committee throughout the year. This is a step toward building coalitions across research associations.

LRA's strategic plan outlines other areas where our organization can intersect with diverse publics. Research reports are an under-utilized area of our organization and can help to bridge the research-practice-policy divide. These reports are commissioned and, according to the PPH, are meant to be accessible by a diverse audience of people. In April, the Board spent time generating ideas for research briefs. The Executive Committee will develop a short-list of topics and a plan for identifying authors during the October meeting. Our communications as an organization also interfaces with our visibility as a research organization. I established an Ad hoc Communications Committee to explore an integrated communications platform that will support LRA to communicate important updates about research both internally and externally. Marcelle Haddix, Vice President of LRA, agreed to Chair this committee. The composition of the committee includes LRA members Tisha Lewis Ellison, Ebony Thomas, and Antero Garcia; Pat Enciso (Past President); Jayne Lammers (Technology Committee Chair); Kouider Mokhtari (Publications Committee Co-Chairs). You can read more about this in Marcelle Haddix's report. I am optimistic that LRA's communications may soon integrate current technologies and more readily support and promote member engagement.

What I find truly remarkable about LRA is the sheer magnitude of initiatives that come from members. Just this year, we will see two tribute awards for longtime colleagues and pioneers in the field: *Arthur Applebee Award for Excellence in Research on Literacy* and *The Brian Street Memorial Award for Scholarship Bridging Anthropology, Education, and Literacy Practices*. We will launch LRA 2020, spearheaded by Gwen McMillon, which you will hear about in the Treasurer's Report. Thanks to the vision and directorship of Past-President Janice Almasi, LRA's *Leadership Training Fellows Program* will get off the ground at LRA's 2017 conference. We are also proud to offer our first *Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion* orientation for organizational leaders at the 2017 conference.

We are expanding as a research organization in new and exciting ways. To ensure that we receive the kinds of management services that will support this expansion, the Board voted to examine the industry standard for management companies. We developed a search committee and Request for Proposals that was circulated to Association Management Companies. Proposals were reviewed

and the Executive Board is working to ensure that LRA is receiving the best management services the industry can deliver.

Gratitude to LRA's Leadership

All of these efforts are made possible by the year-round contributions of LRA members. Your Board and Executive Committee, Area Chairs, Committee Chairs, Innovative Community Group are carrying out the work of LRA throughout the year.

I want to extend a warm welcome to our incoming Vice-President Elect, Betsy Baker and our incoming Board Directors: Wanda Brooks, Sarah McCarthey, and Yolanda Sealey-Ruiz.

We also have several terms that are ending. Pat Enciso is concluding her five-year term on the Executive Committee. Her contributions to LRA have been enormous and words cannot adequately express the gratitude she deserves.

Thank you to Anne McGill Franzen for her service as Chair of the Policy and Legislative Committee. Devon Brenner, who served as Co-Chair, will continue as Chair of this committee.

Grace Enriquez's term as Chair of Field Council is ending. The new Chair will be announced soon. Many thanks to Grace for her stewardship of LRA's Field Council.

I am grateful that Dixie Massey has accepted a 3-year re-appointment as LRA's Historian. The importance of Dixie's 'behind the scenes' work with digitizing LRA's archives cannot be understated. She continues to help the Board think through archiving practices that will preserve LRA's history. More can be found in her report in this newsletter.

After 7 years of editing LRA's Newsletter, Jackie Malloy has requested to step down as the Newsletter Editor. We are very thankful for Jackie Malloy's leadership and diligence with the Newsletter for so many years. Last but not least, I want to extend gratitude to Keonghee Tao Han and Jesse Gainer for serving as Co-Editors for this Fall 2017 issue of LRA's newsletter.

Looking Forward

LRA's Executive Committee will meet in St. Louis on October 3, 4, and 5th. We are mindful of the NAACP's travel advisory for the state of Missouri because of its state sanctioned racism but we know that this is the reality of life for many of our colleagues and students. I am hopeful that we can find ways to engage with issues of literacy research and equity while we are together.

LRA's Board will meet on Tuesday and Saturday of the 67th annual meeting Literacy Research Association's Conference at the Tampa Marriott.

I am truly looking forward to LRA's 67th conference "Literacy Research for Expanding Meaningfulness" in Tampa, Florida, USA. Gay Ivey (President-Elect) and Marcelle Haddix (Vice President) have collaborated to create an intellectual space that will provide many opportunities for us to expand and transform our programs of research.

PRESIDENT ELECT'S REPORT

Gay Ivey

University of North Carolina-Greensboro

The 2017 LRA Conference will be held from November 29-December 2 at the Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel & Marina. Before highlighting some of the details of this year's conference, I want to say that even though, thankfully, our conference venue was not impacted by Hurricane Irma, I am mindful of the loss of life, destruction of property, and economic and emotional turmoil the storm has caused residents of Florida and beyond. I am sure that you all share these concerns.

The theme of this year's conference is "Literacy Research for Expanding Meaningfulness," and you will see that theme reflected in many of the papers scheduled to be presented and in several of the major addresses. Be sure to mark your conference calendars for the following plenary sessions:

- **Rebecca Rogers**, University of Missouri-St. Louis, will offer the 2017 LRA Presidential Address on Wednesday, November 29 at 4:45 pm. Following her talk, she invites you to join her at the annual President's Reception to be held waterside, on the Il Terrazzo Patio.
- Thursday morning's Oscar Causey Address will be given by last year's winner, **Kris Gutiérrez**, University of California-Berkeley. Prior to her talk, the winner of this year's award will be revealed.
- **Judith Lysaker**, from Purdue University, will offer this year's Integrative Research Review, "Expanding Meaningfulness in Literacy Research: Possibilities of a Relational Perspective," on Thursday afternoon at 4:45 pm. (Note that this is schedule shift from previous conferences.)
- Our Friday keynote speaker will be **Anna Stetsenko**, from The Graduate Center, CUNY. Be sure to take a look at her newest book, *The Transformative Mind: Expanding Vygotsky's Approach to Development and Education* (2016, Cambridge University Press).
- Saturday morning, we will be honoring this year's winner of the Distinguished Scholar Lifetime Achievement Award. **Shirley Brice Heath** will present "Challenge, Creativity, and Curiosity: A Mix Made for Minds Across the Age Span." (Note that this is a schedule shift from previous conferences.)

I am also pleased to announce the Area Chairs' invited sessions:

- **Area 1: Research in Literacy Preservice Teacher Education: Literature Syntheses** (James Hoffman, Saba Vlach, Christine Derbyshire, Erica Steinitz, Lakeya Omogun, Catherine Lammert, Natalie Sue Svrcek, Anne Daly-Lesch, Erin Greeter, Samuel DeJulio, Doris Villarreal, Michelle Fowler-Amato, Kira Lee Keenan, Brady Nash, Beth Maloch, Laura

Taylor, Rachel Gaines, Jayce Warner, Michiko Hikida, Katherine Chamberlain, Cori Salmeron, Diane Schallert, Susan Tily, Randy Bomer, Charlotte Land, and Jessica Rubin)

- **Area 3: Trauma as Critical, Humanizing Practice in Literacy Research, Theory, Policy, and Pedagogy** (Elizabeth Dutro, Andrea Bien, and Megan Ollett)
- **Area 5: Beyond Conventions: (Re)Mediating Meaningful Literacies by Centering Young Children** (Cassie Brownell, Haeny Yoon, and Tran Templeton)
- **Area 7: Human rights, justice, and transformative learning: What needs to change?** (Audrey Osler)
- **Area 11: Methods and Methodologies for Conducting Literacy Research With Youth of Color** (Jamila Lyiscott and Nicole Mirra)
- **Area 14: Productive Provocations and Possibilities with Posthumanism: Discussions on Race, LGBTQ2, Translingualism, and Social Class in Literacy Education** (Asilia Franklin-Phipps, Courtney Rath, Jon M. Wargo, Angie Zapata, and Jaye Johnson Thiel)

This year, the Saturday morning 8:45-10:15 a.m. time period will be devoted to informational, mentoring, and educational sessions. You will find that many of them stem from some of the goals outlined in our LRA Strategic Plan. I want to highlight several of these:

- *Professional Talks That Are Clear, Engaging, and Memorable: Tips from Seasoned Presenters* (Lee Gunderson, Taffy Raphael, and David Reinking)
- *How to Write Proposals and Review for the LRA Conference* (Amy Hutchison, Melissa Wetzel, and others)
- *Crafting Multiple Research Articles from a Dissertation* (Misty Sailors, Virginia Goatley, Emily Rainey, María Fránquiz, Kathleen Marie Alley, Doris Walker-Dalhouse, Miriam Martinez, and Julie Coiro)

Also included are sessions on federal policy, literacy research and rural education, and applying for LRA Awards. Be sure to explore the conference program for details on these and other sessions.

As usual, the Town Hall meeting will be held on Thursday evening and the annual LRA Business Meeting will be held on Friday evening. Be sure to also reserve time to attend a Friday evening memorial gathering for LRA colleagues who have left us this past year. Vital Issues will be held each evening from 9:00 to 11:00 pm in the hotel lobby bar.

Again this year, we will be using the mobile app, Guidebook, for easy program navigation. A pdf of the program will also be available.

I want to extend a special thanks to the Area Chairs, proposal reviewers, the KWVG staff, and our local planning committee at the University of South Florida for helping to make this what

promises to be a memorable and engaging conference. Marcelle Haddix, Vice President and Conference Co-Chair, is a constant source of inspiration and support.

Finally, I want to say that serving as Conference Chair has been a privilege, but also quite sobering. I realized there are many scholars in the organization whose work I do not yet know. Although not surprising, I was struck again by the range of methodologies, expertise, and theoretical orientations reflected in the proposals. I was more convinced than ever that LRA needs to be a place to examine our own work critically, to solicit help from our peers, and to learn from each other so that we can work together to chip away some fundamental problems related to literacy acquisition, development, and practice about which we do not have disagreement. No one person/group, theory, or method is capable at solving the big problems. I strongly encourage each of you to attend a session in which the speakers research important issues from perspectives different from your own, and to ask the speakers—and yourself—really tough questions. All of us are needed to make literacy “meaningful” for the children, adults, and communities we hope will benefit from our research.

See you in Tampa.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Marcelle Haddix

Syracuse University

As I write this report, my thoughts and my heart are with the millions of people in Texas, Puerto Rico, Florida, and the Caribbean whose lives have been directly impacted by the devastation of the Atlantic storms. I am also deeply troubled by the ongoing incidents of racial violence in our communities, the persistent threats against the protection of immigrant youth and their families, and the federal government decisions that denigrate and devalue the contributions of transgender people. There are real issues that affect children and young people in schools, their families, and their communities. The work that we do as literacy researchers is of critical importance—literacy matters. I am honored to work in solidarity with individuals who are deeply committed to literacy research that is relevant, transformative, and life-changing.

Over the past year, I have appreciated the opportunity to learn more about the organization, both its history and its goals for the future. The Executive Committee continues to articulate and refine a strategic plan for the organization that supports our mission of being a community of scholars dedicated to literacy research that is responsive to the needs and demands of diverse publics. One important aspect of this work is the development of an integrated communications model that reflects the use of current technologies to effectively disseminate important news and information to LRA's membership and to support the organization's larger goal of establishing a voice in the national conversation about the role of literacy research in social change. To that end, I was appointed by President Rebecca Rogers as Chair of an Ad hoc Communications Committee to begin this work. The additional members of the committee include: LRA members Tisha Lewis Ellison, Ebony Thomas, and Antero Garcia; Patricia

Enciso (Past President); Jayne Lammers (Technology Committee Chair); Kouider Mokhtari (Publications Committee Co-Chair) and Cassie Brownell (Doctoral Student ICG Representative). The Committee met a few times over the summer to develop understanding of our current communications practices as they relate to social media, the website, the listserv, the newsletter, and other publications. The Committee will put forth a proposal for an integrated communications model to the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors.

In my role as Vice President, one of my responsibilities is to convene and chair the Nominations Committee for the purpose of electing a new Vice President and three new members of the Board of Directors. Approved by the Board of Directors, the members of the Nominations Committee for the 2018 elections are Jennifer Danridge Turner, Susan Piazza, Jesse Gainer, Grace Enriquez, Gay Ivey (President-Elect), and Patricia Enciso (Past President). The Committee is currently deliberating over the nominees for these leadership positions, and I look forward to announcing the slate for the 2018 elections at the LRA Annual Business Meeting in Tampa. I want to say thank you to everyone who responded to my calls for volunteers to serve on the committee and to everyone that took the time to send in nominations for your fellow colleagues.

Also looking to 2018, I am excited to be working with new and returning Area Chairs who will help shape the 2018 conference theme and program. Our work together will begin with an Area Chairs Breakfast followed by a New LRA Leadership Orientation on Saturday morning of the 2017 Conference in Tampa. The New LRA Leadership Orientation is intended to deepen our organizational commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. It will also provide an introduction to the organization's history, organizational structure, policies and procedures, and strategic plan. The orientation is designed for any LRA member in a leadership role, including Standing Committee Chairs, Award Committee Chairs, ICG Chairs, Area Chairs, and Board of Directors. Those interested in leadership opportunities within the organization are also welcome to attend. The orientation meeting is scheduled for:

New LRA Leadership Orientation
Saturday, December 2, 8:45AM to 10:15AM
Tampa Marriott Waterside, Florida Salon 3

But, before we move to 2018, I want to send a big shout out to President-Elect Gay Ivey for her commitment and dedication to making sure that the 2017 conference will provide a meaningful experience for all attendees. As program co-chair, I was able to spend some time with Gay in Madison this summer to help finalize details for the conference and to continue to learn from her leadership about the planning process. I appreciate her efforts toward insuring that diverse perspectives and ideas remain central to the direction of the field of literacy research. Congratulations, Gay, on what no doubt will be a successful conference. And, I look forward to seeing everyone in Tampa!

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Patricia Enciso

Ohio State University

In my final year of leadership, I have chaired the 2016-2017 Management Relations Committee, followed Policy and Procedures guidelines to begin the process of making more than thirty-five committee appointments, served on the Nominations Committee and the Ad hoc Communications Committee, and worked with Executive and Board members to support LRA's Strategic Plan.

As Chair of the Management Relations Committee I worked with Marcelle Haddix and Debbie Rowe to review the 2015-2016 survey and update items to reflect the aims for the organization as outlined in the Strategic Plan. For the sake of comparison and in accordance with PPH guidelines, the survey included all categories used in the 2015-2016 survey. We amended the survey, however, to include a distinct section for 'financial administration,' previously included under 'general administration.' We also retitled the last section to include Strategic Planning along with 'other projects.' Survey sections included: (a) General Administration, (b) Financial Administration, (c) Board and Committee relations, (d) Membership, (e) Meetings, (f) Publications, (g) Communications/Social Media, and (h) Strategic Planning and other projects. Twenty-six Executive, Board, and Committee Chairs completed the survey. Our committee analyzed all responses and reported our findings and recommendations to the Board of Directors during the Spring 2017 meeting.

As directed in the PPH, I am working with Committee Chairs and using the 2016 Volunteer Survey to propose a list of appointees to be presented for consideration by the Executive Committee and Board of Directors. I will also appoint two members to the Leadership Mentoring Committee as it begins its initial work of advertising for and organizing for its inaugural cohort in Spring 2018. I am also serving as a member of the Nominations Committee, chaired by Marcelle Haddix, to propose a slate of candidates for the upcoming election of new Board members and the Vice President-Elect.

At the request of Becky Rogers, in relation to ongoing technology and communications efforts, I have served on the Ad hoc Communications Committee to support a process for re-envisioning LRA's Newsletter. Along with Executive members and on behalf of LRA's membership, I want to express my personal gratitude to Jacqueline Malloy for her many years of service in organizing, editing, and faithfully submitting LRA's Newsletter twice each year.

Finally, I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve LRA with, and on behalf of, so many people whose unwavering investment in our organization continues to be inspiring and hopeful. Our work each year has been monumental but everyone has worked to achieve common goals with energy and shared wisdom. Thank you to all of the Executive, Board, Committee Chairs, and Committee members who have shown what leadership in service truly means.

HISTORIAN'S REPORT

Dixie Massey

University of Washington

Over the past few years, we have gradually been duplicating LRA's physical archives into digital format. Here are a few things to know about the archives.

Why bother?

LRA has rich archives that document the history of the organization, along with the history of literacy research. Saving this history is an important part of preserving our organization. It also allows us to see personal perspectives on theories, research, and teaching of literacy.

Thanks to the efforts of past historians, we have saved much of our history. Now, this history is available, allowing researchers who are doing historical research, to access information. Additional access has also allowed current Executive Committee members and Board of Directors members to determine when particular decisions were made and who made them. Thus, a well-kept archive allows for greater continuity between past and present.

What's available?

The digital archives now contain all volumes of the LRA Yearbook, starting with the very first Southwest Reading Conference publication from 1952 and edited by Oscar Causey. Additionally, the archives contain the complete set of conference programs, past issues of the journal published by the organization, and most recently, the minutes from past board meetings from 1952 through the present.

What's next?

Besides letting everyone know that these materials are now available to LRA members and historical researchers, there is more to come. First, we are continuing to digitize all of the physical items that are in the archives. That includes photographs, as well as audio and digital recordings of past interviews and conferences. Also, we are adding oral histories of past LRA presidents to the archives. Finally, we're always looking to extend our collection. For example, we are looking for Call for Proposals older than 2005 and newsletters from the following years: 1997 and any older than 1993. Additionally, if you have anything connected to LRA, including old conference proposals, papers, meeting notes, or simply are cleaning out your office and have literacy-related papers, please consider sending them to Dixie Massey, the LRA Historian.

How can I access the archives?

We are taking precautions to maintain the archives for LRA members. Currently, the only way to access the full archives is by contacting the Historian (Dixie Massey). To contact Dixie, please email her at ddmassey@uw.edu

TREASURER'S REPORT

Gwendolyn Thompson McMillon

Oakland University

The Board of Directors will launch LRA 2020 during the annual conference in Tampa.

What is LRA 2020?

By the year 2020, LRA will:

Goal #1: Achieve financial sustainability

Goal #2: Reach 100% member participation as annual contributors

Goal #3: Reach 100% member voluntary involvement

LRA 2020 helps move our organization closer to priorities established in the Strategic Plan. We realize that everyone will not make the same contributions. The driving philosophy behind LRA 2020 is that we NEED everyone to participate. Mother Theresa once said, "I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples." **We believe every donation is important, and every service is valued.** When we work together, we are stronger, wiser, and better.

Beginning January 1, 2018, contributions can be made on the LRA website. Reminders will be given during membership renewal and special announcements will be shared throughout the year to encourage seasonal giving. Several ways have been established to inform your giving.

Ways to contribute financially to LRA 2020:

- Estate planning – planned giving from one's estate after death
- Living legacy – establishment of an endowment while living
- Sponsorship – financial support for a designated purpose (e.g. speaker, STAR, sustainability)
- Donation – undesignated financial support
- Memorial tribute – gift in memory of someone
- Honorary tribute – gift in honor of someone

Remember: all contributions are tax deductible. If your institution offers matching funds, please consider LRA. We are doing great things!

LRA 2020 will also offer various volunteer opportunities on the website throughout the year. There are numerous ways to participate:

Ways to get involved in LRA 2020:

- Join a committee, ICG, and/or study group
- Become a reviewer (LRA conference, JLR, LR:TMP)
- Talk to EC/Board member to offer your unique set of skills to meet an organizational need

- Become a Board member or officer
- Become a conference Discussant or Chair
- Organize a symposium that includes experienced and less experienced colleagues

Remember to attend LRA business meetings and vote during elections. Become an informed member.

The goal is for every member to get involved in your organization. We are glad that LRA is your professional home and it is important that each member has ownership as we move toward greater heights. Please look for more information about LRA 2020 on the website. Be sure to attend the information session about LRA 2020 during the upcoming conference. We need every member.

All aboard as we launch LRA 2020!



COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ad-Hoc Committee Examining the Possibility of an International Chapter of LRA

Catherine Compton-Lilly

University of Wisconsin-Madison

As Chair of the Committee charged with exploring the possibility of establishing international alliances and/or perhaps an international Chapter of LRA, I am pleased to submit this report. Members of the committee include: Kim Lenters, Pelusa Orellana Garcia, Poonam Arya, Katina Zammit, Patience Sowa, David O'Brien, and Grace Enriquez. The committee was convened in response to a request from LRA colleagues in Chile who expressed an interest in international collaboration.

Committee Members have worked together to create a mechanism for gathering information from international LRA members. We have created a one-page "survey" that we have been circulating among international members and/or using as a conversation guide. We have been particularly targeting LRA members/prospective LRA members from non-English speaking countries. Our goal is to capture people's thoughts and ideas so that we can be responsive to their preferences and interests.

Moving forward, the committee will organize feedback from the "survey" and send it to committee members for thoughts and feedback. We will send the results, approved by the International Committee, to the LRA Executive Committee and Board for their December meeting. We will ask the Board what strategies/activities from the list they would like us to initiate. This might lead to a phased implementation of activities (i.e., goals for 2018, 2019, etc.).

Ethics Committee

Gerald Campano

University of Pennsylvania

The Ethics Committee has a number of goals for the upcoming years. The first goal is to invite the larger LRA community to think together about the ethics of conducting research on, alongside, and in solidarity with families, youth, and communities. This is especially important when working with individuals or groups who are vulnerable or who have become increasingly the targets of, for example, xenophobia, racism, homophobia, and transphobia during the current political and social climate. Too often, the ethical considerations of conducting research brought up by Institutional Review Board processes cannot account for the complex nuances of specific research contexts and situations which are at the intersections of multiple power asymmetries. In order to begin addressing these challenges, we hope to organize a panel for the 2018 LRA conference tentatively entitled *Beyond the IRB: Exploring Ethics in Community-Based Literacy Research*.

We also plan to avail ourselves of the scholarship that has already been done addressing ethical issues in research more generally and in the field of literacy studies specifically, so that we and the broader LRA community may learn from and contribute to the conversation on this topic. To this end, we are looking for articles that address ethical issues and challenges in research. We hope to create an annotated bibliography of these sources that can be accessed on the LRA website. Our aim is to share these articles as a stepping stone for expanding the dialogue on theoretical, methodological, and relational implications for keeping ethics at the forefront of literacy research. Finally, the Ethics Committee will be reviewing and revising the official LRA Ethics Statement.

Thank you to recent and current members of the Ethics Committee: Barbara Laster, Hannah Dostal, Susan Watts-Taffe, Nicole Martin, Antonietta Avila, Kathryn Pole, Laura Jimenez, Joshua Lawrence, and Brian Rose.

Ethnicity, Race, and Multilingualism (ERM) Committee

Detra Price-Dennis

Teachers College, Columbia University

The Ethnicity, Race, and Multilingualism (ERM) Committee will host a variety of events during the conference that focus on issues of race, equity, and literacy research. In the midst of our society's struggle to meaningfully address how issues of racism and racial violence impact teaching and learning in and around our schools, the committee maintains its steadfast commitment to fostering productive conversations about these issues during the annual conference. We are also co-sponsoring a brown bag discussion on intersectionality in literacy research with the Gender and Sexualities ICG (see information below).

ERM-Sponsored Events

ERM/STAR Reception

Thursday, November 30, 7:30 to 9:00pm, Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel & Marina, First, II Terrazzo

Brown Bag Discussion with the Gender and Sexualities ICG

Intersectionality Brown Bag Discussion

Friday, December 1, 12:00 to 1:00pm, Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel & Marina, Second Floor, Florida Salon VI

Research Sessions

Literacies of Refuge: Examining Race, Home, and Displacement in the Literate Lives of Youth of Color

Friday, December 1, 8:30 to 10:00am, Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel & Marina, Second Floor, Meeting Room 6

“Writings on the Wall”: Girls of Color (Re)Writing Their Lives

Friday, December 1, 1:15 to 2:45pm, Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel & Marina, Second Floor, Meeting Room 4

As part of the ERM committee, the **STAR (Scholars of color Transitioning into Academic Research institutions)** program is a two-year mentoring program for scholars of color beginning their careers as literacy researchers. Members of the 2017-2019 cohort are:

Dr. Eliza Braden, University of South Carolina
(Mentor: Dr. Aria Razfar, University of Illinois, Chicago)
Dr. Kisha Bryan, Tennessee State University
(Mentor: Dr. Jamal Cooks, San Francisco State University)
Dr. Delicia Greene, SUNY Albany
(Mentor: Dr. Antero Garcia, Stanford University)
Dr. Stephanie P. Jones, Grinnell College
(Mentor: Dr. Danny Martínez, University of California, Irvine)
Dr. Gilberto Lara, Oregon State University
(Mentor: Dr. Grace Enriquez, Lesley University)
Dr. Alice Lee, Illinois State University
(Mentor: Dr. Carmen Kynard, John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY)
Dr. Claudia Rodriguez-Mojica, Santa Clara University
(Mentor: Dr. P. Citlali (Lali) Morales, University of Illinois, Chicago)
Dr. Patriann Smith, Texas Tech University
(Mentor: Dr. Ramón Martínez, Stanford University)

To learn more about the STAR mentoring program and the Fellows' research

Projects join us at the STAR Fellow Research Showcase on **Thursday, November 30, 1:15 – 2:45pm, Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel & Marina, Second Floor, Meeting Room 1.**

To learn about and become involved with the ERM committee, please attend our committee meeting on **Thursday, November 30, 7:15 to 8:15am, Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel & Marina, Second Floor, Meeting Room 3.**

Field Council

Grace Enriquez
Lesley University

LRA Field Council is an active committee focused on recruitment, retention, and reclamation of our organization's membership. The Field Council works throughout the year to promote the Literacy Research Association and reaches out to provide support and networking opportunities to all attendees at the LRA annual conference. The Field Council invites the greater LRA membership to join us in our efforts this year to recruit, retain and reclaim members to this premier literacy research organization.

The Field Council Regional Chairs have been busy recruiting LRA members to serve as Field Council Representatives in states that have vacancies. If you are interested in serving as a Field Council Representative, don't hesitate to contact the Field Council Representative or Regional Chair for your state. Also, please sign up at the Committee/ICG Exhibit at the conference to let us know you're interested in helping LRA grow and support its members. This year, the Field Council also helped the LRA Board convene an Ad hoc committee to explore further opportunities and support for international members, particularly the possibility of establishing an International Chapter of LRA. The committee is currently gathering survey data about the interests, initiatives, and collaboration possibilities with existing international communities. If you would like to complete the survey, please let us know.

The Field Council will also continue to sponsor and host several annual conference events that welcome and support conference attendees through networking and active service:

- Committee/ICG Exhibit – This exhibit provides conference attendees the opportunity to learn more about LRA's various standing committees and ICGs and to sign up to become more involved in them. The exhibit will be open each day of the conference during lunch and before the plenary sessions. Sign up for as many committees and ICGs as you'd like. Those interested in joining a standing committee will be added to a list of nominees for upcoming committee openings (to be appointed by the outgoing LRA President), while those who sign up for ICGs will automatically become members.
- Lunch & Dinner Out Opportunities – Each day of the conference, the Field Council provides newcomers, lone travelers, and those wishing to network with opportunities to meet new people during small group meals. Stay tuned for information about signing up to join fellow conference-goers for a good meal and conversation.
- Vital Issues – These nightly sessions welcome all conference-goers a place and time to participate in informal networking and lively discussion about vital issues in literacy research.
- Newcomers' and Graduate Students' Breakfast – Both newcomers and graduate students are welcome at this session to enjoy breakfast with fellow conference

attendees and learn of the opportunities available to them through LRA.

The Field Council continues to revisit the findings from the 2015 Reclamation Survey to gauge our progress in addressing them and reclaiming "lost" members. Efforts to recruit new members to LRA will also continue through the spring, including congratulating new faculty members and reaching out to new conference attendees with information about support, networking opportunities, and avenues that LRA provides its members for developing and growing as literacy researchers.

Finally, the Field Council invites all LRA members to join in the Three R Effort. Encourage colleagues who are already members to become active in the organization, as well as those who may have once been members to join again. Encourage doctoral students, new faculty members, and international colleagues to join our organization. LRA provides networking opportunities for collaborative research and opportunities to grow professionally through LRA's publications, the conference, committees, and ICGs. Encourage colleagues who are already members to become involved. LRA offers a number of ways to connect and serve, such as reviewing conference proposals, serving on committees and ICGs, and participating in study groups at the conference, which often thread into research and discussion throughout the year. Commit to inviting one potential member to join the Literacy Research Association this year!

Policy and Legislative Committee

Devon Brenner
Mississippi State University

The Policy and Legislative Committee is working to support LRA members in advocacy and policy. To that end, the committee recommended that LRA become a member of the Friends of IES. The Friends group is chaired by the American Education Research Association and advocates for federal funding for educational research, including but not limited to funding for the Institute for Education Sciences. One P&L member will attend meetings of the Friends of IES by phone and report to the LRA organization about its work. In addition, the P&L committee has been working to clarify the role of the committee in relation to LRA sponsored research briefs and white papers.

Members of the P&L committee also organized multiple sessions focusing on the relationship between literacy research, policy, and advocacy for this year's conference. These include a Friday morning session: "Literacy Assessment, Evaluation, and Public Policy," and two Saturday morning sessions: "Perspectives on the role of the federal government in public education" and "What Counts as Evidence in Rural Schools?: Evidence Based Practice and Practice Based Evidence for Complex Settings." In addition, P&L committee member Carolyn Colvin organized a study group, "Publicly Engaged Scholars and Literacy Research," that will consider activist scholarship.

The Policy and Legislative Committee Meeting will be held **Thursday, November 30th from 7:15 to 8:15 AM in Meeting Room 2**. LRA members interested in considering

ways to expand the ways that LRA engages in policy and advocacy are invited to attend.

Publications Committee

Rachel Karchmer-Klein
University of Delaware

Kouider Mokhtari
University of Texas – Tyler

The LRA Publications Committee has several responsibilities: (a) recommending and securing new editors for publications; (b) conducting periodic evaluations of publications; (c) facilitating the work of the editors of publications; and (d) exploring possible collaborative publication ventures with other scholarly organizations. We (Rachel and Kouider) were invited to serve as co-chairs of the committee for the next three years and we are fortunate to work with a stellar group of colleagues including Amy Hutchison, Ian O'Byrne, Kristen Perry, Nancy Frey, Allison Skerrett and Katina Zammit.

We work very closely with Sage, our publisher, and the *JLR* and *LR:TMP* editorial teams. Below are important updates:

From the Editors of Literacy Research: Theory, Method, and Practice (LR:TMP):

The editors of Volume 66 of *Literacy Research: Theory, Method, and Practice* are pleased to announce all articles have been published in the OnlineFirst section of the Sage Journals website. To find the articles, please go to: lrtemp.sagepub.com; click Read Online in the right-hand sidebar; then click OnlineFirst in the right-hand side bar. We applaud each of our contributing authors' diverse and outstanding literacy research and are delighted to share their insightful work.

We thank all involved for their contributions in the submission and review process.

This year, 90 manuscripts were submitted for review. Following thorough review by the editorial team and 142 members of our Editorial Review Board, 15 manuscripts were selected for publication. Published papers cover a range of themes including multimodal composition, expanding conceptions of meaning-making and assessment, valuing diversity in language and identity in research and teaching, and problematizing policies to reframe legislation and practice.

In Tampa, *LR:TMP* editors will conduct a session titled: *Disseminating Literacy Research to Expand Meaningfulness: Meet the editors of Literacy Research: Theory, Method and Practice* in on **Saturday, December 2 from 8:45am to 10:15am.**

From the Editors of Journal of Literacy Research:

In case you missed the email earlier this year, *JLR*'s 2016 Impact Factor is 1.107 as compared to the 2015 Impact Factor of 0.727. *JLR* is now ranked in Education & Educational Research at 118/235, compared to a 2015 rank of 145/231. *JLR*'s Educational Psychology Rank is 41/58, compared to a 2015 rank of 47/57.

Under the guest editorship of *Lamar Johnson, Theda Gibbs Gray, April Baker-Bell*, members of the 2015-2017 STAR cohort contribute unique research perspectives to what it means to be a literacy scholar of Color in the 21st century. In this themed issue, 49(4), our colleagues illustrate what early career scholars of Color know when it comes to using literacy to work against systems of oppression while uplifting the humanity of racially and linguistically diverse people. Through their scholarship, they demonstrate not only their commitment to literacy and equity, but how they are successfully navigating and negotiating their research, teaching, activism, and service. Finally, their scholarship showcases humanizing, critical, and creative stories and recommendations for literacy teacher educators. This is an issue you don't want to miss!

In addition, *JLR* will celebrate its 50th anniversary next year. Remain watchful for the many ways the editorial team, LRA, and Sage are going to celebrate!

In Tampa, *JLR* editors will co-present a special session with the chairs of the Student Outstanding Research Award, J. Michael Parker Award and the Doctoral Student Innovative Community Group titled: *Crafting Multiple Research Articles from a Dissertation* on **Saturday, December 2 from 8:45am to 10:15am.**

Follow *JLR* on Twitter: (@JLiteracyRes), Facebook (@JLiteracyRes), and the *JLR* Youtube channel.

Research Committee

Lara Handsfield
Illinois State University

Alfred Tatum
University of Illinois at Chicago

In addition to serving as a resource to the Board of Directors and other committees regarding issues related to literacy research, the Research Committee's charge within LRA is to monitor and increase awareness of relevant research trends in the field, and to encourage and promote the conduct and broad dissemination of ethical literacy research. We also are tasked with monitoring and promoting opportunities for funded research related to literacy. As a committee, we are carrying out this mission in a variety of ways.

The committee submitted three session proposals for the 2017 conference in Tampa, Florida, two of which were accepted. Be sure to keep an eye out for our panel session titled "Becoming Full: Women Literacy Scholars' Counternarratives of Possibility," featuring women's stories of navigating pathways to Full Professor, the challenges they have faced, and how their academic lives have changed since becoming full. The goal of this panel is to make the multiple pathways towards Full Professor more visible and viable for scholars at the Assistant and Associate levels. We will also be continuing with our study group, "If I knew then... What I know now." This study group, which has seen significant attendance in the past three years, is intended to support emerging scholars' (doctoral students and early career professors) transition into the community of literacy research by inviting seasoned literacy scholars to share their personal narratives and insights regarding their academic and professional trajectories.

The Research Committee also continues to collaborate with the CITE (critical, interactive, transparent, and evolving) team based at

the University of Texas, Austin, as it further develops its interactive online literature review of Initial Teacher Preparation in Literacy (ITEL). The team presented initial findings from this project at the 2016 conference in Nashville, including studies from 1990 to 2015. CITE's work now entails expanding the database moving one year back and one year forward each year. Ultimately, CITE-ITEL will be available to LRA members, along with interactive features so that the membership can suggest additions to and comment on syntheses within specific areas of the scholarship in the database.

Finally, we are working with the Technology Committee and the Board of Directors to establish a social media presence for the committee. The purpose of a social media site (e.g., Facebook, Twitter) will be to communicate opportunities for grant funding and calls for manuscript or book submissions. Keep an eye out for these in the near future!

Through our work, we continue to seek ways to integrate and attend to the issues raised in the LRA Board of Directors' endorsed statement, [The Role of Literacy Research in Racism and Racial Violence](#). We wish to remain mindful of LRA's history with respect to race and racism as we engage in our work, and we invite questions and suggestions from the LRA community regarding how our committee may better address these issues.

We are thrilled at the work our committee has in store for the coming year as we seek to support LRA membership and the Board of Directors, collaborate with the CITE-ITEL team, and disseminate important information regarding research to the LRA community, and the Board of Directors. See you all in Tampa!

STAR Program

Mileidis Gort
University of Colorado, Boulder

As part of the ERM committee, the STAR (Scholars of color Transitioning into Academic Research institutions) program is a two-year mentoring program for scholars of color beginning their careers as literacy researchers. The objectives of the STAR program are to:

- Help instill a strong professional stance within scholars of color,
- Increase their knowledge of our organization's rich history and traditions,
- Inspire them to continue its legacy of scholarship, leadership, and service, and
- Increase the pool of viable scholars of color who have been mentored by our organization.

As part of the STAR program, fellows and mentors participate in a series of activities at each annual conference and in a spring writing retreat. The LRA Board recently approved two additional fellow slots, expanding the total number of STAR fellowships to eight. Members of the 2017-2018 cohort are:

Eliza Braden, University of South Carolina
(Mentor: Aria Razfar, University of Illinois, Chicago)

Kisha Bryan, Tennessee State University
(Mentor: Jamal Cooks, San Francisco State University)

Delicia Greene, SUNY Albany
(Mentor: Antero Garcia, Stanford University)

Stephanie Jones, Grinnell College
(Mentor: Danny Martínez, University of California, Irvine)

Gilberto Lara, The University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley
(Mentor: Grace Enriquez, Lesley University)

Alice Lee, Illinois State University
(Mentor: Carmen Kynard, John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY)

Claudia Rodriguez-Monica, Santa Clara University
(Mentor: P. Zitlali Morales, University of Illinois, Chicago)

Patriann Smith, Texas State University
(Mentor: Ramón Martínez, Stanford University)

We invite you to learn more about the STAR mentoring program and the Fellows' research projects by attending the STAR Fellows Research Showcase at the 2017 Annual Conference, on **Friday, December 1st at 1:15 – 2:45 pm, in the Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel & Marina, Second, Meeting Room 1.**

To learn about and become involved with the ERM committee, please attend our committee meeting on **Thursday, November 30th, 7:00 to 8:30 am, Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel & Marina, Second, Meeting Room 3.**

Technology Committee

Jayne Lammers
University of Rochester

The Technology Committee continues to work with the Executive Committee and Board of Directors to support the communications and technology components of our organization's strategic plan. In addition, we will be releasing new episodes of the Research to Practice Show, so watch the listserv and social media for notifications as these episodes become available.

INNOVATIVE COMMUNITY GROUP REPORTS

Doctoral Student Innovative Community Group

Tiffany M. Nyachae
University at Buffalo

The Doctoral Student Innovative Community Group (DSICG) membership continues to grow and we are looking forward to the conference in Tampa this December! We have been expanding and deepening our work on several initiatives to support the doctoral students of LRA, including our Proposal Mentoring Project, website, newsletter, and upcoming study group series at the 2017 conference.

In January 2017, the DSICG coordinated our seventh annual Proposal Mentoring Project, matching 39 students with faculty mentors to prepare proposals for the 2017 LRA Conference. This year's project included thirteen additional mentor/mentee pairs as compared to the 2016 project. We are grateful that many of our faculty members are returning volunteers from previous years. We hope that our mentors will join us for our Proposal Mentoring Project Breakfast on Friday morning of the conference. This gathering is meant to show our appreciation and is a great opportunity for mentees to meet their mentors in person.

In support of our mission to create and maintain a collaborative community of scholars, we have enhanced our digital presence by revamping our website. You can view the DSICG website at <http://lradsicg.weebly.com/>. In addition, we "live tweeted" each of our sessions at the 2016 conference and have worked to increase our social media presence throughout the year. The DSICG also creates and distributes multiple newsletters each year and maintains a Facebook group, celebrating members' accomplishments, sharing resources, and planning events for the conference.

In order to support students' continued professional growth and participation in LRA, the DSICG will host a Study Group series at the 2017 conference that invites established literacy scholars to discuss meaningfulness in literacy research through humanizing research practices and the implications for the following: decolonizing researcher and participant interactions; rigorous and critically informed data analysis; and manuscript writing that honors the communities represented. Invited speakers include: Drs. April Baker-Bell, Maneka D. Brooks, Tamara Butler, Cathy Compton-Lilly, Theda Gibbs Grey, Keisha L. Green, Danny C. Martinez, Sherell McArthur, Mary B. McVee, Carmen L. Medina, Detra Price-Dennis, Ryan M. Rish, and Tim San Pedro. Study Group sessions will take place daily from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm and the location can be found in the LRA Conference Program. Please encourage your doctoral students to attend!

We will also continue to offer our Academia 101 panel presentation in Tampa this year, providing doctoral students with opportunities to hear from recent graduates in a variety of academic and research positions. In addition, graduate students are encouraged to attend our annual Sara B. McCraw networking event that will take place on Wednesday morning; the DSICG-sponsored Happy Hour that will take place Thursday evening; and our annual business meeting where we will elect new leadership on Friday morning. Please encourage your doctoral students to run for positions. We are looking forward to a wonderful conference, chocked full of events for graduate students!

The DSICG is always open to new opportunities that will help further graduate students' professional development. If you have suggestions or opportunities for students that you would like us to advertise, please contact us. New DSICG members are always welcome to join, so feel free to contact us or pass along our information. Simply email our membership secretaries, Megan Van Deventer and Rachael Gruen at lra.dsicg@gmail.com to join our listserv. You can also follow us on Twitter (@LRADSI) and visit our Facebook page (Literacy Research Association- Doctoral Students Innovative Community Group).

As always, thank you for your continued support of doctoral students and the DSICG.

Gender and Sexualities Innovative Community Group

Corrinne Wickens
Northern Illinois University

The Gender and Sexualities ICG will be co-sponsoring two events with the Ethnicity, Race, and Multilingualism (ERM) Committee this year. The first is an alternative format session around intersectional research entitled, "That's *not* literacy research!" The papers in this session will address moments of hegemonic subjugation through a lens of intersectionality, in which literacy research has been characterized through discourses of power (Foucault, 1972) as "not really literacy research." This session will address ways in which corollary issues of advocacy, methodology, and subject matter have been challenged as literacy research. The second is an Intersectionality Brown Bag Discussion to be held Friday Dec. 1 from 12 -1 p.m. Bring your lunch; we'll dessert! We'll discuss ideas for next year's intersectional co-sponsored session among other topics. In addition to these sessions, there are numerous strong sessions around gender, sexualities, and intersectional research on the program for this year's annual conference. Looks to be an exciting time!

The Gender and Sexualities ICG will also be once again sponsoring a mentoring/research session. However, this year's session welcomes doctoral students, emerging scholars, and senior scholars alike to share in the challenges of writing and scholarship. For more information contact Corrinne Wickens at cwickens@niu.edu or Stephanie Shelton at sashelton@ua.edu.

Finally, our annual business meeting is **Wednesday morning from 7:15 am to 8:15 am**. It should be another provocative meeting, one you won't want to miss!

For more information about any of these events or joining the Gender and Sexualities ICG, please contact Corrinne Wickens at cwickens@niu.edu.

International Innovative Community Group

Katina Zammit
Western Sydney University

Thank you to the International ICG Co-Chairs: Poonam Arya, Wayne University; and Chinwe Ikpeze, St John Fisher College and to the Steering Committee: Lori Assaf; Patience Sowa; Zaline Roy-Campbell, Lijun Jin, Xiaoming Lui.

We've had an exciting and busy year and want to thank everyone who attended the 2016 ICG Business Meeting, Poster Session: *Mobilization of Literacy Research and Practices in International Settings*, Pecha Kucha session: *Lessons from around the globe: International literacies, mobility, and social transformation* and contributed to the *International Research on Literacy Teaching and Teacher Education Study Group* during the 66th Annual LRA Conference in Nashville, Tennessee. IICG Regional Representatives and members have posted to the ICG listserv on global literacy conferences, grant projects, and any other cutting edge literacy projects going on in their regions. We are excited about the inroads the International membership is having in LRA, and look forward to development of international research collaborations and on-going communication.

Survey about LRA international chapters

The survey was sent out via the IICG listserv and results will be submitted to Catherine Compton-Lilly (LRA's Ad Hoc Committee on Establishing an International Chapter) who will report to the LRA Board. Katina Zammit and Patience Sowa also provided input during the development of the survey.

IICG Travel Grants

LRA's International ICG offers partial travel support to a small number of international scholars to help defray costs of attending the LRA Annual Meeting. The LRA Board of Directors has allocated funds for this purpose. The amount of travel funds that individual applicants will receive will vary with travel distance.

Eligibility Criteria: Those eligible for this support are ICG members who are currently living outside of the U.S. and who have a paper accepted for presentation at the Annual Meeting. Prior recipients who received this support within the last three years are not eligible.

Priority will be given to

- Doctoral students or junior faculty members who received their doctorate within the last five years;
- Members attending the Annual Meeting for the first time;
- Members who are from countries with limited research infrastructure and funding.

How to Apply

Applicants are to send in their application forms and queries to cikpeze@sjc.edu. Please write "International ICG Travel Grant" in the subject line. Application forms are attached. Your application will be acknowledged upon receipt.

Deadline of Application

Please submit your application forms by **midnight EST on October 7, 2017**.

Award Announcement

The International ICG co-chairs will contact the recipients of the travel grant by Oct 31, 2017. Recipients will receive their checks during the International ICG Business Meeting at the 2017 LRA conference.

Join the International ICG listserv

If you would like to join the International ICG, please add the ICG in your LRA member page or email Lynn Hupp, LRA Executive Director, at lhupp@kmgnet.com. If you would like to share ideas and suggestions with other members, the ICG listserv is icglistserv@lira.memberclicks.net.

AWARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Albert J. Kingston Distinguished Service Award

Jill Castek
University of Arizona

Jennifer Jones Powell
Radford University

The Albert J. Kingston Award is awarded annually to honor an LRA member for distinguished contributions of service to the

Literacy Research Association. This distinguished award has been presented annually since 1985. A complete list of past recipients is showcased on the LRA [website](#).



2016 Albert J. Kingston Award Winner

We extend congratulations to Dr. Fenice Boyd, recipient of the 2016 Albert J. Kingston Award, in recognition for her service to the Literacy Research Association. Fenice Boyd is currently a Professor and Department Chair in the Department of Instruction and Teacher Education at the University of South Carolina. Previously, she was an Associate Professor in the Department of Learning and Instruction in the Graduate School of Education at the University at Buffalo. She earned a B.S. in Music Education and M.S. in Reading Education from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. She earned a Ph.D. in Curriculum, Teaching, and Educational Policy with a specialty in Literacy Studies from Michigan State University.

Dr. Boyd's scholarship focuses on equity and pushes the field toward a complex understanding of the historical, social, economic and political underpinnings of culture and language, and its relation to literacy learning and practices. She has a steadfast commitment to social justice teaching and a transformative mission that is instantiated in the implementation of an emancipatory curriculum. She is a renowned scholar who has made significant and substantial contributions to the LRA organization and to the literacy field.

Dr. Boyd's track record clearly demonstrates evidence of a strong, deep, and lasting commitment of service to LRA throughout her career at different levels of the organization. She has served on the Editorial Review Board for the Journal of Literacy Research (1996-2006) and has been an executive board member for the LRA Board of Directors from 2010-2013.

Without fail Dr. Boyd advances LRA members' thinking by presenting her cutting-edge research on topics of multicultural and multi-literacies at the LRA Conference each year. Not a year has gone by that she has not presented one or more papers at the conference. Often, she has presented with students or beginning scholars who she has mentored into the LRA family. A true leader, Dr. Boyd's mentees have gone on to make their own substantial contributions to LRA and to the field.

Dr. Boyd has long exemplified a high level of commitment to providing service to LRA. She clearly recognizes the impact that LRA has on the field of literacy research and practice, and she has been steadfast in "giving back" to the organization at all levels. She has given decades of service to LRA, and has provided both distinguished service and leadership. Her efforts have continually inspired other scholars to follow her lead.

2017 Albert J. Kingston Award

Who will be presented with the Albert J. Kingston Award for Distinguished Service in 2017? Attend the LRA annual conference in Tampa to find out! The award will be announced on Wednesday, November 29, 2017 just before the Presidential Address. See the online program for more details.

The Albert J. Kingston Committee encourages LRA members to attend the LRA Awards Informational Roundtable session to learn more about the all the awards featured by the Literacy Research Association, including the Albert J. Kingston Award and the nomination process for it.



Distinguished Scholar Lifetime Achievement Award Committee

Patricia A. Edwards
Michigan State University

Board Liaison: Hilary Janks, Professor Emerita, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.

Pictured above: Dr. Allan Luke recipient of 2016 Distinguished Scholar Lifetime Achievement Award with Award Chair Dr. Patricia A. Edwards

The Distinguished Scholar Lifetime Achievement Award (DSLAA) Committee had a productive meeting on Thursday, December 1, 2017 at the Omni Nashville Hotel in Nashville, Tennessee. The DSLAA committee congratulates the 2017 award winner Dr. Shirley Brice Heath, Professor Emerita, Margery Bailey Professorship in English, at Stanford University. Dr. Heath's address, *Challenge, Creativity, and Curiosity: A Mix Made for Minds Across the Age Span*, is scheduled on **Saturday morning, December 2nd**. The Integrative Research Talk will take place on Thursday, November 30th.

The Distinguished Scholar Lifetime Achievement Award was first presented at the Annual Conference in 2001. The Distinguished Scholar Lifetime Achievement Award was initiated to recognize a distinguished scholar for a lifetime contribution that has had a significant impact on the field of literacy theory, research, and practice. The award acknowledges an outstanding individual who has not only been actively involved in LRA committee work, editorial work, or presentations, but more importantly whose lifetime work, nevertheless, has had a major influence on literacy theory, research, and practice of the LRA membership.

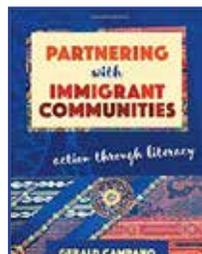
Thank you to DSLAA members for their support and involvement. I would especially like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the 2017 DSLAA committee members:

Randy Bomer, University of North Texas
Gerald Campano, University of Pennsylvania
Deborah Dillon, University of Minnesota
Barbara Laster, Towson State University
Althier Lazar, Saint Joseph's University
Leigh Patel, University of California-Riverside

And, welcome to our newest committee members:

Mariam Jean Dreher, University of Maryland—College Park
Nancy Frey, San Diego State University

Comments and questions can be directed to Patricia A. Edwards, Distinguished Scholar Lifetime Achievement Award Committee Chair, at edwards6@msu.edu.



Edward B. Fry Book Award

Yolanda Sealey-Ruiz, Chair
Teachers College, Columbia University

Pictured left: Congratulations to the 2016 Edward B. Fry Book Award winner

The Edward B. Fry Book Award Committee has selected this year's (2017) winner! **The deadline for nominations was May 15, 2017.** The award, established by Dr. Fry, recognizes an outstanding book on literacy research and practice. Eligibility for the award is limited to current members of LRA who have written or have been one of several authors of a book. The book must have a copyright date within five years of the date of the award being given. Nominated books should:

- o Advance knowledge about literacy
- o Display inquiry into literacy
- o Show responsible intellectual risk taking

The 2017 winner will be announced at this year's annual conference in Tampa, Florida.

Please consider nominating books that fit the Award's criteria for the 2018 competition.

Application Guidelines

A letter of nomination along with a copy of the nominated book should be mailed to the committee chair before the deadline of **May 15, 2018** (525 West 120th Street, Box #79, New York, NY 10027). Also, please email the letter of nomination to Yolanda Sealey-Ruiz (sealeyruiz@tc.edu) so that she is aware that the book will be arriving in the mail. Self-nominations are accepted, although committee members cannot nominate a book they have authored. A book may be re-nominated if it has been previously nominated but did not win the award. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Yolanda Sealey-Ruiz at sealeyruiz@tc.edu.

Thank you to the current Edward B. Fry Award Committee members for their support and involvement:

Mary A. Avalos, University of Miami
Jennifer Graff, University of Georgia
Marcia Invernizzi, University of Virginia
Patricia Issac, SUNY Empire State College
Ioney James, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University
Ji Eun Kim, Eastern Mennonite University
Diane Lapp, San Diego State University
Marla Mallette (Committee Liaison), Binghamton University
Iliana Reyes, University of Arizona
Zaline Roy-Campbell, Syracuse University
Laura Tortorelli, Michigan State University
Boogum Yoon, Binghamton University



How to Gain LRA Leadership Opportunities



How to Get Involved in LRA

