

Research Forum

Charge: *In order to develop and disseminate research relevant to [NCTE Executive Committee](#) strategic-planning initiatives, the Research Forum is charged as follows:*

- *to continue to participate in presenting a strong research strand at the [NCTE Annual Convention](#);*
- *to advise the NCTE Executive Committee on emerging research findings germane to focal issues identified by the Executive Committee.*

During the 2012-2013 year, the Research Forum has undergone significant transition both in make-up and outreach to our members.

As new co-chairs that officially took charge of the Research Forum at the 2012 Annual Meeting, we spent our initial meeting reviewing with members the newly revised charge. This is reflected in last year's report and is repeated here for clarity:

- to continue to participate in presenting a strong research strand at the NCTE Annual Convention;
- to advise the NCTE Executive Committee on emerging research findings germane to focal issues identified by the Executive Committee.

We came into this forum excited about the possibilities of this charge and had background discussions with Kent Williamson that helped clarify the RF's history and place within the larger NCTE organization as a "clearinghouse" within NCTE that coordinates communication with the Executive Committee and Standing Committee on Research. Knowing that the RF has lacked prominent visibility in the past *and* that NCTE members' research is broad in scope and nature, we focused this past year on ensuring that the RF can help clearly articulate research underway and can communicate opportunities and implications to NCTE members based on research.

In our first face-to-face meeting at the 2012 Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, our attendees highlighted four different ways to increase the visibility and usefulness of the RF and its charge:

1. Integrate more teacher voice within NCTE research.
2. Encourage the work of early-career researchers.
3. Disseminate research that helps support practitioner, classroom practices.
4. Provide more opportunities for Research Forum members to meet and engage in conversations.

Beginning with the NCTE National Convention in 2013, we proposed a yearly Research Forum session to bring together various editors from among NCTE's journals to discuss research implications for classroom teachers and early-career researchers. These sessions promise to differ significantly from the successful "meet the editors" sessions that are a highlight for many NCTE attendees. We envision them becoming a regular way for classroom teachers to learn about what recent research says and how it can impact educational trends like the Common Core.

Further, we doubled the number of RF meetings by using Google Hangouts to convene a meeting in January of 2013. Though the turnout was significantly smaller than the yearly face-to-face meeting at the annual convention, attendees left offering significant contribution to the direction of the RF.

Looking ahead, we will continue this trend by having additional virtual meetings in the new year and exploring ways to utilize social media tools like Facebook, Google Plus, and Twitter to reach out to RF members and to share out the work of the RF. Our goals for 2013-14 revolve around the issues of visibility and dissemination of research reflected in our charge and in our members' stated needs at our last face-to-face meeting.

<http://www.ncte.org/volunteer/groups/researchforum>

Antero Garcia, Co-Chair

Cindy O'Donnell-Allen, Co-Chair