Assembly for Advisers of Student Publications/Journalism Education Association (AASP/JEA)

Journalism Education Association (http://www.jea.org/), the Assembly for Advisers of Student Publications, supports free and responsible scholastic journalism by providing resources and educational opportunities, by promoting professionalism, by encouraging and rewarding student excellence and teacher achievement, and by fostering an atmosphere that encompasses diversity yet builds unity.

The Journalism Education Association has had a busy year, with a series of changes already underway and more in the works.

JEA is in the process of rolling out a program featuring 14 educational initiative areas, intended to bolster the importance of journalism education in the 21st century. A chairperson was appointed for each of the areas, which include News Literacy, News Gathering, Writing, Editing, Photojournalism, Law and Ethics, Design, Leadership and Team Building, Entrepreneurship, Multimedia Broadcast, and Web. The chairs will be developing learning outcomes, lesson plans and activities, applicability to Common Core State Standards and Partnership for 21st Century Skills, and assessments and evaluation guides. The initiative will be unveiled at the April 2014 spring convention in San Diego in April.

A Request for Proposal committee was created to explore options for JEA headquarters locations. In August, three finalists were named: Colorado State University, Kansas State University (the current location), and Vanderbilt University. Committee members will be visiting the finalists over the next few weeks to gather further information. The committee is expected to deliver a motion proposal to the board prior to the fall convention scheduled for November; at the convention the board will vote on a site.

At the Spring Convention in San Francisco, a restructuring of the board was voted on and announced. The intent is to streamline the board, essentially creating nine voting members. Two regional directors, elected by the members and representing the east and west regions of the U.S., will replace the six regional directors that previously served. A Professional Support Director will chair the aforementioned educational initiatives and a Professional Outreach Director will be in charge of the liaisons for the State Press Associations, Mentoring, and NCTE.

Other highlights:

For the first time, JEA has plans to fund a Broadcast Adviser of the Year Award.

A Conflict of Interest policy has been enacted to help ensure that members of the board and the staff are operating with JEA’s best interests in mind.

The spring convention in San Francisco was attended by approximately 4,100 people.

Brian Wilson, Liaison Officer
Assembly for Expanded Perspectives on Learning (AEPL)

The purposes of this assembly ([http://aepl.org/](http://aepl.org/)) are to explore expanded perspectives on learning and their implications for and applications to English and language arts education; to encourage the development of research and classroom practices that focus on expanded conceptions of learning; to encourage articles, publications, and other communications on the subject; to present programs and projects on this subject; to provide an open forum for theorists, researchers, and practitioners to exchange ideas on the subject; and to integrate the efforts of those in various disciplines who have a common interest in the subject. Sample topics of interest are aesthetics, creativity, holistic learning, humanistic and transpersonal psychology, imagery, intuition, Jungian psychology, kinesthetic knowledge, learning styles, meditation, Rogerian theory, and visualization.

As consistent with our bylaws, Board elections were held in Fall 2012, which ushered in a new Board for the next three year cycle. In addition to the Co chairs named above, the Board now consists of Sharon Marshall, Associate Chair, Bruce Novak, Treasurer, Yvonne Siu-Runyon, Secretary, Laurence Musgrove, immediate past Chair (1 year only), and Christy Wenger, member at large. The Board also includes our two journal editors (see below).

AEPL enjoyed a very successful year. We held our annual conference in June at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park, CO. The conference title was “The Untutored Tongue: Reimagining the Connection between Speaking and Writing.” The conference was inspired by our keynote speaker, Peter Elbow’s, most recent book, Vernacular Eloquence. The conference began with an opening plenary conducted by the co-Chairs (who were also the conference organizers), in which participants were asked to consider the shifting boundaries between writing and speaking in language. Peter Elbow in his keynote spoke on the power that spoken language has to improve our writing. Concurrent sessions focused on these and other issues, perhaps most notably the use of the burgeoning field of disability studies to problematize the historic dichotomy between speaking and writing.

We are very excited about next year’s conference, which will be held for the first time outside of the US in Sudbury, Ontario, June 25-28, 2014. Conference organizers are David and Jan Buley, and the conference theme will be, ”The Eloquence of the Landscapes: Listening and Responding to the Languages of Place.”

The *Journal for the Assembly for Expanded Perspectives on Learning* editors, Joonna Trapp and Brad Peters, turned out another fine journal issue (v. 18) featuring such articles as “Writing and Time, Time and the Essay” by Doug Hesse and “Outside of the Box and onto a Dusty Trail” by Richard Leo Enos. *JAEPL* is in the process of moving online to improve access to the journal. Many of our past issues are available in archive format through the TRACE website at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. In July 2013, The journal had 257 full-text downloads and 62 new submissions posted. The most popular papers were:

- Re-Visioning Psychology in the Writing Class (47 downloads)  
  [http://trace.tennessee.edu/jaepl/vol2/iss1/11](http://trace.tennessee.edu/jaepl/vol2/iss1/11)

- Break Point: The Challenges of Teaching Multicultural Education Courses (23 downloads)  
  [http://trace.tennessee.edu/jaepl/vol2/iss1/8](http://trace.tennessee.edu/jaepl/vol2/iss1/8)

- Inventing Metaphors to Understand the Genre of Poetry (19 downloads)  
  [http://trace.tennessee.edu/jaepl/vol6/iss1/7](http://trace.tennessee.edu/jaepl/vol6/iss1/7)

*JAEPL* now holds 108 records, which have been downloaded a total of 451 times. Volume 19 is scheduled to be published in Winter 2014.

*Irene Papoulis and Wendy Ryden, Co Chairs*
Assembly for National Board Certified Teachers (ANBCT)

The purpose of the assembly is to promote National Board Certification as a hallmark of effective, professional English language arts instruction; to harness the resources and expertise inherent in a group of National Board Certified Teachers to benefit students, teachers, and schools; to assist and mentor educators in achieving certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS); to share information about Certification renewal requirements and ongoing changes in the National Board Certification process; to provide a forum for National Board Certified Teachers and those committed to standards set by the NBPTS; to organize and/or contribute to professional development opportunities, reinforcing the core propositions and standards established by the NBPTS; to celebrate the achievements of National Board Certified Teachers to the National Council of Teachers of English and the field of English language arts education.

No report submitted.

????, Chair
Assembly for Research (NCTEAR)

The purposes of this assembly (http://nctear.org/) are to promote inquiry into literacy practices and to consider continually what it means to engage in that inquiry; to provide opportunities for researchers in different sites and from different perspectives to come together to learn from one another; to encourage greater participation in research by teachers from all levels of schooling; to promote the growth of research and researchers through the forum provided by the Assembly for Research; to support the development of early-career researchers through assembly activities; and to provide a democratic body that strives to incorporate research activities into the broader goals and practices of NCTE. Customarily, the Assembly for Research sponsors a mid-winter conference, as well as a one-day NCTE post-convention workshop in November. Members receive a newsletter.

NCTEAR publishes a newsletter twice a year which features information about the work of the assembly, its members as well as introducing new features that promote research and scholarship. We invite the larger NCTE community to join the Assembly for Research in our continual efforts to broaden our membership as well as the work that is currently being done.

The Ohio State University (OSU) hosted the 2013 annual Midwinter Conference from February 15-17, 2013 in Columbus, OH. Co-chairs for the conference were Laurie Katz & Mindi Rhoades from OSU. Joint planning and collaboration for the conference involved the planning committee of the Hip-Hop Literacies Conference (Chair: Elaine Richardson) that overlapped with the NCTEAR conference. For example, the beginning of the NCTEAR conference began with a keynote speaker, Chris Emdim (Teachers College), that was also part of the Hip-Hop Literacies conference.

A goal of the conference was to have a good mix of doctoral students and faculty in attendance throughout the conference. One of the ways this was addressed was in the organization of the NCTEAR 2013 conference that focused on “conversational circles” with invited researchers to lead these conversations in New Directions for Theorizing and Researching:

a) **Hip Hop and Literacy (ies)**, James Braxton Peterson-Lehigh Univ., Ruth Nicole Brown-Univ. of Illinois, & Aisha Durham-Univ. of South Florida; K.C. Nat Turner-UMASS, Elaine Richardson-OSU (facilitator)

b) **Literacy and Community(ies)** with David Kirkland-Michigan State Univ., Eva Lam-, Northwestern Univ., Cynthia Lewis-Univ. of Minnesota, Ayanna Brown-Elmhurst College (facilitator)

c) **Early Childhood and Literacy(ies)** with Illiana Reyes-Univ. of Arizona; Vivian Gadsen-UPENN; Debbie Rowe-Vanderbilt Univ. Karen Wohlwend-Indiana Univ & Laurie Katz-OSU (facilitator);

d) **The Arts and Literacy(ies)** with Patty Bode-Ohio State; Vittoria Daiello-Univ. of Cincinnati, Lalitha Vasudevan (Teachers College), Debbie Smith-Shank-OSU; Mindi Rhoades - OSU (facilitator)

In addition to these conversation circles there were a series of concurrent sessions comprised of symposia, individual paper panels and, work-in-progress roundtables. There were many work-in-progress submissions. Faculty facilitated these work-in-progress roundtables. The presenters at these roundtables found it very helpful to obtain further directions for their research. A graduate student social with a book give-away was held the evening of Saturday, February 16th.

Attendees carried topics from the conversational circles into many other parts of the conference. Two post conference workshops were held on the afternoon of February 17th: 1) “An Introduction to Discourse Analysis in the Study of Language and Literacy in Educational Settings – A Microethnographic Approach” and 2) “Introducing Dramatic Pedagogy into your Language & Literacy Teacher Education Classes.” There were about 150 attendees at the conference including organizers and invited speakers. Support for the conference came from the Department School of Teaching & Learning and the Office of Technology and Enhanced Learning both in OSU’s College of Education and Human Ecology. The conference committee designed a website for the conference (http://nctear2013.ehe.osu.edu). In the past NCTEAR has provided scholarships to attract students of color to present at the conference. This year the NCTEAR conference planning committee collaborated with Valerie Kinloch, Director of Cultivating New Voices Among Scholars of Color, to distribute information about the scholarships. Unfortunately, this information was distributed too late for group participants to readjust their
schedules to effectively use all the scholarship funds allotted. The 2014 conference will be held from January 10-12th and chaired by Ayanna Brown at Elmhurst College in Elmhurst, Illinois.

Recommendations for the conference:

• Continue to provide a context where there will be a mix of doctoral students and faculty who continually attend the NCTEAR conferences
• Provide scholarships for scholars of color to present at the NCTEAR conference by distributing information to NCTE’s Cultivating New Voices Among Scholars of Color early enough to submit proposals

Laurie Katz and Mindi Rhoades, Co-Chairs
Assembly for State Coordinators of English Language Arts (ASCELA)

The purposes of this assembly are to promote resource and information sharing among all individuals who have an affiliation or interest related to English language arts with state departments of education; to form liaisons with organizations and individuals within and outside the Nation Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) who share the interests of ASCELA; and to promote the quality of instruction in English at all levels.

ASCELA is in the process of reorganizing and rebuilding a membership base.

*Morgan Dunton, Chair*
Assembly for the Teaching of English Grammar (ATEG)

The purposes of this assembly are to improve the teaching of grammar at all levels, from elementary school through college; to promote communication and cooperation among teachers, researchers, administrators, and others interested in the teaching of grammar; to provide an open forum in which advocates of all grammar theories, representing the broad spectrum of views of grammar and its teaching, can interact. We maintain our website, www.ateg.org as a free resource.

The Assembly held its annual conference this year hosted at Prince George’s County Community College in Largo, Maryland. This is the third consecutive year in which this has been the venue for our conference. This year’s theme was “Teachable Moments.” Amy Benjamin delivered the keynote address, which focused on the Standards of the Common Core that explicitly and implicitly address grammar. There were six formal presentations and one round-robin series of workshops that address K-12 needs. We were very excited this year to welcome 100 teachers at K-12 levels from the Prince George’s County Public Schools. These teachers were granted 10 Professional Development hours for their participation.

Because of the overwhelmingly positive response from the teachers who attended the conference/workshop, we hope to offer it again to Prince George’s Public School teachers again next summer (2014). We also intend to follow through with the schools that had teachers attend, in the hope that they will call upon local ATEG members to open the doors of grammar instruction based on linguistic principles, rather than workbook-type exercises.

ATEG produced two Journals this year, distributed by postal mail to our members.

Amy Benjamin, Chair
The Assembly on American Literature (AAL) continues to provide an intellectual and pedagogical meeting ground for NCTE members who share a common interest in teaching, research, or scholarship on American authors’ works. AAL seeks to serve the NCTE community by linking teachers with the rich resources of American Literature and offering new approaches to teaching that literature designed to meet the needs of today’s educators.

In addition to holding an open business meeting at the NCTE 2012 Convention in Las Vegas, AAL provided ways for educators to connect around the study and teaching of American Literature by sponsoring two American Literature-focused sessions at the Convention and through continued publication of Notes on American Literature.

During the Convention, AAL combined its annual business meeting with a substantive Special Interest Group session. At the meeting, the Chair reported on the AAL’s activities in preparing Convention proposals and Treasurer/Editor Mabel Khawaja reported on the progress of Notes on American Literature. Executive Committee members shared ideas for the Assembly with session participants and encouraged those interested in teaching American Literature to become members. During the Convention, AAL recruited presenter Teresita Hunt to become part of the Executive Committee to fill the Secretary vacancy.

During the Convention, AAL-sponsored two sessions designed to spark conversations about teaching American literary non-fiction and contemporary American plays.

The AAL SIG session for 2012 was designed to respond to AAL and NCTE members’ special interest in exploring new approaches to teaching non-fiction in light of the Common Core standards. The session, “American Rhetoric: Exploring Classic and Contemporary American Literary Nonfiction,” was well attended. The session produced lively discussion among roundtable participants focused on four different works of non-fiction and among the full group about the role of literary non-fiction in the English curriculum more generally.

The second AAL-sponsored session was entitled “American Drama and the Tenacity of the Human Spirit.” Following dynamic presentations on teaching a range of contemporary plays, participants shared strategies and ideas for teaching American Drama.

On the publication front, the editorial board of Notes on American Literature is currently engaged in the final peer review process of articles to be included in this year's edition, which is a special issue focusing on "Constructing Connections between Canonical and Contemporary Authors." All AAL members will receive a copy of the e-journal prior to the 2013 Convention. Print copies may be purchased by request and a limited number will be available at the annual convention for contributors and interested members.

Tracey Hughes, Chair
Assembly on Computers in English (ACE)

The purposes of this assembly are to promote communication and cooperation among all individuals who have a special interest in computers and the English language arts; to present programs and special projects on this subject; to promote an increase in the number of articles and publications devoted to it; to encourage the responsible development of computer software in the language arts; and to integrate the efforts of those with an interest in this subject.

What major actions or projects have been completed by your group since July 1, 2012?

The NCTE Assembly for Computers in English (ACE) offered a workshop during the 2012 Annual Convention in Las Vegas. The workshop introduced the participants to today’s information and communication technologies, digital storytelling and video or presentation composing tools, social bookmarking, cultural artifacts, and online research services, and more. Special focus was on linking these literacies and genres with existing classroom objectives and practices. Recommended resources that included tutorials and materials for supporting the use of these applications were shared with participants on the ACE Connected Community website. The workshop was a success.

What projects, initiatives, or studies are “in progress” at this time?

ACE members are planning the workshop for the 2013 Annual Conference to be held in Boston. The assembly has established an online community with the current and future members. ACE has also attracted a large number of consultants for this year’s workshop and the assembly will continue its efforts to increase ACE membership at large.

For more information, visit the ACE Connected Community webpage at http://ncte.connectedcommunity.org/ace/Home

Ewa McGrail, Chair
Gail Desler, Treasurer
Assembly on Literature for Adolescents (ALAN)

The Assembly on Literature for Adolescents is an independent assembly of NCTE. Founded in November 1973, ALAN is comprised of educators, authors, librarians, publishers, teacher-educators and their students, and others interested in young adult literature. ALAN holds its annual meetings during the NCTE Annual Convention in November and also publishes three issues yearly of The ALAN Review. Almost from its inception, ALAN has given the ALAN Award to honor those who have made outstanding contributions to the field; recipients include publishers, authors, librarians, scholars, editors, and servants to the organization. The ALAN Foundation Grants, active since 1984, provide funding (up to $1,500) for research in young adult literature been. In 2000, ALAN created the Hipple Award in honor of longtime Executive Secretary Ted Hipple; recipients demonstrate dedicated service to the organization. Gallo Grants, established in 2003 by ALAN Award and Hipple Award recipient Don Gallo, selects two new teachers (in their first five years of teaching) to get involved with young adult literature by attending the ALAN workshop. The Nilsen-Donelson Award, to honor the best article in THE ALAN REVIEW, was initiated in 2011. This year marks the 40th birthday of ALAN.

What major actions or projects have been completed by your group since July 1, 2010?

ALAN Workshop

The 2012 ALAN Workshop, organized by President cj Bott, was held in Las Vegas on the Monday and Tuesday after the NCTE conference with approximately 500 in attendance. Teri Lesesne delivered the keynote address on ALAN’s theme: WE HAVE BOOKS FOR EVERYONE. Speakers included the following YA authors: Joan Bauer, Shannon Hale, Benjamin Saenz, David Lubar, Maggie Stiefvater, and many more. Additionally, the workshop offered a dozen educator breakout sessions and 10 author breakout sessions over the two days. A reception for all attendees, sponsored by the publishers, was held Sunday evening.

Actions/Projects

1. Online voting was implemented in 2013.
2. ALAN also created a new web community using a wiki (http://www.alan-ya.org/) ALAN has a new webmaster in Jon Ostenson.
3. The revised Policies and Procedures Manual was completed
4. The ALAN Executive Committee meets monthly via Skype to discuss matters of the assembly
5. The Presidents’ Advisory Council (PAC) has elected a new chair, Chris Crowe, to serve until 2013. Patricia Kelly has been appointed to serve as representative until 2013. PAC Members were honored at the ALAN Breakfast in Las Vegas with more than 20 past presidents in attendance.
6. The Amelia Elizabeth Walden Award was announced. The award will be given at the workshop.
7. The ALAN Newsletter now includes a column on censorship.
8. A special double issue of our journal was produced to celebrate the 40th anniversary.
9. The Hipple Service Award recipient is Rick Williams.
10. The ALAN Award will be given to Judy Blume.

What projects, initiatives, or studies are “in progress” at this time?

The search for a new editor or editors for our journal is underway. Don Gallo and Pat Kelly are chairing the committee.

Teri Lesesne, Executive Director
Assembly on the Literature and Culture of Appalachia (ALCA)

The purpose of ALCA is to promote communication and cooperation among all individuals who have a special interest in teaching and studying Appalachian literature and culture. The Assembly presents programs and special projects on this subject; encourages the development of research, experimentation, and investigation of effective teaching and scholarship in Appalachian literature and culture; promotes the writing of articles and publications devoted to Appalachian literature and culture; and integrates the efforts of those with an interest in the subject. Members receive a copy of its journal, ALCA-Lines, published annually and featuring a blend of creative and scholarly writing.

In 2012, ALCA had an active presence at NCTE’s 102\textsuperscript{ND} Annual Fall Convention in fabulous Las Vegas, Nevada, sponsoring two sessions under the convention theme of “Dream, Connect, Ignite.” The first was a panel discussion entitled, “Appalachian Poets: Dreamers Grounded in Place,” that presented outstanding regional poets and demonstrated techniques that language arts teachers can replicate in their classrooms to help students increase their understanding and creative experience. Among the regional poets showcased were Ron Rash, Jo Carson, Lisa Coffman, and Ann Spenser. Ruth Derrick, ALCA Program Chair, was gratified to note that among the panelists with her and Dana Cochran the first two were newcomers to NCTE and ALCA: Suzanne Heagy, Fairmont State University, WV and Donna Long, Fairmont State University, WV. The panel session was enthusiastically received by the general audience. The second session, which was ALCA’s Special Interest Group meeting, chaired by Judy P. Byers, continued to salute poetry and poets from the Appalachian Region. Entitled “Appalachian Poets Rising,” the meeting featured the reading of poetry by some of the region’s seasoned authors mixed with some of the new voices in the genre. Both groups had the distinction of being published in two of the region’s “rising” literary journals: ALCA-Lines, an ALCA publication, and Kestrel, produced in the Department of Language and Literature at Fairmont State University. The editors of both journals were not only present to read from their publications [Dana Cochran from ALCA-Lines and Donna Long and Suzanne Heagy from Kestrel], but encouraged educators in the audience to share their own creative works. The reader responses were stimulating, and many teachers in attendance were inspired to introduce Appalachian poets to their students. This Special Interest Group meeting, therefore, was deemed a great success for ALCA.

On July 19, 2013, ALCA held its annual summer dinner meeting in Radford, Virginia, in conjunction with Radford University’s Highland Summer Appalachian Literature Conference. Ruth Derrick, Program Chair for the Assembly, presided with Judy Byers, Chair, joining the group through teleconferencing. Several new developments for ALCA resulted. With reluctance, the membership accepted the resignation of two officers: Ruth Derrick as Program Chair and Dana Cochran as Editor of ALCA-Lines. The membership thanked both for their years of leadership in ALCA and were pleased to learn that both will continue to remain members of the Assembly. Judy Byers has appointed two replacements to complete their terms until the new biennium election of officers: April Asbury from Hollins College and Radford University will be the new Program Chair and Kristen Williams from Radford University and Virginia Tech will be the new Editor of ALCA –Lines. Charles A. Swanson, ALCA Treasurer and Membership Chair, reported that he has developed a blog, entitled Soapstone, in which he hopes to feature published Appalachian authors plus events/happenings in the Appalachian Region, such as conferences, writing workshops, literary celebrations, and author readings. The Soapstone website: \url{http://charlesaswanson.wordpress.com/author/charlesaswanson/}. The meeting adjourned to attend a reading by Appalachian writer George Ella Lyon.

At the 2013 NCTE Annual Fall Conference in Boston, ALCA will emphasize the conference theme of “Reinventing the Future of English” during its Special Interest Group meeting with a session entitled “Sifting through Technology: Choosing the Best Tools.” There are nearly countless ways to use technology in the classroom, and this session will present some of the Web 2.0 tools that teachers have found most useful, with a special emphasis on the use of tools to bring alive the regional folk literature.

\textit{Judy P. Byers, Chair}
Children’s Literature Assembly (CLA)

This assembly provides a forum for interested people with all points of view and levels of experience in the field of children's literature. The Children’s Literature Assembly undertakes programs and projects of special concern to professionals interested in children's literature. CLA promotes the field of children's literature, disseminates scholarship, and advocates for children’s literature in the classroom. The assembly offers multiple sessions at the NCTE Annual Convention, including a one-day children’s literature workshop, a breakfast featuring a children’s author or illustrator, a session introducing the results of a search for the year’s Notable Children’s Books in the Language Arts, and a Master Class focusing on the teaching of children’s literature. Published twice per year, The Journal of Children’s Literature is our refereed journal, presenting critical discussions of trends and issues in children’s books, reports and reviews of research, interviews with authors and illustrators, and practitioner pieces related to teaching with children’s books. The assembly’s website is: http://www.childrensliteratureassembly.org.

Actions or projects completed since July 1, 2012

1. Selected and presented the Notable Children’s Books in the Language Arts booklist at the 2012 NCTE Convention;
2. Published two issues of The Journal of Children’s Literature;
4. Sponsored a breakfast at the 2012 NCTE conference featuring award-winning author/illustrator David Shannon;
5. Sponsored a Master Class, “Fantasy for Children: Its roots and branches” featuring author John Stephens and scholar Barbara Kiefer, at the 2012 NCTE Annual Convention;
6. Conducted a successful auction of illustrator-donated art and prints to fund a children’s literature research award;
7. Continued to refine the organization’s website and re-establish the Facebook page;
8. Continued the administration of the Bonnie Campbell Hill National Literacy Leader Award for its second year with one awardee selected in 2012.
9. Continued sending a liaison to the Elementary Section Steering Committee and assisted with reviewing conference proposals;
10. Selected and awarded the second $1000 CLA Research Award;
11. Continued to promote the CLA Endowment Fund with a special drive for CLA leadership that resulted in nearly $3,000 of pledges;
12. Continued partnership with ProQuest to help disseminate the Journal of Children’s Literature;
13. Conducted a successful fund-raising project selling lunch bags with the CLA Logo and the phrase, “Have Lunch with a Good Book;”
14. Conducted a study of children’s literature as scholarship through an ad hoc committee working on creating reports for use by those in the children’s literature field to use when applying for promotion/tenure and when writing letters of support/review for candidates;
15. Advocated for the importance of children’s literature courses in teacher education programs through an ad hoc committee. The committee’s work resulted in a joint position NCTE-IRA position statement on the on the Value of Children’s and Adolescent Literature Courses in Teacher Education and Professional Development Programs. This statement has been approved by all NCTE and IRA children’s literature constituencies and is now pending at the executive level of NCTE before final approval by IRA.
16. Met as an Executive Board two times during the year (2012-2013)

Projects, initiatives, or studies “in progress” at this time

1. Planning for four sessions at 2013 NCTE Convention: a) the Notable Books in the Language Arts session; b) a breakfast session with speakers Sy Montgomery and Nic Bishop; c) a one-day workshop titled “By Land, Air or Sea: Border Crossing Experiences in Literacy Conversations.” Presenters include Don Gallo, Maria Padian, Warren St. John, and Francisco Stork; and d) a Master Class titles “Teaching Children’s Literature in the 21st
2. Working for final executive approval of the NCTE-IRA position statement noted above;
3. Continuing to publish The Journal of Children’s Literature and increase its exposure;
4. Awarding a competitively-selected research grant designed to support a scholar investigating children’s books in classrooms;
5. Selecting the Bonnie Campbell Hill Literacy Leader Award recipients;
6. Planning a silent auction of original artwork created by children’s book illustrators; previewed on the CLA website, the auction winners will be announced during the Fall 2013 CLA-sponsored breakfast at NCTE;
7. Developing a relationship with the NCTE Middle-level Section;
8. Conducting recruitment of new members and invitations for more active participation through various means.

James W. Stiles, President
Early Childhood Education Assembly (ECEA)

The Early Childhood Education Assembly of NCTE works to support and integrate the efforts of NCTE constituents concerned with language and literacy issues in Early Childhood Education. Our hope is to: encourage field-based research and theorized practice in the teaching of Early Childhood Education across cultural and linguistic contexts; to work to enhance teaching and learning in Early Childhood Education within and across diverse communities; to sponsor professional development opportunities for those interested in language and literacies in Early Childhood Education; to provide opportunities for early childhood educators and researchers to learn from and support one another; to promote the articulation of thoughtful early childhood literacy practices; to promote collaboration; cross professional organizations that focus on the education of young children; to support new teachers in early childhood education; and encourage and sponsor the publication of articles, books, and reports focused on early childhood topics and issues.

ECEA is especially important due to the pervasive mandates to implement practices that are antithetical to what we embrace as supportive of young children’s literacy learning. Teachers of very young children are asked to teach to the test in ways that take away opportunities for holistic, thoughtful, play-oriented practices that allow children to construct knowledge through contextualized and purposeful experiences. We know that teachers and teacher educators need support. We are especially interested in supporting early childhood teachers and teacher educators with a strong emphasis on promoting thoughtful practices that enhance the teaching and learning of young children within and across diverse communities. ECEA is now in its third year as an assembly of NCTE and our membership is slowly growing. To help with bringing new members to ECEA and therefore NCTE, we request that all NCTE texts, whether print based or electronic, include the term "Pre-K" when talking about NCTE membership such as in ads for the annual convention.

DEVELOPMENT DURING THE PROCEEDING YEAR

The ECEA continues to grow and expand its reach. As in previous years, we have...

a. reviewed proposals for the NCTE convention;

b. participated in convention planning (Dinah Volk);

b. put together the Day of Early Childhood.

Specifically during this year, the Early Childhood Education Assembly has...

1. implemented and awarded a scholarship for teachers attending the NCTE conference (Heather Silver was awarded a scholarship in 2012; call for 2013 went out in August; Maria Paula Ghiso chairs this committee);

2. established and awarded its first Early Childhood Educator of the Year award to Celia Genishi and Anne Haas Dyson (nominations for 2013 are due September 10; Dana Frantz Bentley chairs this committee);

3. published its second ECEA Yearbook, co-edited by Vivian Vasquez, Jeff Wood, and Carol Felderman, entitled Perspectives and Provocations;

4. developed a program which seeks to support practicing early literacy teachers, the Professional Dyads for Culturally Relevant Teaching - PDCRT (Susi Long, Erin Miller, Mariana Souto-Manning, Dinah Volk, and the Affirmative Action Committee spearheaded this effort). Here is some additional information about this program:

   In July 2013, the Affirmative Action Committee of the ECEA initiated a program of Professional Dyads (two-person teacher educator and teacher partnerships) working to develop, evaluate, and disseminate culturally relevant literacy practices in pre-k through third grade classrooms. The program is called Professional Dyads and Culturally Relevant Teaching. Every 2 years, a new cohort of five dyads will be invited to participate in a two-year cycle of the PDCRT experience (with potential to expand to 10 dyads per cycle if further funding is received). We currently have funding from NCTE for two 2-year cycles: 2013-2015 & 2015-2017;

5. established a new website (Kindel Turner-Nash): http://www.earlychildhoodeducationassembly.com/;

6. established a listserv including all members of the assembly for easier communication: ECEA@listserv.umkc.edu (Kindel Turner-Nash).
We have held conference call planning meetings twice per semester and continue to make all decisions jointly.

FUTURE PLANS

We plan to...

I. develop ways to better support early childhood teacher attendance in NCTE conventions (Affirmative Action Committee);
II. publish the 3rd ECEA Yearbook (Carol Felderman, Brian Kissel, & Kindel Turner-Nash);
III. expand membership (Laurie Katz and Membership Committee);
IV. continue planning the Day of Early Childhood (Dinah Volk, Erin Miller, and ECEA Leadership);
V. continue recognizing and showcasing excellent early literacy educators through the award (Awards Committee).

FUTURE GOVERNANCE

A new leadership team has been elected (2013-2015). On Sunday of the 2013 NCTE Convention, the leadership of the Early Childhood Education Assembly will be as follows:

- Dinah Volk (Cleveland State University), Chair
- Erin Miller (University of North Carolina, Charlotte), Assistant Chair
- JoBeth Allen (The University of Georgia), Secretary
- Brian Kissel (University of North Carolina, Charlotte), Treasurer
- Kindel Turner-Nash (University of Missouri, Kansas City), Newsletter Editor and Webmaster
- Mariana Souto-Manning (Teachers College, Columbia University), Affirmative Action Chair
- Board of Directors:
  - Tasha Tropp Laman (University of South Carolina, Columbia)
  - Ranita Cheruvu (Teachers College, Columbia University)
  - Julia Lopez-Robertson (University of South Carolina, Columbia)
  - Janice Baines (University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee)
  - Carol Felderman (American University, Washington, DC)
  - Marisa Calubaquib (Hollingworth Preschool, NYC)
  - Bilal Polson (Northern Parkway School, Uniondale, NY)

We have enjoyed the support of the ESSC and of NCTE and look forward to continuing our work supporting teachers of young children.

Mariana Souto-Manning, Chair
English as a Second Language Assembly (ESLA)

The purpose of this assembly is to encourage interchange among teachers of English at all levels on issues in bilingual education and English as a second language.

What major actions or projects have been completed by your group pursuant to your charge since July 1, 2011?

- Yearly newsletter posted online.
- Held Executive Board Meeting on November 18, 2011.
- Held Assembly for ESL sponsored panel at the annual convention (Nov. 16). Speakers were Clara Brown, Heather Baron, Charlotte Pass, and Beth Lewis Samuelson.

What projects, initiatives, or studies are “in progress” at this time?

- Planning an Assembly for ESL sponsored panel at the 2013 annual convention. Speakers will be Rita Dove and Kate Pickett.

Beth Samuelson, Chair
Gay Straight Educators’ Alliance (GSEA)

The purpose of this Assembly is to provide a forum for ongoing and sustained discussion among all individuals who share a professional commitment to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and trans (LGBT) students, teachers, issues, and academic materials as they pertain to the teaching of English at all levels of instruction. The Assembly is committed to the inclusion of LGBT issues and texts in English studies and English language arts classrooms, fostering research and scholarship, addressing heterosexism and homophobia in academic and school settings, supporting lesbian, gay, bisexual, and trans students and teachers, and broadening cultural diversity through more inclusive understandings of difference. The Assembly disseminates information to its members and sponsors sessions at the NCTE Annual Convention each year (https://sites.google.com/site/gseaassembly/).

Projects Completed

The GSEA is seeking to increase its numbers. The chair submitted articles about the assembly to each affiliate’s newsletter in hopes of attracting membership.

The chair added Guidelines for Starting and Running an LGBTQ Writing Workshop to the web site.

Ongoing Projects

The GSEA continues to attract a significant number of submissions for LGBT strand sessions.

The GSEA continues to collaborate with the Lambda Literary Foundation on bringing LGBT authors to schools, either physically or digitally via Skype or other conferencing software.

John Pruitt, Chair
International Writing Centers Association (IWCA)

The International Writing Centers Association (http://writingcenters.org), an NCTE Assembly, was founded in 1983 to foster communication among writing centers and to provide a forum for concerns. Comprising directors and staffs of writing centers at universities, two-year colleges, and public schools, the IWCA has over 600 member institutions and is governed by an Executive Board that includes officers and representatives from twelve regional affiliate associations and two publications, Writing Lab Newsletter and Writing Center Journal.

A major accomplishment of the International Writing Centers Association during 2012-2013 was the drafting, Board approval, and membership ratification of a revised and updated Constitution. A key change is the inclusion of new voting policies that enable the full membership to elect Executive Officers. (Under the previous Constitution, only Board members voted during Officer elections.) Other key changes include clarifying Executive Officer responsibilities, and moving procedural information to by-laws to allow for appropriate fluidity. The new IWCA Constitution can be viewed at http://writingcenters.org/about/iwca-constitution/. The pre-2013 version can be viewed at http://writingcenters.org/about/pre-2013_constitution/.

Other important accomplishments include hosting a very successful IWCA Conference in San Diego, California, with over 700 participants and three full days of sessions; hosting our IWCA Collaborative event prior to the CCCC in Las Vegas, with over 100 registrants; and promoting stronger connections among our Regional Leaders via SIGs and our Regional Leaders Network.

Our future plans include completing and approving new by-laws in accordance with our new IWCA Constitution; updating our website; expanding our professional development offerings, especially online; implementing a new Mentor Matching program; and seeking opportunities to expand our membership.

Nathalie Singh-Corcoran, Chair
Kerri Jordan, Secretary
Women in Literacy and Life Assembly (WILLA)

The Women in Literacy and Life Assembly (http://womeninliteracyandlifeassembly.com/) strives to improve the teaching of English language arts by focusing attention on gender-related issues in literacy teaching and learning, including the status and image of women and girls, men, and boys and to advise the profession at large on issues relating to the role and images of women; and to foster the exchange of ideas and perspectives among people interested in gender issues relating to English. WILLA is an official Assembly of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), functioning as a membership group in which like-minded people are able to meet, discuss, theorize, and socialize under the auspices of their shared interests.

No report submitted.

Candice Moench, Chair