



Jacquelyn A. Malloy, Clemson University

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Arlette Willis

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

The last few weeks of summer are drawing to an end and bringing with them a sense of anticipation and excitement that I associate with the beginning of a new academic year. Accordingly, I am delighted to share with you important news and forthcoming events from the Literacy Research Association, prior to our annual conference in December 2014.

First, we have celebrated our first year with the new management firm, Kautter Wenhold Management Group (KWMG). During the spring, following independent surveys conducted by LRA and KWMG, the Executive Committee and officers of KWMG met to discuss strengths and limitations, improve communication streams, revise our contract, and plan for the future. In short, we have enjoyed a collaborative working relationship with KWMG.

Second, we are grateful to everyone who has served as a BOD member and will cycle off this fall. We extend heartfelt thanks to James Baumann, Flora Rodriguez Brown, and Julia Lopez-Robertson. In addition, we welcome Rebecca Rogers of the University of Missouri, St. Louis, Vice-President Elect; and BOD members, Marla Mellette, Binghamton University, State University of New York; Deborah Wells Rowe, Vanderbilt University, Peabody College; and Sharon Walpole, University of Delaware.

Third, we are pleased to announce several new committee chair appointments: Albert J. Kingston Award Committee, Jill Castek, Portland State University; J. Michael Parker Award Committee, Silvia Nogueiron-Liu, University of Georgia; Oscar S. Causey Award Committee, Laurie Henry, University of Kentucky; and Gender and Sexualities Innovative Community Group, Corrine Wickens, Northern Illinois University. Liaisons from the BOD also have been appointed: Randy Bomer is the BOD liaison to the Ethics Committee ICG, Ray Reutzel is the BOD liaison to the Doctoral Student ICG, and Diane Schallert is the BOD liaison to the Gender and Sexualities ICG.

Fourth, we welcome the new LRA Yearbook editorial team from the University of Missouri: Elizabeth (Betsy) Baker, Jennifer Clifton, Carol Gilles, Laurie Kingsley, Candace Kubly, Amy Lannin, Lenny Sanchez, and Angie Zapata. We also are pleased to share with you that the Journal of Literacy Research editorial team (Patty Anders, David Ayden, Chris Iddings, Laurie Katz, and Theresa Rogers) has requested, and received BOD approval, for an additional year of journal editorship. A special thank you to Jackie Malloy, Clemson University, for her exceptional service to the organization and leadership as editor of the bi-annual LRA Newsletter.

Fifth, we offer a very special note of gratitude to Diane Tracey, Kean University, who has served as LRA Secretary for several years. We

will miss Diane's thoughtful comments and suggestions as well as her institutional memory. A new Secretary has been named: Lynn Shanahan, University at Buffalo - SUNY. Chair of LRA Field Council Jennifer Jones, Radford University, is also stepping down from her position. We are grateful to Jennifer for her outstanding service to the organization. We will miss her enthusiasm and positive influence. We welcome Grace Enriquez, Columbia University, Teachers College, who has agreed to serve as Chair of Field Council.

Sixth, LRA Committee Chairs and members have been very active this year. Below, please read their reports in this Newsletter. There are two committees whose work deserves special mention. The Publication's Committee Chair, Thomas (DeVere) Wolsey, initiated and completed an EBSCO (online index for multiple research databases) licensing agreement for LRA. Our partnership with EBSCO does not incur any costs for LRA. DeVere, working with Dixie Massey, has retrieved issues from 1957 forward, with a small gap, so that the LRA Yearbook will be accessible online. In addition, the LRA Technology Committee, headed by Erica Boling, working with e-Editors Greg McVerry and Ian O'Byrne, Past President Richard Beach, and Wyn Bryant of KWMG, has made significant progress on redesigning and updating the LRA website. The launch of our new website will occur this fall.

Seventh, we are pleased to announce the inaugural Sara B. McCraw Literacy Fund. Although I did not personally know Sara, I am aware of her involvement in LRA and her influence among doctoral students. For example, annually the Doctoral Student ICG commemorates her import to LRA with a designated event, the Sara Bruce McCraw Doctoral Student Networking session. An excerpt from the foundation's home page (<http://www.whensarasmile.com/>) is below:

Dr. Sara B. McCraw was an Assistant Professor at East Carolina University. Before that, she earned a B.S. in Psychology from James Madison University, a B.S. in Early Childhood Education from the University of Maryland, a Reading Specialist Certification (M.Ed.) from the University of Delaware, an M.A. in Education from the University of Delaware, and finally, a Ph.D. in Education from the University of Delaware. She had just begun her career at ECU in 2011 and was well on her way to building a national reputation in the field of writing research when she lost her battle with cancer in 2012. Sara was an active member of the graduate student community with LRA since beginning her doctoral work at the University of Delaware.

The \$500.00 grants are available to eligible graduate students to help offset travel to the LRA annual conference. Information and application forms for the grant are available on the LRA website.

Finally, we are very excited about the incredible response to the 64th LRA Conference call for proposals. Currently there are limited rooms available at the Marriott, however, we have made similar

accommodations for additional guests at the Hilton. Co-Chairs Janice Almasi and Patricia Enciso have arranged an engaging program, impressive plenary speakers, and timely theoretical challenges, as well as retained several traditional LRA events. We are looking forward to an outstanding and memorable conference at the Marriott Marco Island.

PRESIDENT-ELECT'S REPORT

Janice F. Almasi

University of Kentucky

The theme of the 64th Annual Conference is "The Dialogic Construction of Literacies." The conference will be held December 3-6, 2014, at the Marco Island Marriott, which is situated on 3.5 miles of beachfront property along the Gulf of Mexico. In addition to the beaches that are steps from the hotel and meeting rooms, the Marriott features two swimming pools, a Balinese-style Spa and Fitness Center, golf, tennis, beach volleyball, and basketball. The Marco Island Marriott has just completed a renovation and redesign of the entire property including all guest rooms and meeting room spaces. The property boasts eight restaurants (including Quinn's, a beachside bistro that will drive your lunch to you on the beach). As well, there are 75 other restaurants on the island within walking distance or a very short cab ride away.

Marco Island is close to Ft. Myers and Naples and is accessible by flying into Southwest Florida International Airport (RSW), which offers nonstop service to 45 domestic and international destinations. Registration for the conference, hotel accommodations, and ground transportation are available on the LRA website at <http://www.literacyresearchassociation.org/>.

This year we received a record number of proposal submissions ($n = 1021$), which meant that over 3,000 reviews were completed. I would like to extend my most sincere appreciation to all of the Area Chairs who selected qualified reviewers for their areas, screened proposal submissions for appropriate formatting/word count, assigned proposals for review to qualified reviewers, made recommendations to me based on the reviews, and created grouped paper sessions. Their contributions were critical to creating the program, and I am grateful for their assistance and expertise. As well, I would like to thank everyone who volunteered for, and completed, the many reviews.

Our plenary addresses this year include:

- Arlette Willis, President of LRA, who will deliver the Presidential Address on Wednesday, December 3, 2014, from 4:45 - 6:00 PM. The President's Reception will follow immediately after the address, to which all attendees are invited.
- Yetta Goodman will deliver the Oscar Causey Address on Thursday, December 4, 2014, from 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM. Her address is entitled, "Miscue Analysis: A Transformative Tool for Researchers, Teachers and Readers."
- Rupert Wegerif, Professor of Education at the University of Exeter will deliver the plenary address on Thursday, December 4, 2014, from 4:45 - 6:00 PM. His research focuses on teaching thinking through dialogic education with technology. His recent work includes the book, *Dialogic: Education for the Internet Age*.
- George Lakoff, Richard and Rhoda Goldman Distinguished Professor of Cognitive Science and Linguistics at the University of California at Berkeley, will deliver the plenary address on Friday, December 5, 2014, from 4:45 - 6:00 PM. Lakoff, an expert in the field, will speak on, "Why the Brain Changes Everything: What Embodied Cognition Tells Us about Literacy."
- The Integrative Research Review on Saturday, December 6, 2014, from 10:30 am - 12:00 PM will be "A Conversation about the Contributions of Content Knowledge and Strategic Processing to Reading Comprehension." Annemarie Palincsar, University of Michigan, will moderate the session. Panelists will include: Maren Aukerman, Stanford University; Rachel Brown, Syracuse University; Kouider Mokhtari, University of Texas at Tyler; and Sheila Valencia, University of Washington.

The Distinguished Scholar Lifetime Achievement Award session will feature this year's recipients, Marilyn Cochran-Smith, Boston College, and Susan Lytle, University of Pennsylvania. Their presentation, "The Uncertain Terrain of Practitioner Research: A Conversation" will be on Friday, December 5, 2014, from 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM.

I am also pleased to announce the revitalization of Vital Issues, which the Field Council will take the lead in organizing. Vital Issues is a time to continue discussions about vital issues in literacy research and meet old and new friends in an informal setting. It will be held from 9:00 PM onward in the lobby bar each evening. All members are invited to attend and continue conversations about each day's events.

If you are new to LRA or the conference, I offer the following tips to assist in planning your conference experience:

- (1) Attend all plenary sessions. The plenaries are the common text of the conference that brings out the theme. The plenary sessions are held each afternoon (W,Th,F) from 4:45 - 6:00 PM. In addition, the Oscar Causey Address is always on Thursday morning (10:30 AM - 12 PM). The final plenary, the Integrative Research Review, occurs on Saturday morning (10:45 AM - 12:00 PM).
- (2) Attend the Presidential Reception immediately after the Presidential Address. This year the reception will be held on the Sunset Terrace immediately following the Presidential Address on Wednesday, December 3, 2014.
- (3) Attend the events organized by the Field Council including the Newcomers/Graduate Student breakfast on Thursday, December 4, 2014, from 7:30 - 8:30 AM. This event offers graduate students, and those who are new to the conference, the opportunity to meet the leadership of the organization and learn more about the organization. The breakfast is complimentary to newcomers and graduate students as long as you sign up in advance.
- (4) Attend the Town Hall Meeting on Thursday evening immediately following the plenary. This is where issues of concern to the organization are brought forward and discussed publicly. It is an opportunity for the leadership to listen to the membership. Although social media and technology enable us to have this opportunity throughout the year, the Town Hall represents a lively face-to-face exchange of ideas (and an opportunity to meet other scholars).

- (5) Attend the Business Meeting on Friday immediately following the plenary session. This event offers an opportunity to learn about the mechanics of the organization (i.e., finance, governance, future conference sites, election slates, transfer of leadership).

I look forward to seeing everyone December 3 - 6, 2014, on Marco Island!

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Patricia Encisco

The Ohio State University

As members of the Executive Committee will tell you, our commitment to LRA is ongoing, from two-day meetings throughout the year; annual contract reviews, policy and procedure reviews, to nominations and appointments for the Board and committees. We divide this work among us according to the PPH (Policy and Procedures Handbook). This year, as Vice President, I have several duties.

Program Co-Chair

I served as Co-chair for the 2014 Program so I could learn procedures and offer suggestions to the President-elect. Janice Almasi's attention to detail, overall program aims, and requests will be a hard act to follow. Thanks so much, Janice! In anticipation of the 2015 Program, I have been sharing ideas with colleagues and drafting the 2015 Call for Proposals, which will be announced in December 2014. From January through July 2015, I will be planning the program in full force. I hope you are already looking forward to joining colleagues at the La Costa Resort in Carlsbad, California (30 min north of San Diego), December 2 - 5, 2015.

Nominating Committee

As outlined by the PPH, I have formed a Nominating Committee, approved by the Board of Directors, whose members will engage in deliberations over the nominees for Board of Directors Members and Vice-President Elect. Nominees were solicited from the membership and committees from across LRA — and the list is long! We have so many wonderful, long serving members who make excellent contributions to the life of LRA. A great deal of thought and dialogue goes into the creation of the nominee slate. The nominees are people who represent the qualities of leadership, commitment to diversity, and scholarship that help LRA grow and continue to be recognized as a leading community of researchers, educators, and policy-shapers. Please be sure to vote on the final slate this spring. Your vote shapes our future.

2016 Conference Site Visits

Vice President-Elect Rebecca Rogers and I set off on a journey to several states to identify sites for the 2016 Conference. Many, many decisions have to fall into place to make a site work for LRA. To begin with, we need a ballroom that will hold at least 900 people. Only a few hotels in any city have that capacity. We also need an excellent room rate, good Internet access, nearby restaurants, and 'grab and go' food with good prices. Most of all, we need good 'flow' so attendees can meet up with one another in between sessions or gather spontaneously

before and after a keynote address. This means we tend to look only at hotels or resorts and not at convention centers. The search takes many hours of focused attention, travel, and ongoing negotiations. We are grateful to Julie Dross, Lynn Hupp and the KWMG team who help make the site-finding process a success.

In addition to these duties, I am also trying to understand how LRA, as a whole organization, can best engage our expertise and resources (including time) to address the urgent and rapidly changing demands for understanding literacy education. What pathways of dialogue can we promote within our different areas of expertise (e.g., multilingual research) to open up and authorize interpretations of research for colleagues in local, state, and national settings? How does LRA best represent this expertise to a wider audience? What forms of action might different areas of research promote or suggest to a wider audience? What forums are best used for this kind of inquiry? Members of the LRA Policy and Legislative Committee have taken a leading role in formulating statements and working with national organizations so that our members have a voice in circles beyond LRA. This work is vital. At the same time, PLC is able to extend this work and support other LRA members (Area Chairs, ICGs) in identifying key concerns that might be set forth as statements for wider audiences. I invite Area Committee, ICG, and other committee members to consider what matters most as a response to current issues in your area of expertise. What can you say to a wider audience that is research-based, and might be a beacon for colleagues and educators — maybe even policymakers — who are in the midst of making difficult decisions about literacy education.

Looking forward to our dialogue at Marco Island—on the beach.

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Richard Beach

University of Minnesota

As I wrap up my four-year term of service to LRA, I would like to acknowledge the efforts of the other past and present officers who have helped me assume various responsibilities associated with serving on the Executive Committee.

I would also like to thank certain members for making some lasting contributions to LRA. Over these past four years, I have witnessed an increased, significant focus on diversity in ways that address the LRA mission statement that "the Literacy Research Association (LRA) is a community of scholars dedicated to promoting research that enriches the knowledge, understanding, and development of lifespan literacies in a *multicultural and multilingual world*" (italics mine).

This support for a focus on diversity stems from the work of groups within LRA: Ethnicity, Race, and Multilingualism (ERM), as led by Julia Lopez-Robertson and Marcelle Haddix, and their work with the STAR (Scholars of color Transitioning into Academic Research) program that has mentored scholars of color who are now assuming active roles in LRA; as well as the efforts of the Multilingual/Transcultural Literacies; International; and Gender and Sexualities ICGs. This increased focus on diversity has become essential to LRA's ability to support literacy research informing instruction for our increasingly more diverse student populations.

And, over these past four years, recognizing that a third of LRA members consist of doctoral students, I've been pleased with the vitality and growth of our Doctoral Student ICG, who, along with the Field Council, under the leadership of Jennifer Jones, have effectively socialized doctoral students into becoming active members of LRA.

I also applaud the work of the JLR editors, Patty Anders, David Yaden, Ana Christine de Silva Iddings, Laurie Katz, and Terry Rogers; and the work of our LRA Yearbook editors, Pamela Dunston and Susan Fullerton, for their editorial work that serve to enhance LRA's visibility within the research community, as well as the efforts of DeVere Wolsey and the Publications Committee to support these publications. [As someone who recommended the move to publish the Yearbook as an e-book, I appreciated the extensive work of the Publications Committee to examine and promote that effort]. And, thanks to Jackie Malloy for continuing her solid work over these many years as Editor of this Newsletter; as well as members of the Policy and Legislative Committee for their work on generating a number of Policy Briefs, an effort launched by Caitlin Dooley.

Further praise is due for the work of the Technology Committee led by Erica Boling. As indicated in her report, during this past summer, we engaged in a major revision of the LRA website to enhance its usability and access to resources for LRA members. For this website, we're retaining the Forums for use by Committees, Area Chairs, and ICGs to engage in their own, confidential discussions. We're adding the ability to tag content on the website so that members can search for relevant resources related to literacy research, resources that include the Research Repository that houses information about members' research interests. I urge members who have not done so to add their academic CVs tagged according to their particular research foci to that Research Repository.

I also want to thank Ian O'Byrne and Greg McVerry for their work producing the LRA Research to Practice webcast shows housed on the website, shows that addressing a number of issues of interest to LRA members.

And, I want to recognize the work of our new management firm, Kautter Wenhold Management Group (KWMG), for their first year of solid service supporting LRA. During this past summer, I chaired a committee consisting of Vice-President Pat Enciso and Board member Ray Reutzel, to conduct a performance review of KWMG. Our overall review was relatively positive, so we therefore look forward to working with KWMG in the future and our Executive Director, Lynn Hupp.

Finally, I want to thank all of the LRA members for assisting me in my various tasks over these past four years. As someone who has been engaged in LRA for the past 35 years, I have always valued LRA for pushing the boundaries of literacy research in new and exciting directions, work that can only occur through the volunteer efforts of you, its loyal members. So, LRA members, keep up the good work so that we continue to be a vibrant organization supporting future generations of literacy researchers.

DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Jane Hansen, Chair
University of Virginia

While it has been a tradition to keep the names of awardees until the conference, the Distinguished Scholar Lifetime Achievement Award committee has decided to announce the names of the two women who will be receiving the award this year: Marilyn Cochran-Smith and Susan Lytle, colleagues who have worked together for many years, have been selected based on their body of work to receive this honor at the plenary on Thursday, December 4 at 4:45 PM.

Marilyn Cochran-Smith is the Cawthorne Professor of Teacher Education for Urban Schools at Boston College's Lynch School of Education, where she directs the Doctoral Program in Curriculum and Instruction. Her extensive writings focus on teacher education research, policy and practice, and the role of practitioner research in initial teacher education both nationally and internationally.

Susan Lytle is Professor Emerita at the Graduate School of Education of the University of Pennsylvania. She directs the Reading, Writing, and Literacy Master's and Doctoral Programs and founded the 30-year old Philadelphia Writing Project as an urban school/university collaborative network.

Together, Cochran-Smith and Lytle have co-authored award winning books and book series on practitioner research and inquiry. They will give a presentation about their work on Friday, December 5 at 10:30 AM. Please be there with us as we celebrate these two remarkable scholars!

EARLY CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Diane Lapp, Chair
San Diego State University

The Early Career Achievement Award committee has completed our work for this year. We will be introducing the 2014 award recipient at the conference in Florida. We were thrilled by the number of nominations and also awed by the caliber of these early career scholars. We encourage you to think about who you might nominate for this award. Each year the final scores are so close among the nominees that we also encourage this year's nominators to update and resubmit your letter if your nominee still meets the eligibility.

EDWARD B. FRY BOOK AWARD

Barbara A. Bradley, Chair
University of Kansas

Please consider nominating a book for the Edward B. Fry Book Award. 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:

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

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, 2015 (321 J.R. Pearson Hall, 1122 W. Campus Rd, Lawrence, KS 66045). Also, please email the letter of nomination to Barbara Bradley (barbarab@ku.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 Barbara Bradley at barbarab@ku.edu.

J. MICHAEL PARKER AWARD – CONTRIBUTIONS TO ADULT LITERACY

Silvia Nogueron-Liu

University of Georgia

Dear LRA Colleagues:

If you are presenting a paper on the topic of adult literacy at the 2014 LRA conference, please consider applying for the J. Michael Parker Award. The deadline for submissions is October 1, 2014.

LRA awards the J. Michael Parker Award to new scholars—i.e., graduate students and those who completed their doctorates within the past six years—for a paper presented at the conference that address adult literacy/language development and instruction. The award was established in 2001 in honor of J. Michael Parker, winner of LRA's Student Outstanding Research Award for his work in community-based adult literacy.

Eligibility

To be true to the spirit of J. Michael Parker's work, the award recognizes studies that examine ways adults further their own language and literacy development within or outside of formal learning contexts, including different social and cultural contexts for learning. The award is designed to encourage work in adult literacy with a variety of populations, including, but not limited to, learners in formal settings such as adult basic education and ESOL classes, as well as those engaged in literacy practices embedded in diverse cultural settings.

Award Details

Recipients of the award receive a small cash award to be used for conference expenses, as well as a plaque commemorating the award. They are also recognized during a general session of the conference. The award is presented to both papers with a single author and to co-authored papers. For single authored papers, the recipient will receive

\$500 and a plaque commemorating the award. For co-authored papers, the recipients will each receive a plaque and will decide amongst themselves how to divide the \$500 award.

Criteria for Consideration for the Award

1. The research is capable of making a significant contribution to theory and/or practice of adult literacy development and instruction.
2. The methodology is appropriate to the research question and of sufficient rigor.
3. Implications of the research are of a scope needed to impact the field.

Applicants are required to submit a full research paper (25 pages or less), based on the accepted proposal, by October 1, 2014. Papers must be double-spaced and in 12-point font. The text limit does not include references or any appendices. Paper submissions and inquiries should be directed to the award chair (Silvia Nogueron-Liu, snoguero@uga.edu). Potential applicants are welcome to consult with the chair about how their research may fit with the intentions of the award.

Learn more about the history of the award here: <http://jmpadulitlity.wordpress.com/about/>

Learn more about the previous awardees here: <http://jmpadulitlity.wordpress.com/jmp-previous-winners/>

P. DAVID PEARSON SCHOLARLY INFLUENCE AWARD

Taffy Raphael, Chair

University of Illinois at Chicago

2013 was the inaugural year of the P. David Pearson Scholarly Influence Award. Our first awardee, Dr. Peter Johnston of S.U.N.Y. at Albany, received the award that was presented at our annual meeting in Dallas. This annual award honors, in P. David Pearson's name, the author(s) of an article/chapter/book written at least five years prior to the nomination, that has demonstrably and positively influenced/impacted literacy practices and/or policies within district, school and/or classroom settings.

We encourage you to think about influential materials that have affected your professional work and submit nominations by September 15, 2014, for consideration in 2014. Nominators should demonstrate how the findings or implications of the article/chapter/book have been used directly by educators to craft influential policies and/or initiate and implement innovative classroom practices.

The submission packet should include a letter of nomination outlining the case with supporting evidence (along with the key piece of writing, author's CV, and documentation of the influence of the piece on instruction and/or policy).

Please submit to me via email (taffy@uic.edu).

2013 Committee members were: Patty Anders, University of Arizona; Kathryn Au, SchoolRise LLC; Wanda Brooks, Temple University; Douglas Fisher, San Diego State University; Taffy Raphael (Chair), University of

Illinois at Chicago. Our Board Liaison was Arlette Willis, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

STUDENT OUTSTANDING RESEARCH AWARD

Catherine Compton-Lilly

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Announcing the 2014 Student Outstanding Research Award

Are you a graduate student who is already looking forward to next year's LRA Conference? Are you conceptualizing a promising paper based on your research? Consider applying for the LRA 2014 Student Outstanding Research Award. The Student Outstanding Research Award is awarded annually to honor a student member of LRA in recognition of an outstanding research paper presented at the Annual Conference.

Last year's award was presented to Angie Zapata, an Assistant Professor at the University of Missouri Columbia and alumni of the University of Texas, Austin who worked with Dr. Nancy Roser. Melody's award winning ethnography, "Examining the Multimodal and Multilingual Composition Resources of Young Latino Picturebook Makers" was selected from a competitive selection of submissions.

In order to be considered for the award, the author must hold student status and the research must be conducted by the student. The paper must be written solely by the student or co-authored with students, and cannot be co-authored or co-presented with a faculty member. The proposal must have been accepted by the Annual Conference Committee for presentation at the Annual Conference. Papers representing various forms and genres of research (including conceptual papers) are welcome. More information can be found soon at <http://www.literacyresearchassociation.org/index.php/component/content/article?id=88>

To be considered, Catherine Compton-Lilly must receive the application materials at comptonlilly@wisc.edu no later than August 31 for the award year.

ETHICS COMMITTEE

Kelly Cartwright, Chair

Christopher Newport University

The Ethics Committee of the Literacy Research Association is tasked with (among other things) bringing ethical issues before the membership to provide opportunities for learning and discussion. Thus, at its 2013 meeting, the Committee determined that it would submit a proposal focused on ethical issues for presentation at LRA 2014 to fulfill this aspect of its responsibilities. That proposal, expertly shepherded by Brian Rose, LRA Ethics Committee member, was accepted. We invite you to join us for an Alternative Format Session on "The Ethical Quagmire of New Literacies Research," which will be presented on Thursday, December 4, 2014, from 1:15 to 2:45 PM in the Marriott Marco Island Conference Center, Capri I - Lower Level. The

description of the ethics-focused Alternative Format Session follows.

The landscape of literacy research has changed. Due to innovations in and use of technology in literate settings, literacy researchers increasingly navigate uncharted ethical territory. In fact, while many professional organizations' ethics statements address global concerns, these statements often provide little guidance with the increasing, ethically challenging situations new literacies research presents. The papers address this very issue, and in an escalating fashion, identify some of the ethical issues we face in new literacies research.

Chair and Organizer: Brian C. Rose, University of Northern Colorado

Paper 1: Negotiating understandings of visibility and privacy in online spaces in vulnerable communities - Silvia Noguera-Liu, University of Georgia

Paper 2: Pushing boundaries: Online researchers and ethics committees - Donna Alvermann, University of Georgia; Crystal L. Beach, The University of Georgia; Joseph Johnson, University of Georgia

Paper 3: English language arts 2.0: Ethical considerations of educating with iPads - Judson Laughter, University of Tennessee

The Ethics Committee meets Friday morning, December 5, 2014 at 7:30 am (Location TBA). We look forward to hearing from you as we explore ethical issues related to literacy research.

ETHNICITY, RACE, AND MULTILINGUALISM (ERM) COMMITTEE

Marcelle Haddix, Chair

Syracuse University

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 2013-2015 cohort are:

Dr. Antonieta Avila, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
(Mentor: Dr. Aria Razfar, University of Illinois at Chicago)

Dr. Soria Colomer, University of South Florida
(Mentor: Dr. María Fránquiz, The University of Texas at Austin)

Dr. Mary McGriff, New Jersey City University
(Mentor: Dr. Yolanda Sealey-Ruiz, Teachers College, Columbia University)

Dr. Maria Selena Protacio, Western Michigan University
(Mentor: Dr. Robert Jimenez, Vanderbilt University)

Dr. Kwangok Song, Arkansas State University
(Mentor: Dr. Eurydice Bauer, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

Dr. Monica S. Yoo, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs
(Mentor: Dr. Allison Skerrett, The University of Texas at Austin)

Come learn more about the STAR mentoring program and the Fellows' research projects by attending the STAR alternative session at the 2014 LRA annual conference on Friday, December 5, 8:45AM to 10:15AM, Location TBA.

To learn about and become involved with the ERM committee, please attend our committee meeting on Thursday, December 4, 2014, 7:30AM to 8:30AM, Location TBA.

The ERM committee will sponsor two sessions at the annual conference:

"Boundaries, Barriers, and Bridges: Multicultural Young Adult Literature in Preservice Teachers' Examinations of Race"
Presenters: Susan Lee Groenke, Chonika Coleman, Wendy Glenn, Detra Price-Dennis, Marcelle Haddix

"Exploring Linguistic Diversity: Negotiating Multimodal and Multicultural Social Worlds"
Presenters: Soria Colomer, Patriann Smith, Margarita Zisselsberger, Marva Solomon, Marcelle Haddix (discussant)

Stay tuned to the LRA program schedule to learn time and locations for each session.

NEWS FROM THE FIELD COUNCIL

Jennifer Jones, Field Council Chair
Radford University

LRA Field Council is an active committee focused on recruitment, retention and reclamation of our organization's membership. 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. Field Council invites the greater LRA membership to join us in our efforts this fall to recruit, retain and reclaim members to this premier literacy research organization.

Recruiting Your Colleagues

Field Council has various recruitment efforts underway this fall. Field Council representatives promote LRA at local, regional, state and national/international conferences throughout the year.

As the new academic year begins, Field Council Regional Chairs are reaching out to new faculty members at the institutions that advertised faculty positions on our LRA website and listserv during the 2013-2014 year. New faculty members will receive a congratulatory message on their new positions, as well as information about how the Literacy Research Association is an excellent place to receive support, networking opportunities and avenues in which to develop and grow as literacy researchers.

Also this fall, Field Council Representatives will be reaching out to newcomers who attended last year's annual conference in Dallas. Newcomers will be encouraged to join LRA and to attend the

conference once again this year in beautiful Marco Island, Florida.

As a member of LRA, invite someone to join LRA this year. Share about LRA with new faculty members, doctoral students, and colleagues in your department as the year begins. If each LRA member invited just one person to join, imagine how we could grow and sustain the future of this excellent organization!

Reclaiming "Lost" Members

In July, Field Council, with the help of LRA Headquarters, launched a survey that was disseminated to colleagues who were once members of LRA but have not renewed their memberships. The survey asked former members about why they chose to not renew their memberships and for ways our organization can nurture and encourage active, engaged membership. The survey was closed in August and Field Council is currently analyzing the results. Results will be used to better inform our committee on ways to recruit and retain LRA memberships, as well as ways to reclaim our former members. Results of the survey will be reported in an upcoming Newsletter.

As a member of LRA, if you know a former member, invite your colleague to re-join!

Retaining Membership through Engaged, Active Participation

In an effort to retain LRA members, Field Council encourages and promotes active, engaged membership in the LRA community. Field Council representatives work each year to promote LRA publications at institutions of higher education in their states and regions, as the Journal of Literacy Research and the LRA Yearbook are examples of the many membership benefits available to LRA members. Participation in committees, Innovative Community Groups (ICGs), and study groups, which often meet at the conference and continue the conversation year round, are excellent ways to get actively engaged in the organization.

Talk with your LRA colleagues today about ways to become more involved in your organization. Seek connections!

Get Connected at the Conference

At the annual LRA conference in Marco Island, Florida, Field Council will offer three exciting networking opportunities conference participants. We encourage your participation in these events.

Newcomers Breakfast – All doctoral students and newcomers to the conference are invited to join the LRA Board of Directors and the LRA Field Council at our annual Newcomers' Breakfast to be held on Thursday, December 4, from 7:30 - 8:30 AM. If you know of a newcomer attending the conference, please encourage participation in this special event. The Newcomers' Breakfast provides those new to the conference with an excellent overview of the organization and all it has to offer.

Lunch & Dinner Out – Now in our third year, LRA Field Council Representatives will serve as hosts to Lunch & Dinner out as a way to provide networking opportunities in relaxed settings at the conference. Conference attendees sign up online, meal hosts organize the group, locate a cost-sensitive restaurant venue to enjoy a meal and communicate with the group about meeting places/times. Meal groups are typically 4-6 people, providing opportunities for everyone to engage in meaningful conversation over lunch or dinner. All participants are responsible for their own meals.

Lunch & Dinner Out is a wonderful opportunity to meet colleagues across the LRA organization. Lunch & Dinner Out is also great for those who are traveling alone and would like to join others for various mealtimes and good conversation at the conference. Lunch & Dinner Out is available to all conference attendees – new and seasoned members alike. Stay tuned! Sign-ups will be sent out in late October.

Revitalizing Vital Issues – It's back! According to the LRA Policy & Procedures handbook, "Vital Issues is a time to meet old and new friends in an informal setting. Vital Issues is traditionally held from 9:00 PM onward in the hotel bar. All members are invited to attend and continue discussions about vital issues in literacy research."

Field Council is thrilled to host the effort to revitalize this 'old favorite' at the LRA conference. Stay tuned for details, and plan to participate!

Field Council Support

Field Council is here to support you in your efforts to recruit, retain and reclaim LRA members! As you connect and inform literacy researchers to our dynamic organization, share your efforts with the Field Council, jjones292@radford.edu. Field Council will gladly offer follow-up communications and support with individuals considering membership, as well as warm welcomes and new member support to those choose to join LRA.

Thank you for your efforts to recruit, retain and reclaim literacy researchers to our outstanding organization this year!

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Thomas DeVere Wolsey, Chair

Walden University

Things have been hopping in publications the last several months. We are very grateful for the service of the Clemson editorial team in preparing the Yearbook as they come to an end of their term. A new editorial team from the University of Missouri takes on the task this year. Several new features that the team is planning to put into place include electronic submission and review, a new electronic publication (with a paper edition available for those who want it), and a change to the Yearbook's name. Rita Bean heads the name change task force.

The editorial team for the Journal of Literacy Research has many things to report. First, the Journal's impact factor continues to move upward. The editorial team also includes an international editor who works with international authors in a developmental capacity. They also have established a social media presence to increase visibility, and our lively new cover was featured in a tweet from SAGE, our publisher. Visit and like the Journal's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Journal-of-Literacy-Research/240703135993258>

Editorial Teams

<i>The Journal of Literacy Research</i>	<i>The 63rd Yearbook of the Literacy Research Association</i>	<i>The 64th Yearbook of the Literacy Research Association</i>
The University of Arizona Patricia L. Anders David B. Yaden, Jr. Ana Christina Da Silva Iddings The Ohio State University Laurie Katz The University of British Columbia Theresa Rogers	Clemson University Pamela J. Dunston Susan King Fullerton Mikel Cole Danielle Herro Jacquelynn A. Malloy Phillip Wilder Kathy Headley Pamela M. Stecker	University of Missouri Elizabeth (Betsy) A. Baker Jennifer Clifton

The publications committee is grateful for the service each of these teams provides to the LRA and larger literacy communities and to the universities that support their efforts.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Erica C. Boling, Chair

Rutgers University

We are currently in the midst of major revisions to our LRA website. The Technology Committee, chaired by Erica Boling, and our eEditors, Ian O'Bryne and Greg McVerry, have been collaborating with KWMG management and LRA Board Members during this process. Over the past few months, we have been in the process of moving current website content to a new platform so that our new website is more accessible and user friendly to LRA members and the public.

As we make changes to the website, we would like to archive listserv content that was shared prior to moving to our new management company. While making the transition, we lost much of the listserv content that had been shared before this transition occurred. If you saved old listerv emails and still have access to previous years' content, please email Ian O'Byrne and let him know. He can be reached at wiobyne@gmail.com. We would like to archive these older messages and provide access to them through our new website.

Finally, we would like to remind you about our LRA: Research to Practice webcast shows. Live shows are scheduled to occur once a month using Google Hangout-on-Air. We are recording the shows and

also streaming them using YouTube. You can view examples of previous shows at the [LRA YouTube Channel](#). If you are interested in joining this initiative as a guest speaker, producer, or host, please email Ian O'Byrne at wiobyne@gmail.com for additional information.

DOCTORAL STUDENT INNOVATIVE COMMUNITY GROUP

Jennifer M. Smith, Senior Co-Chair

Texas Women's University

The Doctoral Student Innovative Community Group (DSICG) membership continues to grow and we are looking forward to the conference in Florida in December. We are continuing to expand our work on several initiatives to support the doctoral students of LRA. These initiatives include communication with our membership through the publication of three newsletters a year, the DSICG website, and social networking sites.

Our newsletter editing team thoughtfully researches topics applicable to our graduate student base and our technology team keeps members current and involved. Our summer newsletter was distributed in August featuring a section for doctoral students to celebrate any recent publications and presentations. As we progress with plans for the 2014 LRA conference on Marco Island, we will begin drafting our fall newsletter focusing on this event. This will include previews for our DSICG sponsored Happy Hour event, Academia 101 session, days and times for DSICG member presentations, and our Study Group Series.

We were thrilled with the standing room only attendance at our Study Group series during last year's conference, and we are excited to build on this popularity. Offering Study Groups from 12-1pm allowed members to drop in with their lunches and hear from prominent researchers about the publication process. A survey of our membership indicated great interest in research methodologies, so we are pleased to present eminent scholars discussing their expertise in this area.

The DSICG 2014 Study Group Series focusing on Research Methodologies:

Wednesday, 12/3: Methodologies for Literacy Researchers with Drs. Nell Duke and Marla Mallette

Thursday, 12/4: Video Data Analysis with Drs. Jill Castek and Julie Coiro

Friday, 12/5: Formative Experiments with Drs. Barbara Bradley and David Reinking

One of our most meaningful events, the Annual Sara Bruce McCraw Doctoral Student Networking Session, will take place on a different day at this year's conference. In order to allow more members to attend and make connections with each other at the beginning of the conference, we will invite doctoral students to gather on Wednesday (12/3) morning from 7:30-8:30am. This time will be used for meeting new colleagues and re-establishing connections with those we have not seen in a while. We hope that this change in timing will allow more members to attend, feel included in the DSICG, and participate more actively in the conference overall.

We will also continue to offer our Academia 101 panel presentation at

this year's conference, providing graduate students with opportunities to hear from recent graduates in a variety of academic and research positions. Leading up to the conference, we hope to utilize our Facebook page, website, and Forum space on the LRA website to advertise our events, facilitate room-sharing for doc students at the conference hotel, and further networking opportunities for our members.

In addition to our newsletters and presence at the LRA conference, the DSICG Membership and Technology Leadership Teams work together to maintain a listserv and Facebook page that promotes networking throughout the year among doctoral students. Our Technology Committee maintains a DSICG website that contains many opportunities for information gathering (<https://sites.google.com/site/lradoctoralstudenticg/>). In response to our membership, one feature of this site is a current listing of calls for papers to assist students in finding venues to publish their work.

Finally, we are extremely excited to report on our Proposal Mentoring Project (PMP). As PMP has matured into its fourth year, we have been thrilled by both the growth of this project and the quality of conference proposals that it fosters. For many doctoral student participants, this was a first opportunity to propose their own research, and 50% of our participants' proposals were accepted for the 2014 conference as reported by a recent survey of mentors and mentees.

Doctoral students found the opportunity to receive feedback on their proposal from a faculty member, who was knowledgeable about their particular area of research yet not on their committee, incredibly helpful. Feedback was received on multiple drafts, and that proved helpful when navigating the usefulness of the edits doctoral students made throughout the revision process. The Proposal Mentoring Project provided an opportunity for doctoral students that encouraged networking and creating relationships that will last long beyond the scope of the project. Doctoral student participants are looking forward to the opportunity to meet with their faculty mentor at the LRA conference in December.

Building collegial relationships between individuals at different universities and supporting one another's scholarship is at the heart of the DSICG's mission and we are deeply grateful for the valuable time and perspectives provided by this year's faculty mentors: Barbara Bradley, University of Kansas; Paula Carbone, University of Southern California; Kelly Chandler-Olcott, Syracuse University; Tanya Christ, Oakland University; Sharon Daley, Indiana University; Nancy Frey, San Diego State University; Matt Hollibush, Mount St. Mary College; SuHua Huang, Midwestern State University; Carole Janisch, Texas Tech University; Rachel Karchmer-Klein, University of Delaware; Judith Lysaker, Purdue University; Sam Miller, University of North Carolina- Greensboro; Kristen Perry, University of Kentucky; Misty Sailors, The University of Texas at San Antonio; Bill Teale, University of Illinois at Chicago; and Kenneth Weiss, Central Connecticut State University.

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 do not hesitate to contact us (Jennifer Smith-jsmith30@mail.twu.edu, Kate Brodeur-brod0289@umn.edu, and Colleen Whittingham-cwhitt2@uic.edu). We are always open to new members. If you are interested in joining the DSICG or know students who might be, please contact lra.dsicg@gmail.com to join the Doctoral Student listserv and/or visit our Facebook page: Literacy Research Association- Doctoral Students Innovative Community Group.

GENDER AND SEXUALITIES ICG

Corrinne Wickens, Acting Chair

Northern Illinois University

The new Gender & Sexualities ICG will have its inaugural meeting at this year's annual conference in Marco Island.

As a reminder, the purpose of the Gender & Sexualities ICG is:

- To promote and encourage literacy research that highlights perspectives around gender and sexualities, especially as those identities intersect with race, class, language, nationality, religion, age, ability, and culture;
- To increase awareness, access to information, and collaboration among a diverse network of scholars that supports LGBTQ individuals and counters homophobia and heteronormativity in LRA, schools, and communities;
- To advocate for LGBTQ youth, families, and educators in and out of schools through policies, curricula, and instructional practices that include and support gender and sexual diversities;
- To encourage interaction and engagement with organizations and scholars involved in outreach, advocacy, and/or research related to gender and sexual identities in various local and global contexts.

We will meet to discuss and vote upon needed roles, e.g., chair, co-chair, and a liaison to Policy and Legislative Committee (PLC). Also, in concert with our purpose and mission, we will discuss ways to "encourage interaction and engagement with organizations and scholars involved in outreach, advocacy, and/or research related to gender and sexual identities in various local and global contexts."

I look forward to discussing exciting new opportunities for networking, scholarship, and advocacy. All are welcome! See you in December at Marco Island!

INTERNATIONAL INNOVATIVE COMMUNITY GROUP

Amma Akrofi, Co-Chair

Texas Tech University

Lori Assaf, Co-Chair

Texas State University

Patience Sowa, Co-Chair

Zayed University

We've had an exciting and busy year and want to thank everyone who attended the 2013 ICG Business Meeting, Poster Session, Research in Global Contexts Session, and our first annual International Social Networking Lunch during the 63rd Annual LRA Conference in Dallas, Texas.

International Social Networking Lunch

The IICG International Social Networking Lunch provided 20 LRA members with a free box lunch from Jason's Deli and the opportunity to share their international research interests and projects with others. This "unconference" setting was the perfect venue for participant-driven conversations and sharing around international issues such as academic language learning, global writing instruction, international teacher education, and early childhood education. We look forward to the next Social Networking Lunch and hope to entice more LRA members to join us for a productive and tasty gathering.

IICG Regional Representatives

In addition to thanking those who attended our Social Networking Lunch, we would like to recognize our nine new Regional Representatives who have agreed to serve the IICG in multiple ways. These international representatives will share information on global literacy conferences, grant projects, and any other cutting edge literacy projects going on in their regions. They will showcase prominent international literacy scholar's research and scholarly activities through videos and other pertinent media by communicating with the Co-Chairs and members of the IICG via email, dropbox, our listserv and our Facebook group. We are excited about this initiative and look forward to more international research collaboration and on-going communication.

- Anita Nigam (India)
- Zaira Arvelo-Alicea (Puerto Rico)
- M. Francisca Valenzuela (Chile)
- Patriann Smith, Ph.D. (Caribbean)
- Patience Sowa (Middle East)
- Martinez-Alba, Gilda (U.S. Maryland, Greater DC Area)
- Yu Zhenyou, China Women's University (China)
- Lina Sun, China University of Petroleum, Beijing (China)
- Elisa Waingort, Academia Cotopaxi, Quito, (Ecuador)

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;
- Applicants are strongly advised to secure funding from in-country and/or international sources such as the Ministry of Education, international agencies, and philanthropic organizations.

How to Apply: Applicants are to send in their application forms and queries to internationalicg@gmail.com.

Deadline of Application: The deadline for applications is midnight EST on September 30, 2014.

Award Announcement: The International ICG co-chairs will contact the recipients of the travel grant by October 31, 2014. Recipients will receive their checks during the International ICG Business Meeting at the 2014 LRA conference.

Join the International ICG

If you would like to join the International ICG, please email Lynn Hupp, LRA Executive Director, at lhupp@kmgnet.com, Amma Akrofi at amma.akrofi@ttu.edu, Lori Assaf at lassaf@txtstate.edu, or Patience Sowa at Patience.Sowa@zu.ac.ae. If you would like to share ideas and suggestions with other members, the ICG listserv is LRAInternationalICG@list.literacyresearchassociation.org.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

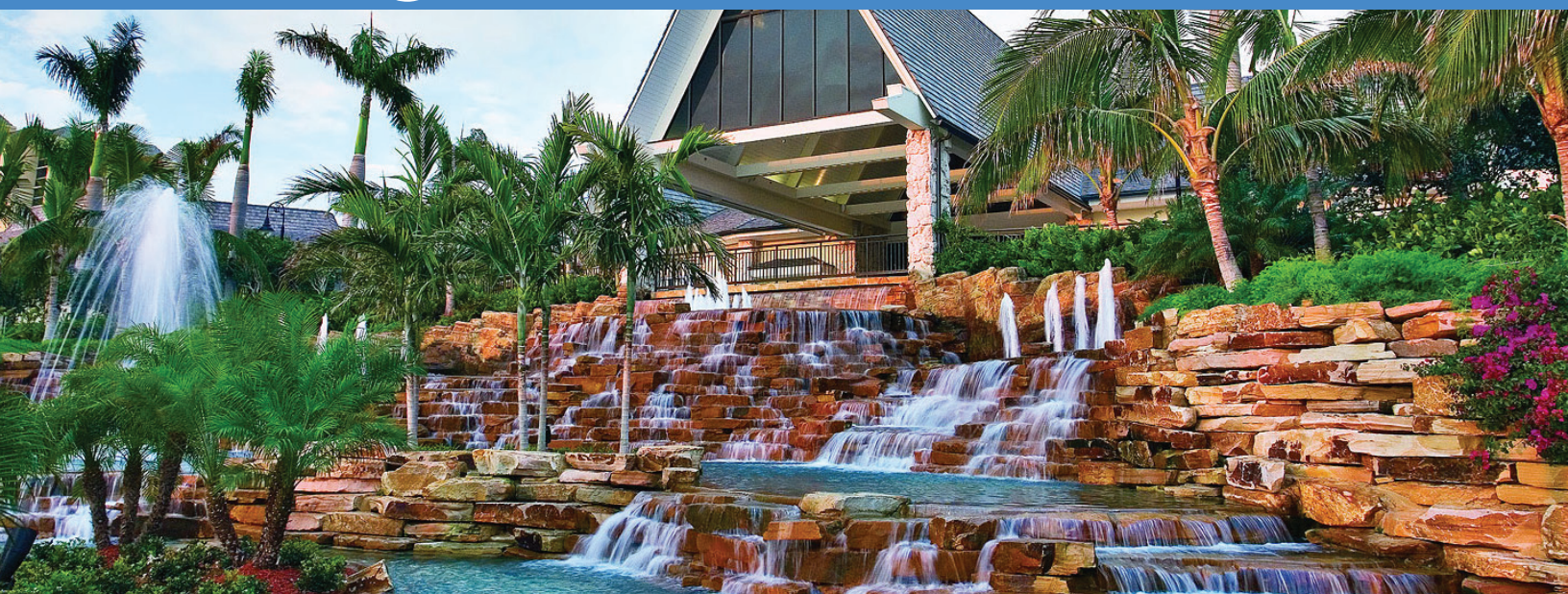
Gay Ivey

University of Wisconsin-Madison

At the 2013 conference, the Research Committee welcomed new members Lara Handsfield, Kelly Puzio, and David O'Brien. We said goodbye to outgoing members Seth Parsons, Elizabeth Swaggerty, Caitlin Dooley, and our former chair, Sam Miller, who fearlessly directed this committee in its first three years of activity. Thanks, Sam, Elizabeth, Seth, and Caitlin!

The current committee, which also includes Terry Husband and Eithne Kennedy, is excited to announce that we are sponsoring a new study group at the 2014 conference in Marco Island. This group, titled "Theoretical Perspectives" is designed to support LRA members' efforts at conceptualizing, conducting and publishing research that employs thoroughly articulated and integrated theoretical frameworks. Guest speakers will include Wanda Brooks, Mark Dressman, and Annemarie Palincsar. We believe this group will be of interest to a range of LRA members, from doctoral students to more experienced researchers. Look for more information on specific topics and advanced readings on the LRA listserv as we approach the conference week.

See You in Marco Island!



LRA 64th Annual Conference

December 3-6, 2014

Marco Island Marriott Beach Resort, Golf Club & Spa • Marco Island, Florida