



## **NRC President's Report**

Taffy Raphael  
Oakland University  
Rochester, MI

## **Memories of NRC 1999...**

Orlando was the site of our 49th Annual National Reading Conference annual meeting. It was an exciting program and I appreciate all the wonderful comments I've received complimenting the membership on their high quality sessions. Over 1000 members attended the conference, coping with last minute room changes with grace and humor. Vocabulary concepts such as black astroturf, duck tape, and white plastic ribbons have taken on new meanings for me personally, and many of our members.

Our plenary speakers were outstanding. Linda Gambrell, in her Presidential Address on Wednesday, got us off to a wonderful beginning with her reflections on writings of the past decades that have significantly influenced our memberships' scholarship and teacher education. In Thursday's Plenary, Sonia Nieto's descriptions of language and culture's influence on literacy instruction today was thought provoking and inspiring. On Friday, we were treated to a plenary address by Jerome Bruner, exploring relationships among narrative, cognitive development, and the social bases of literacy learning. Our Oscar Causey address by 1998 award recipient, Kathy Au, illustrated the value and power of community-based teacher education. Susan Florio-Ruane, in her research review, challenged us to explore the nuanced nature of culture and how it

is defined and illustrated to promote more effective practices in educating literacy teachers to work within our diverse society. Special sessions by researchers from OERI-funded Centers and an informal chat with Assistant Secretary of Education Kent McGuire provided opportunities for our members to connect with each other and with educators working in Washington, D.C.

I want to thank Peter Mosenthal and Linda Gambrell for all their help in planning the conference, as well as the area chairs and their reviewers. I also want to thank Lesley Morrow and Susan Neuman for their work with publishers leading to the great book room and auction. Finally, I would like to thank Lee Gunderson for leading a successful annual T-shirt auction.

## **Award Recipients, 1999**

Awards were presented this year to Rebecca Barr, National Louis University (Oscar Causey Award for outstanding contributions to research); Lea McGee, University of Alabama (Al Kingston Award for distinguished service); Cindy Brock, University of Nevada/ Reno and Joyce Many, Georgia State University; (Early Career Award); Patrick Manyak, University of California and Emily M. Rodgers, The Ohio State University (Student Research Award), and David Reinking, Michael McKenna, Linda Labbo, and Ronald Kieffer (Ed Fry Book Award). Congratulations to a very deserving group of recipients!

## **NRC 2000 Conference Proposals Due Soon**

A reminder that proposals for the 2000 conference are due February 15th. Forms were distributed at the

conference. If you didn't get one, contact NRC headquarters (312 431 0013) or go to the NRC web site at <http://www.oakland.edu/~mceneane/nrc/meet2000.html>. Peter Mosenthal has already begun planning for our 50th anniversary next year in Scottsdale, and many members have already responded to his request for ideas that will help celebrate and mark this major event in the life of our organization.

## **Recognizing Service**

We are indebted to our past president, Linda Gambrell, and our three outgoing NRC Board members, Jim Cunningham, Peter Johnston, and Lea McGee. We welcome new NRC Board members, Rick Beach, Freddy Hiebert, and Don Leu and our new Vice-President, Deborah Dillon. Also, John McEneaney, Oakland University, has agreed to serve as eEditor, helping us integrate our web and internet services.

## **Headquarters Information**

NRC Headquarters has a new address, giving them more space. Their phone, fax, and email contact information will not change. The new address is: 11 E. Hubbard St., Suite 5A, Chicago, IL 60611. They are working to update the data base, a timely task. The updated information will be drawn from the registration and membership documents related to the Orlando conference, so if contact information has changed, please notify Headquarters in writing by Fax: 312-431-8697 or snail mail at their new address.

## Highlights from the NRC Board Meeting in Orlando:

- Norm Stahl is seeking materials related to the middle years of NRC. Please contact him ([Stahl@NIU.EDU](mailto:Stahl@NIU.EDU)) if you have information that you could provide to him.
- It was moved that for a three year experimental period, NRC will invite a modest number of publishers to display their books at the conference with the proceeds being equally distributed among the general operating fund and the three special funds. The description of the displays allowed will emphasize that they be discrete and limited to academic publishing, permitting only table-top displays with a table-level banner. (Motion passed.)
- Headquarters is continuing to explore properties for the 2002 conference in the southeast, and members are asked to send suggestions for sites to J. Burnison if they are aware of good sites. The Board concluded that the conference should have a local host.
- There was a motion to establish the position eEditor, with specifications of the eEditor, and John McEneaney was appointed for a three-year term effective immediately. A search for an Associate eEditor will be undertaken to provide a transition period between appointments. (Motion passed.)
- Michael Kamil announced that the eEditor will work with all committees to establish web pages, organize links, and archive electronic materials.
- It was moved that the name of the "Multicultural Issues" Committee be changed to the "Multicultural and Diversity Issues" Committee. (Motion passed.)
- There was a motion to change the Policy and Procedures manual relative to the number of times an individual may appear on the program from four (4) times to two

(2) times. This does not count appearances as Chair or Discus-sant. (Motion passed.)

## Treasurer's Report Peter Dewitz

The National Reading Conference continues to be financially secure while we expand the goals of the organization. We have achieved a significant measure of security by limiting the growth in expenditures to 2% per year since 1997, increasing income by 5% per year in the same time period, thus achieving our current cash reserves of \$95,000. We have tried to keep the organization affordable to old and new members. Now that we have these reserves our newer goals include expanding the electronic presence of NRC, helping more underrepresented groups attend the National Conference, and providing research funding for our newest and our international members. To achieve these goals we will need new sources of income. In the last three years we have benefitted from the new publication series with IRA, from the donation of royalties from the new Handbooks of research and from generous contributions from many individual members. In the years to come NRC will work to maintain its regular finances so that basic costs, to you the members, do not increase, while expanding research and program efforts in new directions.

## Student Research Award

Maribeth Schmitt, Chair

The NRC Student Award Committee was pleased to have so many outstanding candidates for the 1999 Student Outstanding Research Award. The papers from this cadre of new researchers represented a cross-section of topics and research methods. There were four finalists for the award and two co-winners. The winners each received a plaque commemorating their accomplishment and an honorarium of \$500.

The finalists (and their sponsoring faculty members) were: Beth Maloch (C. K. Kinzer) from Vanderbilt University and Melissa M. Dodson (Diane Schallert) from the University of Texas at Austin.

The winners of the 1999 Student Outstanding Research Award were:

Patrick Manyak (Robert Rueda) from the University of California for his paper titled "Borderlands Literacy in a Primary Grade Immersion Class;" and

Emily M. Rodgers (Carol Lyons) from The Ohio State University for her paper titled "Language Matters: When is a Scaffold Really a Scaffold?" Congratulations to all!



Patrick Manyak



Emily Rodgers

The committee is comprised of: Patricia Alexander, Diane Allen, Camille Blachowicz, Amy Seely Flint, Dana Grisham, Douglas Hartman, Joyce Many, Michael

Meloth, Elizabeth Moje, Ray Reutzel, and Maribeth Schmitt (chair).

Students are encouraged to submit proposals for conference papers, which is the first round of review for the student award. Please contact Maribeth Schmitt, 1442 Liberal Arts and Education Building, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907 (765-494-5683), for information regarding application procedures for the award competition. In some printed materials there were errors in deadline dates. **Please note the correct dates as follows:** (a) The research must have been conducted in part after **August 1, 1998**; and (b) The deadline for submission of the paper is **September 13, 2000**.

## Albert J. Kingston Award

Lesley Morrow, Chair

Lea McGee, University of Alabama was named the 1999 Albert J. Kingston Award winner.

The Albert J. Kingston Award is given each year for outstanding contributions of service to NRC over an extended period of time up to, and including, the present. The recipient of this Award should represent the best of what NRC is about. That is, nominees should have:

- demonstrated an involvement in research by regularly presenting at NRC annual conferences;
- nurtured young scholars by involving them in NRC presentations and helping them become acquainted with NRC members;
- served the organization in many different ways including, but not limited to, serving as an officer, board member, committee chair, committee member, editor, field council representative, reviewer of conference proposals, reviewer of NRC publications, and by active participation in meetings and discussion; and
- contributed to the growth and maintenance of NRC as a viable organization.

Those NRC members who wish to nominate candidates should submit a letter (300-word maximum) explaining why their candidate deserves the Award. Letters should describe a program of distinguished service to NRC. Additionally, nominators must submit the nominee's curriculum vita that includes his/her affiliations, degrees, and service to NRC. The deadline for submission of nominees is **April 30, 2000**. Send to:

Lesley Morrow, Chair  
15 Heritage Lane  
Scotch Plains, NJ 07076  
Phone: 908-322-7555  
Fax 908-322-2623

## Edward Fry Book Award

Laura Roehler, Chair

Congratulations to David Reinking, Michael McKenna, Linda Labbo, and Ronald Kieffer, winners of the 1999 Edward Fry Book Award for their edited book, Handbook of Literacy and Technology: Transformations in a Post Typographic World.

The Edward Fry Book Award committee is seeking nominations for books about literacy research and practice authored or edited by current members of the National Reading Conference. The award carries a monetary remuneration of \$500. The criteria for the selection include: 1) advancing knowledge about literacy; 2) displaying inquiry into literacy; and 3) showing responsible intellectual risk taking. The publication date for nominated books must be from 1995 to 2000.

To nominate a book, an individual will send one copy of the publication accompanied by a letter of nomination describing why the book is nominated. The letter of nomination can be self authored or other authored. The nominations are due May 15, 2000.

Nominations are to be sent to:  
Laura Roehler  
Center for the Improvement of Early Reading Achievement  
361 Erickson Hall  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, Michigan 48824 USA

The winner(s) of the Edward Fry Book Award will be announced at the National Reading Conference Annual Meeting in 2000. The winning author(s) and book will be recognized in the NRC Yearbook.

Inquiries can be addressed to any Edward Fry Book Award committee member. Their names are as follows: JoAnn Cleland; Rose Marie Codling; Ellen Jamplone; Sherry Kragler; Linda Kucan; Laura Roehler; Mark Sadoski; and Elizabeth Sturdevant.

## Oscar S. Causey Award

Doug Hartman, Chair

Dr. Oscar S. Causey was the founder of the National Reading Conference and served many years as Chair of the Executive Committee. The Causey Award is given each year for outstanding contributions to reading research.

Dr. Rebecca Barr was the 1999 recipient of this prestigious award.

Congratulations, Becky for your scholarly impact on the field of literacy.



Rebecca Barr

The committee would like to thank Patricia Edwards for chairing this committee in 1998-99. Doug Hartman will be the committee chair for the 2000 award nominations.

The committee invites The membership to recommend worthy recipients for the 2000 Oscar S. Causey Award. Please send your recommendations on or before August 1, 2000 to:  
Doug Hartman, University of Pittsburgh, Dept. of Instruction and Learning, 4H01 Forbes Quad, Pittsburgh, PA 15260  
Phone: 412 648 7348  
Fax: 412 648 3131  
email: dkh+@pitt.edu

Visit the NRC Web site at:

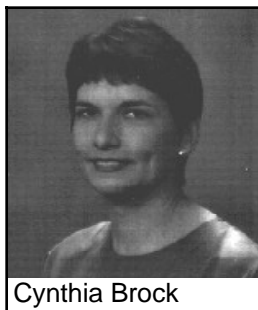
<http://www.oakland.edu/~mceneane/nrc/nrcindex.html>

## Early Career Achievement Award

Susan McMahon, Chair

NRC has recently initiated the Early Career Achievement Award to recognize members who have made significant contributions to knowledge in the field of literacy and literacy education early in their research careers. This new award fills a void within our organization because it acknowledges those beginning scholars who are already making contributions to our field. Winners receive a plaque and \$500.00. At the conference in December, the award was presented to joint winners, Dr. Cynthia Brock and Dr. Joyce Many.

Dr. Brock was a classroom teacher for nine years in both urban and rural settings prior to entering graduate school at Michigan State University in 1991 to pursue doctoral work in literacy and learning. Her research has focused primarily on literacy learning and instruction for children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds in elementary classrooms where English is the primary language of instruction.



Cynthia Brock

She recently joined the faculty at the University of Nevada-Reno after three years at Texas Women's University.

Dr. Many joined Georgia State University in 1994, after serving on the faculty at Texas A&M University and spending a year as a research fellow at Northern College in

Aberdeen, Scotland. Her research focuses on understanding students' reading and writing processes and responses to literature, as well as on the teaching of literature. The 1989 winner of the NRC Student Research award, Many has made over 80 presentations at state, national, and international conferences.



Joyce Many

The committee would like to encourage nominations for next year's award. Nominees should: (1) have recently received a Ph.D. (within the last 10 years), (2) have been a member of NRC for a minimum of 3 years, (3) have made a significant contribution to the field through the publication of substantial, significant, original research that has generated new knowledge, and (4) demonstrate promise to be a leader in the conduct and promotion of research. When submitting such a nomination, please include a letter explaining why the nominee deserves this recognition and a recent copy of the nominee's curriculum vitae. Send all nominations to:

Dr. Susan McMahon  
National-Louis University  
200 S. Naperville Rd.  
Wheaton, IL 60187.

## NRC 2000 Nominations

### For Vice-President

Tom Bean, *University of Nevada-Las Vegas*  
Lee Gunderson, *University of British Columbia*

### For Board

Riitta Liisa Korkeamaki, *University of Oulu*  
John O'Flahavan, *University of Maryland*  
Annemarie Palincsar, *University of Michigan*  
Vicki Purcell-Gates, *Michigan State University*  
Steve Stahl, *University of Georgia*  
Arlette Willis, *University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana*

## Next Issue

Send articles and announcements for the Fall, 2000 NRC newsletter to:

Cynthia Brock  
University of Nevada Reno  
Dept. of C & I  
Mail Stop 282  
Reno, NV 89557  
Phone: 775-784-4961 ext. 2000  
Fax: 775-327-5220  
email: cbrock@unr.edu

OR

Mary S. Rozendal  
University at Buffalo-SUNY  
Department of Learning & Instruct.  
505 Baldy Hall  
Buffalo, NY 14260  
Phone: 716-645-5011  
Fax: 716-645-3161  
email: mrozen@buffalo.edu

### NEW TO THE NRC WEBSITE: NRC Committee Contact Information

Our eEditor, John McEneaney, has reorganized the Governance section of the NRC Web site. Each committee is listed with contact information for: committee chair, board liaison, and committee members. Visit the site at: <http://www.oakland.edu/~mceneane/nrc/nrcindex.html>.

## Field Council

Dana Grisham, Co-Chair

As Co-Chair of the Field Council, I'd like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to outgoing Co-Chair, Brenda Shearer, for her outstanding leadership of the Field Council. Most of you know that Brenda also established the NRC Mentorship Project, a network of support for emerging researchers and minority scholars. This list, and the complete (we hope) listing of everyone on the Field Council is now on-line at the NRC Web site. Thanks, Brenda!

I'm also very proud to announce that Deborah Tidwell, University of Northern Iowa, is the incoming Co-Chair of the Field Council. Our tenures will overlap to provide continuity of leadership.

David Lund, University of Southern Utah, has agreed to assume leadership for the NRC Mentorship Project, and is hard at work updating the list of mentors for the NRC Web site. Congratulations and thanks to David for all his hard work.

Welcome also to all the new Field Council members. The Field Council has three charges:

- 1) to serve as advisory council to the NRC President and Board of Directors regarding the work of the Nation Reading Conference.
- 2) To contact each year the faculty at colleges and universities within their assigned areas to encourage colleges and universities to acquire, renew, or maintain NRC publications subscriptions (Yearbook and Journal of Literacy Research). These requests must come from faculty within colleges and universities rather than from NRC or its representatives.
- 3) To arrange cosponsored meetings at state and regional meetings of other literacy organizations with the understanding that NRC does not guarantee program slots at the annual NRC meeting for cosponsoring organizations.

Cosponsoring organizations are invited to submit program proposals for consideration under the regulations in the NRC Call for Proposals.

As we move toward spring, Field Council Regional Representatives will be reminding the Field Reps to meet the second charge (above). It is imperative that we maintain our publications' presence at university and college libraries!

Two requirements are new this year! First, all Field Council Representatives MUST belong to the NRC Listserv in order to get announcements and stay in touch electronically with Regional Representatives and the Co-Chairs. Second, to obtain information such as sample letters, Field Representatives need to access these via the NRC Web site (<http://www.oakland.edu/~mceneane/nrc/nrcindex.html>). I look forward to seeing all of you in December!

## Technology Committee

Michael Kamil, Chair

The Technology Committee is moving ahead in increasing the capacity of NRC to deliver more efficient services using a wide range of technologies. Several developments will assist us in this matter. First, John McEneaney has been appointed eEditor. The Board created the position and appointed John to fill it for the term of three years. An Associate eEditor will be appointed, based on a search next year. John will be responsible for developing and coordinating content on the NRC web site.

A second set of initiatives is designed to make many of the NRC publications available in electronic formats. The NRC Conference Program was available on the web

site this year and will be available next year as well. Beginning with the Spring, 2000 edition, the newsletter will be available both in the hardcopy format being mailed to the members and also in electronic format on the NRC web site. Copies will be archived on the NRC web site. The Technology Committee is working with the Publications Committee to develop plans for other NRC publications. In addition, the various Style Sheets and calls for Papers and Proposals will continue to be posted on the web site.

A third effort by the Technology Committee will be to develop a way that abstracts of conference presentations and pre-conference papers can be posted on the web site. To support this effort, as well as to help NRC members more generally, the Technology Committee is generating a series of FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions) that will be posted on the web site. These will cover a wide range of topics as a reference for those new to technological matters or as a refresher for more experienced individuals. If you have suggestions for topics that should be covered, please send them to Michael L. Kamil ([mkamil@leland.stanford.edu](mailto:mkamil@leland.stanford.edu)).

Finally, we will be exploring the possibility of adding another email list--for announcements only. The Technology Committee will be exploring alternative forms of communication, including going to a web-based discussion format rather than an email-based format. We will be polling the membership shortly.

If there are interested persons who want to get involved and participate in projects with the Technology Committee, please contact Michael Kamil ([mkamil@leland.stanford.edu](mailto:mkamil@leland.stanford.edu)).

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| <p><b>NRC 50th Annual Meeting</b><br/> <b>Doubletree Resort</b><br/> <b>Scottsdale, AZ</b><br/> <b>November 29-December 2, 2000</b><br/> <b>PROPOSALS DUE FEBRUARY 15TH</b></p> |
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## Search for New JLR Editors

Susan B. Neuman, Chair

NRC invites its members to apply for Editor (s) of **The Journal of Literacy Research** for a three-year term with possible renewal for a second three-year term. We hope that an NRC member or team of members (if more than one person shared the editorial duties, one person should be named Editor with the other (s) being named as Associate Editor (s), or they may be designated Co-editors) will step forward to carry on the outstanding editorial work of the previous editorship who have continued to evolve JLR into a critical resource for literacy researchers.

In addition to being an active NRC member and professional in the field of literacy, the editor (s) should have editorial experience, as well as established and on-going programs of research and publication. The editors will be expected to provide leadership with JLR-related activities,

including: creating/maintaining a review board, develop policies and procedures for manuscript review, meet publication deadlines, and plan sessions and events at NRC meetings.

NRC supports a 12-month assistantship, and a stipend funded annually for the duration of the editors' appointment. Editorial activity will begin in March 2001 for volume 34.1. Applications should be received no later than **August 1, 2000**. Applications and inquiries should be directed to:

Susan B. Neuman  
NRC Publications Committee  
Temple University  
437 Ritter Hall  
Philadelphia, PA. 19122  
215 204-4982

Interested applicants should submit a proposal that includes a comprehensive statement of editorial policy that addresses the following:

- a. Qualifications and respective responsibilities and contributions of the individual applicants
  - b. Statement of editorial philosophy, which includes personal views/beliefs regarding the nature of inquiry and scholarship in literacy, and goals/structure for the journal.
  - c. Logistics of editorial operations, including a discussion of the selection/composition of the editorial review board, and manuscript solicitation and review.
  - d. Letters of institutional support describing the specifics of release time for the editors, office space, equipment, staff support, etc.
  - e. Three letters of reference
  - f. Copies of vitae from each applicant
- The Publications Committee will review applications and make a recommendation to the Board of Directors for their approval during the 2000 Annual Conference. The President will make the final appointment decision, and applicants will be notified of the decision shortly after the fall Board meeting.