



International Reading Association

A membership organization of literacy professionals

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Kathy Headley

Kathy Headley, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies and Professor of Reading Education in the College of Health, Education, and Human Development at Clemson University, will serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the International Reading Association until 2013. Headley is an active, ongoing supporter of the International Reading Association. Her involvement includes her leadership as president of the South Carolina State Council and later serving three terms as the IRA State Coordinator. She is a frequent presenter at IRA's annual convention as well as several World Congress events. Headley has served on a number of committees within IRA including the Outstanding Dissertation of the Year Award Committee, the Adolescent Literacy Committee, the Membership and Organization Committee, and the Nila Banton Smith Subcommittee and has chaired the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee, the Special Service Award Committee, and the Print Media and Media Award Committees. Headley has served in a number of roles for the IRA Special Interest Group, LEADER, most recently as president.



Beginning her career as an elementary classroom teacher and reading specialist in Georgia, Headley received her Ed.D. in Reading Education from Auburn University; her M.Ed. and B.S. Ed. degrees from the University of Georgia. In her current position as associate dean, Headley supports the college's efforts to increase external funding and related research and assists with the development of graduate education.

Headley's expertise and research interests include adolescent literacy, comprehension, vocabulary, and writing. She has published in journals such as *The Reading Teacher*, the *Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy* and *The ALAN Review* and has co-authored chapters in *The Vocabulary-Enriched Classroom*, *Comprehension Instruction*, and *Comprehension Instruction: Building on the Past and Improving Instruction for Today's Students*. Headley served as co-editor of the journal, *Literacy Teaching and Learning* and as a review board member for *The Reading Teacher* and *The ALAN Review*. Her recent co-edited book publication is IRA's *Adolescent Literacy, Field Tested: Effective Solutions for Every Classroom*.

Statement of Philosophy

IRA is the *World's Leading Organization of Literacy Professionals*, connecting educators locally and globally and resulting in a professional strength that shapes effective literacy instruction for all learners. In my professional roles, I've witnessed IRA's impact on classrooms, communities, and policy makers. These three entities are core areas in which IRA plays significant roles. For our classrooms, IRA provides guidance for instruction that is effective and relevant. In our communities, IRA builds linkages among educators, parents, civic organizations, and businesses that support systemic change within and among our schools. Amidst policy makers, IRA gives voice to our message that improving literacy and achievement is an action item, not a hopeful wish. IRA delivers literacy leadership that's critically needed in our schools and communities, worldwide.

Presentation Topics

Engaging Learners Through Meaningful Vocabulary
Infusing Writing Into Reading Instruction
Comprehension Strategies
Disciplinary Literacy
Engaging Readers in Discussion About Informational and Narrative Texts
Motivating Adolescents to Read
Strategic Reading and Writing Links: Connecting Readers

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