



Literacy & Social Responsibility Spring 2008 Newsletter

International Reading Association
Literacy & Social Responsibility Special Interest Group

ALL CONFEREES WELCOME

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

9:00-11:45 AM

Georgia World Congress Center B 311

Program Chair

Melanie Cohen Goodman, Chestnut Hill College, Philadelphia

Opening Keynote

Dixie Goswami

Young People, New Literacies, and Civic Engagement

Dixie Goswami has done much work with her Literacy and Community Service Networks and Breadloaf Online Communities, both well-established community writing groups whose ideas and practices are radical and rigorous, and whose writing for the public is powerful and significant. Interestingly, the focus of Dixie's extensive work complements the IRAs 2008 convention theme, "Engaging Learners in Literacy."

Closing Keynote

Alma Flor Ada and Isabel Campoy

Giving Voice to Teachers

For many years, Alma Flor Ada and Isabel Campoy encouraged teachers to give voice to their life experiences. Campoy and Ada have developed simple structures to scaffold the sharing of meaningful thoughts. In this presentation they will share the principles behind their work and the results of the process, and they will invite participants to share in the joy of authorship through a creative activity.

Special Note

Alma and Isabel will share information about the new LSR SIG award they are creating for exemplary programs.

Schedule

Welcome: Melanie Cohen Goodman, LSR Program Chair

Opening Keynote: Dixie Goswami

Roundtable Sessions

Closing Keynote: Alma Flor Ada and Isabel Campoy

Closing Comments: Denise Stuart, LSR President

Brief Business Meeting
Literacy & Social Responsibility SIG
Roundtable Sessions

Nurturing Conversations in Professional Learning Communities

Dr. Henry C. Amoroso, Jr., Professor of Education, *Nancy Hutton*, Lecturer, and *Jacqueline Grenier*, Literacy Coach, University of Southern Maine, Gorham, will describe initiatives at their university to improve the professional development of literacy specialists through informal conversation, caring behavior, a strong concept of social responsibility, and critical thinking. The first deals with the Summer Reading Clinic; the second, a Critical Friends network for graduates of the program.

Letras y Arte: Literacy, Art, and Service Engage Teacher Candidates and Children Learning English

Dr. Joan Armon and *Tony Ortega*, Regis University, Denver. Professors Armon and Ortega demonstrate writing and print-making with teacher candidates teaching children from a Latino community in the creation of handmade books. Teacher candidates provide writing and art instruction while children improve writing skills. Print-making stimulates interest in academic learning and results in vibrant books children and teacher candidates present to families at a culminating celebration.

Waking Up Our Social Responsibility: Preservice Teachers and High School Students Collaborate on Issues Worth Fighting For

Dr. Lori Czop Assaf, Texas State University, San Marcos, and *Jessica Mickish*, Kofa High School, Yuma, AZ. Jessica Mickish considers Social Responsibility in light of the experiences of preservice teachers in the high school. The presenters will share insights and discoveries from a year-long online collaborative project aimed at helping preservice teachers and high school students be-

come aware of and take action on a particular social issue.

Authors Focus on Historical Social Issues

Ernie Bond, *John McCutcheon*, *Philip Dray*, Salisbury University/Peachtree Publishers. Facilitator Dr. Ernie Bond hosts two authors – John McCutcheon and Philip Dray – whose recent publications focus on historical social issues. McCutcheon, in *Christmas in the Trenches*, writes about a World War I soldier’s poignant realization about individuals in war settings. Dray’s book is titled *Yours for Justice, Ida B. Wells: The Daring Life of a Crusading Journalist*.

Homegrown Heroes & Local Folks: Interviewing, Oral Histories, & Literacy Narratives

Dr. Margaret-Mary Sulentic Dowell, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, will focus on how educators can guide students’ personal exploration of American Civil Rights through research, literature, oral histories, and writing about homegrown events and especially local individuals who participated in the movement. Clyde Kennard of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, was one such hero whom students “discovered” through inquiry learning.

Connecting Creative Arts With Reading

Dr. Melanie Cohen Goodman, Chestnut Hill College, Philadelphia. Illuminating the theme “Engaging Learners in Literacy,” Goodman discusses the importance of connecting the creative arts with reading. An examination of the ease with which contemporary adolescent literature in the classroom lends itself to opportunities for creative expression is unlimited. A photographic journal of artifacts generated by future reading teachers will be shared with the audience along with reflective journals that speak to the value of such opportunity.

Stress and Urban College Students

Virginia Howard and *James Fox* observe conditions of stress on the urban college student.

Critical Reading: Boosting Literacy and Learning Through Social Action

Dr. Rebecca Kaminski, Upstate Writing Project, Clemson University, Greenville, SC, *Kris Turner*, HL Hanna High School, Greer, SC, *Dawn Hawkins*, Tigerville Elementary School, Greer, SC, and *Shasta Looper*, Greer, SC. The speakers will illuminate critical reading and social action as they explore ways to engage students in “real world” problem-solving activities that will help them gain voice, authority, and passion in their reading and writing. The presenters will share discussion protocols and projects related to their utilization of a new text, *Writing for a Change: Boosting Literacy and Learning Through Social Action*.

Improving the Culture of an Inner City Classroom Through Children's Literature

Jason Mallonee, Antioch University, Los Angeles. Mallonee’s action research project documents the evolution in classroom culture that occurred when reading and responding to children’s literature with developmentally appropriate social and moral problems. At an inner city school in Southern California, kindergarten students connected the themes of the stories to personal experiences and applied them to classroom interactions.

Who “Owns” Social Justice?

Dr. Howard Miller, Mercy College, Long Island City, NY, and *Martin Woodard*. The speakers will address social justice, sharing their research and engaging participants in a discussion of the question posed in the session title: Who Owns Social Justice? Has it become the domain of the upper middle class? Is it a one-way street: giver to recipi-

ent? What are the socio-psychological and literacy learning implications?

Voices Reading: Using Engaging Literature to Teach Character Development and Literacy Acquisition

Teresa Morrison, Tomball, TX, will demonstrate *Zaner-Bloser’s* new core reading and character development program, *Voices Reading K-6*. Participants will learn how to combine best practices in reading comprehension and vocabulary with social skill and character development. Read-alouds encourage active student responses to compelling social issues, building self-esteem and improving literacy.

Reading Influences Bullying Legislation

Judith P. Pauley, Hiatt Middle School, and *Carolyn E. Dallinger*, J.D., M.S.W., will share their research on at-risk students who are learning to read from a variety of nonfiction and fiction texts and then using this knowledge to create presentations on the bullying legislation.

Connecting to Community: Children's Books That Inspire Awareness and Action

Ruth Oswald, *Francis Broadway*, and *Denise Stuart*, University of Akron, OH. Oswald, Broadway, and Stuart will share insight with regard to how children’s literature, engaging in its storytelling, can inspire students to think deeply about issues and act on these. Titles of books and activity ideas used to spark students’ critical thinking and action in making connections to community will be shared.

Literacy & Social Responsibility SIG

2006–2010 Officers

President* (06, 07, 08)	Denise Stuart
Past President**	J. Cynthia McDermott
Program Chair* (07–08)	Melanie Cohen Goodman
Program Chair (Phoenix 09)	Melanie Cohen Goodman
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Social Event Coordinator (08)	Isabel Campoy & Alma Flor Ada
Chair, Literature of Social Justice	Patricia Dean
Chair, Research	Ann Kennedy

* Program Chair rotates into position of President

** Past President rotates onto Board

Board Members

Alma Flor Ada, Emeritus, University of San Francisco
Eleanor Black Eskey, California State University, LA
Isabel Campoy, Author and Speaker
Dolores Fisette, Ukiah Unified School District
Adria Klein, St. Mary's College
Greta Nagel, California State University, Long Beach
Tim Rasinski, Kent State University
Marsha Thicksten, California State University, LB

*To become active in the LSR SIG, please contact
Melanie Cohen Goodman at goodmanm@chc.edu.*

2009 IRA • 2 Great Options!

IRA West: Phoenix, February 21-25

IRA North Central: Minneapolis, May 3-7

The LSR SIG will meet at both IRA Conventions in 2009! The program is already set for the Phoenix meeting. We are seeking proposals to present at the North Central meeting in Minneapolis. Please complete the proposal form (attached or on-

line at the LSR Web site) and send to the LSR SIG Program Chairperson Patricia Dean at pkdean@salisbury.edu or Patricia Dean, 803 Bradford Court, Salisbury, MD 21804. **Proposals are due May 28, 2008.**

Literacy & Social Responsibility Mission Statement

The Literacy & Social Responsibility Special Interest Group works to study, understand, and promote high-quality programs that foster community service, participatory citizenship, social responsibility, appreciation for diversity, environmental stewardship, and caring behavior that occurs within the development of literacy and oral communication.

The Literacy & Social Responsibility SIG provides a forum for educators, authors, researchers, and the public to present their insights and to interact with others who share similar concerns at both our annual meeting at the IRA convention as well as online on our Web site and through our eJournal.

LSR Web Site www.csulb.edu/misc/l-sr

All those interested in the IRA Literacy & Social Responsibility SIG are invited to visit our Web site to learn more about the organization. Send information for the Web site in electronic format to Webmanager Kaye West at kwest@csulb.edu.

LSR eJournal

This juried eJournal provides a forum for educators, authors, researchers, and the public to describe practices that foster literacy development and social responsibility in students of all ages. If you have a manuscript to submit or wish to serve as a peer reviewer, please contact editor Rebecca Kaminski at krebccc@clemsun.edu. Complete submission guidelines are available on the LSR Web site.

IRA Membership is required to belong to
IRA Special Interest Groups. **Remember
to renew your IRA membership!**
www.reading.org

CALL FOR PRESENTATION PROPOSALS
54th Annual IRA Convention—North Central, Minneapolis, Minnesota (May 3–7, 2009)

Literacy & Social Responsibility SIG
Wednesday, May 6, 2009, 2:00–4:45 p.m.

Would you like to attend IRA and present at next year's conference? IRAs Literacy & Social Responsibility Special Interest Group (SIG) invites you to complete this form if you would like to present a project which successfully integrates or relates literacy and social responsibility.

Please Note:

SIG Purpose: *To study, understand, and promote high-quality programs which foster community service, participatory citizenship, social responsibility, appreciation for diversity, environmental stewardship, and caring behavior that occurs within the development of literacy across the curriculum.* Areas of focus include, but are not limited to:

Classroom Communities of Inquiry Literacy & Character Education Language Arts & the Natural World Literacy & Service Learning Authentic Contexts for Language Arts Community-Based Writing	Fostering Social, Emotional, & Academic Growth Literacy & Civic/Social/Environmental Engagement Reading, Writing, Critical Thinking, and Citizenship Literacy & Respecting Diverse Cultures Interactive Strategies for Optimizing Motivation & Literacy Closing the Gap for At-Risk Students
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Literacy & Social Responsibility SIG Session, Wednesday, May 6, 2009, 2:00–4:45 p.m., Minneapolis, MN

Name of Speaker(s) _____

Affiliation _____

Mailing Address of Contact Presenter _____

W. Phone _____ H. Phone _____ E-mail _____

Title of Presentation _____

Desired Time (check one): _____ 15 minutes _____ 30 minutes

Brief Description of Session (50 words or less)

Please return by May 28, 2008, to LSR SIG Program Chair, Patricia Dean, at pkdean@salisbury.edu or Patricia Dean, 803 Bradford Court, Salisbury, MD 21804. Proposal form is available at the LSR SIG Web site: www.csulb.edu/misc/l-sr/ira_programs/programs.html