



Dear Members of LRA,

The 2026 Nominations Committee is pleased to announce the opening for nominations for Vice President and the Board of Directors members. This is an opportunity for dedicated individuals to contribute to the advancement of literacy research and make a valuable contribution to LRA and the field.

All nominees should align with the [LRA](#) mission with respect to leadership, scholarship, diversity, and membership. Additional information about the criteria for nominations may be found in LRA's Policy and Procedures Handbook (PPH) and in the LRA Bylaws.

The positions open for nominations are as follows:

1. **Vice President:** The Vice President shall serve as the Associate Chair of the Annual Conference Committee, prepare the Call for Proposals for the Annual Conference, chair the Nominations Committee, oversee the function and maintenance of the Innovative Community Groups (ICGs), and fulfill other duties as directed by the Board of Directors.
2. **Board of Directors:** Board Members will actively participate in the decision-making processes of LRA, attend regular meetings, contribute to ongoing projects and initiatives, and represent the interests of the LRA community.

The Nominations Committee shall be charged with the creation of the slate of candidates for each position to be filled. The slate shall consist of at least two (2) members for each open position for Board of Directors and Vice President Elect. The slate shall align with the LRA Mission Statement with respect to **leadership, scholarship, diversity, and membership.**

i. **Leadership:** Leadership includes, but is not limited to, service as Area Chair, journal and/or publications editorship, ICG Chair, Board of Directors Member, and/or Committee Chair (e.g., awards, standing committee, ad hoc, etc.). Leadership may also be recognized in service to other literacy and research organizations.

ii. **Scholarship:** Scholarship and leadership are interrelated. LRA is distinguished by its continuing efforts to provide a forum for questions and directions in research. Leaders understand the value of research in the organization. Scholars and leaders ask questions, develop rationales, communicate, and respect colleagues. A scholar/leader interprets questions about procedures and policies with respect to the concerns of all the members and is able to be responsive and forward thinking within the guidelines and practices established by the organization's membership and guiding documents.

iii. **Diversity:** Diversity, scholarship, and leadership are interrelated. People in leadership roles in LRA show evidence of their insight into, support of, and respect for diversity in their work and relationships.

iv. **Membership:** All candidates must be members of LRA in good standing. A candidate may update their membership at the time they are invited by the Nominating Committee Chair to submit their names for candidacy.

To submit a nomination, please provide the following information:

1. Full Name of the nominee
2. Position(s) nominated for (Vice President or Board of Directors)
3. Contact Information (phone number & email address)
4. Brief statement of interest and qualifications [1] (not exceeding 200 words)

All nominations, or self-nominations, should be sent via email to Executive Director Nicollette Schmeichel at LRA headquarters ([NSchmeichel@association-resources.com](mailto:NSchmeichel@association-resources.com)) no later than **May 15, 2025**. **NOTE:** Self-nominations are welcome. Also, all nominees will be contacted to verify their consent and confirm their interest in running for the respective positions.

We look forward to your active participation in this process. Together, we can continue to sustain literacy research, teaching, and learning -- locally, nationally, and transnationally -- and extend a long legacy of flourishing advanced thus far by LRA. Should you have any questions or require additional information regarding this process, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Patriann Smith, LRA Vice President  
Chair, 2026 Nominations Committee

[1] If you are nominating someone, please work with the nominee to secure this information.