



International Reading Association

A membership organization of literacy professionals

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Donald J. Leu

Donald J. Leu, John and Maria Neag Endowed Chair in Literacy and Technology at the University of Connecticut, will be a member of the Board of Directors of the International Reading Association until 2010. Leu has served on numerous IRA committees and chaired the Research Award Committee, the Elva Knight Award Committee, and the Reading Online Steering Committee. He served on the editorial boards for *Reading Research Quarterly* and *The Reading Teacher*. Leu has been a member of the Connecticut, New York, and New England Reading Associations. He is a former president of the National Reading Conference and a member of the Reading Hall of Fame.



Leu received his BA from Michigan State University, his MA from Harvard, and his PhD from the University of California, Berkeley. His first teaching job was as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Marshall Islands of Micronesia, where he taught English as a Second Language (ESL). He was also an elementary classroom teacher and a reading specialist in California.

Leu is codirector of The New Literacies Research Lab at the University of Connecticut. He has written more than 100 publications and seventeen books on topics as varied as phonics and phonemic awareness, teacher education, children's literature, and the new literacies of online reading comprehension. His articles have appeared in a variety of journals, including *Reading Research Quarterly*, *Journal of Educational Psychology*, *The Reading Teacher*, and *Language Arts*. He is coeditor of the *Handbook of Research on New Literacies*, and has chapters in the *Handbook of Literacy and Technology*, *Handbook of Reading Research (Volume III)*, and *Theoretical Models of Reading, 5th Edition*. His research has been funded by the U.S. Department of Education, the Carnegie Corporation, the Institute for Education Sciences, PBS, the Annenberg Foundation, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and the National Science Foundation.

Statement of philosophy

“As NCLB comes up for reauthorization, IRA must aggressively take THE leadership role—focusing on full funding to support teachers and students, not sanctions. Supporting high-quality, job-embedded, sustained, professional development must be the highest priority for IRA; literate lives for students can only be accomplished by investing in teachers. We must redouble our common commitment to diversity and to citizens in all nations who seek the benefits that literacy bestows. As the Internet reshapes our lives, we must think in new ways about literacy.”

Presentation topics

Leading the Way With Reading Comprehension: Preparing All Students for Their Literacy Future

New Literacies for New Times: What Are New Literacies And How Do We Teach Them?

A Story! A Story! Ten Easy Steps to Integrate the New Literacies of the Internet Into Your Reading and Language Arts Classroom

What Happened When We Weren't Looking? How Reading Comprehension Has Changed and What We Need To Do About It

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