



## President's Corner

*Lori Saxby, CRLA President, University of Southern Indiana*

Dear CRLA Colleagues,

I hope this finds you rested and ready to begin a new year and new semester. I have always enjoyed January – not for the unkind weather it often brings but for the chance to reflect on the past and dream about the future.

This past year, it was an honor to serve as Conference Chair for the 46<sup>th</sup> annual conference in Boston. With a final total of 695 registrants and 215 presenters, it was a professional development learning-fest! From the opening session when Randy Swing challenged us to be “Choice Architects” to help students find the right path, to the closing session when Shane Lopez encouraged us to be “ripples of hope” to our students, attendees were inspired to revolutionize student learning to enhance student success upon returning to their respective campuses. Unable to attend? Check out the Technology & Distance Learning SIG’s [Online Teaching and Learning wiki](#) to view many of the presentations posted by our presenters.

I love learning, but my love for learning took a different journey on the way to Boston – from being an attendee to being an organizer. As has happened for most of my life, my volunteer experiences have brought me into leadership areas that I might not have had the opportunity to explore in my teaching and administrative positions. As I reflect on this journey, I learned that the behind-the-scenes conference experience is exhilarating, satisfying, and, yes, stressful. I learned about BEO’s, the art of negotiating, the joy of organizing, the thrill of troubleshooting, the value of marketing, and, in the end, to enjoy the ride and learn – and I did.

So as we begin a new year, I would like to offer a challenge to you: step into a new role this new year, serve as a mentor to someone in your academic community, choose to be a leader in CRLA, push yourself to a new level. While the journey may be a little unsettling at times, it is in those times that we grow the most and learn something that takes us to an even higher level.

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*A very special and heartfelt THANK YOU to our on-site chair, Roberta Schotka, and to all our volunteers - your dedication made this a most memorable conference.*

## PRESIDENT CONTINUED FROM Page 1

At our last Board meeting in Boston, Melissa Thomas presented me with a toy set of walkie-talkies, a reminder of the large walkie-talkie the Boston Park Plaza staff gave me so I could call them if I needed assistance. I found it comforting to know that I could call someone at any time to help me. You too have a walkie-talkie in the form of SIG and SRC leaders, board members, and the almost 1,200 CRLA members world-wide. Know that there is a mentor there for you and that you can serve as mentor for someone else. Just imagine where this level of involvement can take you in the coming year. It's something worth dreaming about.

*Lori*

## Opportunities for Leadership

Be part of the future of CRLA and your profession! Your CRLA is looking for members who have been active in the organization and who are interested in stepping into leadership positions for a three-year term.

The following positions are open at this time, and the Board of Directors is accepting applications until February 1. The period of service would start immediately upon the Board of Directors' approval of a candidate for a respective position.

### **Publications Director**

The Director monitors all official publications of the Association. In collaboration with the Publications Committee, this person shall study, propose, and implement plans for improving the effectiveness and significance of publications and shall establish and implement publication and editorial policy and practice as defined by the objectives of the association.

The Publications Director must have been a member of CRLA for three years and had some CRLA leadership experience (committee chair, Media Advisory, etc.). It is expected that the Publications Director is experienced in editorship and managing professional publications, including journal articles, white papers, and other written projects undertaken by the Association.

### **JCRL Editor(s)**

Solicits manuscripts for *JCRL*, oversees review process, and coordinates work of editorial advisory board. Compiles volume and coordinates publication process.

The Editor(s) serve a three-year term beginning at the completion of the annual CRLA conference. Term may be renewed for second three-year term.

### ***GET INVOLVED!***

*There is no better way to serve your organization than to get involved in its leadership. For complete job descriptions, click [HERE](#) and apply for a position by February 1st!*

**To apply for a position**, submit a letter of application addressing your willingness and ability to meet the requirements of the position, a vita or brief listing of qualifications, and a letter of institutional support. If institutional support is not required, please state such in the letter of application.

**Submit your application to Lori Saxby, CRLA President, at [lsaxby@usi.edu](mailto:lsaxby@usi.edu)**

*Congratulations to the 2013 ITTPC Outstanding Tutor Award winner, Jenna Jauregui of Cal State University, San Marcos (pictured below center with Jeff Harlig, Writing Center supervisor, and Roberta Schotka, ITTPC Assistant Coordinator). Read Jenna's winning essay [HERE](#).*



*Heidi Sue Moyer of Northern Arizona University is named winner of the first IMTPC Outstanding Mentor Award (pictured above left with Heather Porter, IMTPC Coordinator). Read Heidi Sue's winning essay [HERE](#).*

*Jeanine L. Williams of the Community College of Baltimore County (pictured right with JCRL Editor, Eric Paulson) receives the Cynthia L. Peterson Outstanding JCRL Article.*



*Zola Gordy (above center) is congratulated by Cengage colleagues Maggi Miller (above left) and Ann Wolf (above right) on winning this year's Cengage Learning TeamUP Travel Award. CRLA also wishes to congratulate Ann Wolf, who received the 2013 Robert Griffin Award for Long and Outstanding Service at a different CRLA event.*



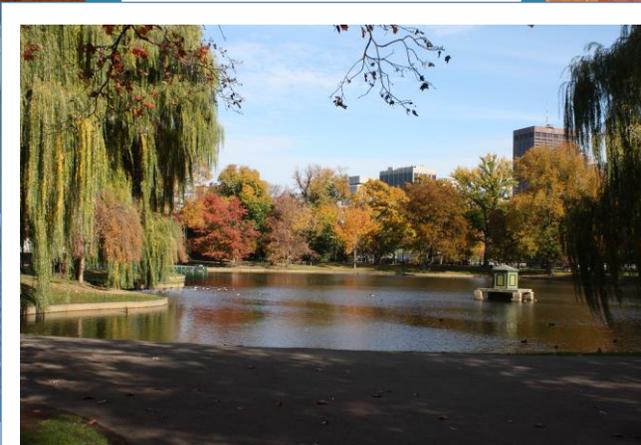
*Sonya Armstrong of Northern Illinois University is named recipient of this year's Karen G. Smith Special Recognition Award (pictured right with CRLA President, Melissa Thomas).*



2013 Conference Mentors: (front row l to r) Carolyn Hopper, Essie Childers (Lunch with a Mentor Chair), Lucy MacDonald, Barbara Calderwood, Roberta Schotka, (back row l to r) Valerie Smith Stephens, Marti Miles-Rosenfeld, Eric Paulson, Norm Stahl, and Laurie Hazard.

2014 Conference information will be available soon! Don't miss the fun and professional development in beautiful St. Paul, MN.

Important CRLA Dates:  
 Call for Proposals  
 2/1/2014  
 Notification of Proposal Review  
 6/3/2014  
 Conference Registration Begins  
 7/1/2014



Conference attendees enjoyed being close to Boston's Public Garden (above) and public library (above left) as well as outings to Harvard Square (above right), raffle prizes such as the Jeanne Higbee scarves (below), and opportunities to thank those that serve the organization such as Leta Tyhurst (right), outgoing Awards & Scholarships Chair. View these and many other conference photos on CRLA's [Facebook](#) page!



Congratulations to the 2013 Professional Development Scholarship Winners (not pictured)

Meredith Carr, Northwest Shoals Community College;  
 Valerie K. Ambrose, Portland Community College; and Jennifer L. Smith, The University of Texas at Austin.



## A Word from Headquarters

By Amanda Dombrowicki,, Account Manager  
CRLA HQ



It is a pleasure to greet you as the new Association Manager for CRLA. I come to CRLA with more than 17 years of experience managing non-profit medical and trade associations. Although I just began work in an official capacity for CRLA, I was fortunate to attend the Annual Conference in Boston this past November, so I have already learned a great deal about CRLA's accomplishments and vision.

CRLA has a rich history and dedicated leadership. I am proud to be associated with the Board of Directors, Membership, SIGs, and S/R/C groups. My goals for CRLA include increasing our national presence, ensuring the organization's financial health, growing our membership and enhancing member benefits. I've spoken with many of you in the short time since I joined the CRLA team and thank you for the warm greetings I have received thus far. I look forward to connecting with many more of you in the months and years ahead.

In the coming weeks, I will be immersing myself in all things CRLA. If you have questions, comments, or ideas to share with me, I invite you to contact me at the CRLA National Office, 414-908-4961 ext. 108 or [amanda@crla.net](mailto:amanda@crla.net). In the meantime, I look forward to serving you and being a part of CRLA's bright future.

Don't forget! Fun new CRLA products are now available for purchase online at



### CRLA Executive Board

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## CRLA Partners with Taylor and Francis, Innovative Educators

CRLA's partnership with Taylor & Francis gives members the benefits associated with a reputable press. Benefits include:

- Retro digitizing therefore giving everyone access to all back issues that are searchable, etc.
- High quality paper version of *JCRL* with newly designed cover
- Online version of *JCRL*
- Online access to another Taylor and Francis owned journal, *College Teaching*
- Dedicated customer service from Taylor and Francis
- Wider advertising of the *JCRL* to reach extended audiences
- Online portal for article submission and reviews

In partnership with CRLA, Innovative Educators produced TutorLingo, a series of nine on-demand videos and valuable resources designed to support the tutor training process. These videos will allow tutors to receive training not only from campus professionals, but also from national experts in the field of learning assistance. Additionally, if your institution is pursuing CRLA certification, these videos cover many of the Level I certification topics. Videos will be available for purchase beginning January 27, 2014. Click [HERE](#) for more information. Video topics Include:

- Toolbox for the Novice Tutor
- Developing Critical Thinking Skills
- How to Tutor Writing
- Learning Theory
- The Nature of Helping Relationships
- The Role of the Tutor
- Tutee Study Skills: Note Taking, Reading, and Testing Strategies
- Tutoring Students From Diverse Backgrounds
- Understanding Self-Regulatory Behaviors

# Professional Development Update

*By Lori Saxby, Outgoing Professional Development Director & CRLA President  
University of Southern Indiana*

## New Director!

We are pleased to announce that Suzanne McCarthy, Senior Director for the Academic Success and Advising Center at Centenary College, has accepted the position of Professional Development Director on the CRLA Board of Directors. Suzanne will oversee the work of CRLA's new State/Region/Chapter (S/R/C) and Special Interest Group (SIG) Coordinators and the investigation, promotion, and implementation of a variety of member projects and activities that encourage members in continuing their own ongoing learning and development.

In her application for the position, Suzanne stated that the involvement with her local chapter (PA/NJ) and her connections with the national organization have been a great source of professional development and the establishment of professional friendships. Suzanne considers herself to be a lifelong learner and loves to share ideas, read about new approaches, and network with colleagues on best practices. She is especially interested in utilizing technology to provide a range of opportunities to make meaningful connections.

Please contact Suzanne at [mccarthys@centenarycollege.edu](mailto:mccarthys@centenarycollege.edu) with suggestions, ideas, or comments on how CRLA can add value to your professional development!

## Welcome New S/R/C and SIG Coordinators!

It is a pleasure to announce that two CRLA members have stepped into new leadership roles. Both positions report to the Professional Development Director.

Leslie Giles-Smith, Learning Enhancement Program Manager at the University of Utah, will serve as CRLA's State/Region/Chapter (S/R/C) Coordinator. Leslie states that she has enjoyed developing a sense of community with her CRLA colleagues in Utah and looks forward to the opportunity to share this experience with other states, regions, and chapters as they plan their CRLA-related activities. In addition, she hopes to learn from other S/R/C's that may differ in size and organization from Utah and hopes to be a clearinghouse for resource sharing.

Laura Everett, Tutoring Services Coordinator for the THINK TANK at the University of Arizona, will serve as the Special Interest Group (SIG) Coordinator. Laura believes her experience with the Learning Assistance Center Management SIG, as well as her role as Tutoring Services Coordinator at the University of Arizona, have taught her skills such as communication and training development that will help her succeed in this new leadership position. She is excited to increase individual SIG activity through developing ways for SIG Chairs to interact with each other and to share their projects and techniques for member participation.

## 2013 Conference Presentations Available for Viewing

Many thanks to the CRLA Technology & Distance Learning SIG for providing a wiki for posting many of the 2013 Conference presentations. Posted conference materials can be found [HERE](#).

### ATTENTION

*SIG & S/R/C Leaders: Please note that you should request any CRLA materials (brochures, tablecloths, etc.) you wish to use for local spring meetings directly from CRLA Headquarters by contacting Kris Heijnen at [k.heijnen@crla.net](mailto:k.heijnen@crla.net).*

Don't forget to "like" CRLA on Facebook & follow us on Twitter!



# CRLA Serves Members & the Field: An Excerpt from the 2013 Conference Presidential Address

*By Melissa Thomas, CRLA Past President, College of Charleston*

CRLA's mission is to provide college reading and learning professionals with an open forum to discover and exchange the leading tools and techniques to enhance student academic success.

How do we achieve that goal?

It has been my pleasure to serve as president of CRLA as we come to understand all that a management company can do for us-- which has then freed us up to do true strategic planning for the field and for the organization. The Board does a lot more than just plan a conference, and this year's work focused on making CRLA a more agile organization, one that could grow and change with the times through partnerships with organizations such as Innovative Educators and Tutorlingo. We heard the call for an expanded CRLA store and partnered with CafePress to offer a range of CRLA-branded products that you can use to reward your student employees or display pride in your organization. Currently we are considering an agreement from Taylor and Francis to publish *JCRL*, which would elevate the journal and provide members with access to all back issues, an online version, and access to another top-rated journal.

Much of the year has been spent planting seeds that will come to fruition over the next several years. There are many projects to be completed in the next three to five years, including an online submission system for ITTPC and IMTPC and a CRLA brand refresh and website redesign.

If CRLA is one thing, it is welcoming. For those new to the profession, we hope you know that our sincere goal is to transition you into the field and help you develop as a professional.

So, how does CRLA serve its members?

- Great conferences including 2014 in St. Paul and 2015 in Portland (and spending time coming up with a conference rotation plan that puts us in different parts of the country consistently).
- Cultivating a culture of involvement through tiered development as a professional in the field; starting at lower leadership levels (become a reviewer for IMTPC and ITTPC, lead a SIG or an SRC) or moving on to take a coordinator or chair position.
- Professional development (free webinars, twitter chats, conference presentations posted on the wiki) and scholarships
- Opportunities for presentations. We want you to submit a proposal for St. Paul. Start thinking now of what can you contribute to the conversation.
- Publishing opportunities in *NewsNotes* and SIG newsletter articles or *JCRL* articles.

How does CRLA serve the profession?

- Publishing a white paper that has reached far beyond the membership. Be sure to read and share "The Terrain of College Developmental Reading" by Jodi Holschuh and Eric Paulson. And look for another white paper on assessment and learning assistance in the near future.
- Crafting a learning assistance model with action principals with a team from CRLA, ATP, ACTLA, and NCLCA
- Maintaining a presence with CLADEA (and forming real partnerships, including talked about joint conferences and summits) and CAS, which serves as THE assessment resource.
- Working to build the prestige of our journal, *JCRL*.

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## SERVICE CONTINUED FROM Page 7

Moving to a management company has professionalized the organization in ways that we just couldn't do on our own. We did anticipate that 2012 would show a loss for several reasons including some duplication of services and owing for back issues of the journal, but a major factor was that we moved mid-year from a cash basis of accounting to an accrual basis of accounting. Cash basis is money in, money out. Accrual basis is taking that membership fee and dividing it out over 12 months. This was an odd transition to make mid-year because it meant that membership income from 2012 wasn't "realized" until 2013. CRLA's bottom line is doing much better and the organization has plenty of reserves.

I am very happy to have a year as past president where I can wrap up projects I have started and seen them to the end. I have heard from many of you that you are happy with the energy and vitality of CRLA, and I hope we continue that into the future! It has been a pleasure serving you.

## 2014 One Book, One Conference Selection Announced

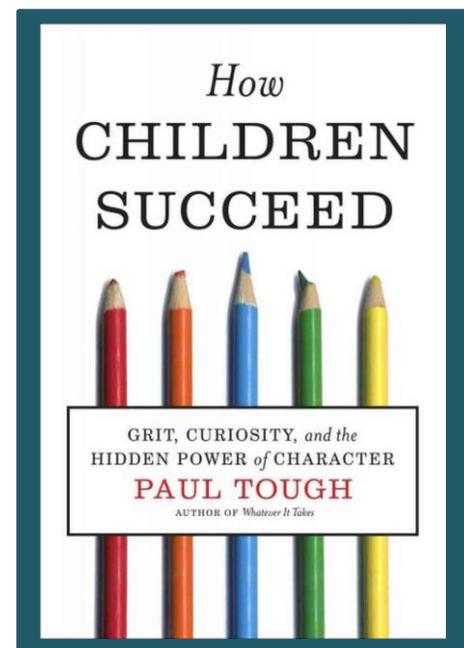
*Arden Hamer, Indiana University of Pennsylvania*

Have you wondered why some of your students seem to have an inner drive and just won't give up while others can't seem to stay on course? The CRLA 2014 One Book, One Conference selection, *How Children Succeed: Grit, Curiosity, and the Hidden Power of Character* by Paul Tough, will give you some insights and, perhaps more importantly, a different way to think about the qualities that influence academic success.

The book is a mix of information from scientific studies and personal stories, all of which help the reader understand the various components that combine for academic success. The author contends that intelligence, as measured by the SAT and ACT, is not the main ingredient needed for success. Rather he emphasizes the importance of non-cognitive skills such as "study skills, work habits, time management, help-seeking behavior, and social/academic problem-solving skills" (page 161). This idea supports his contention that, for many students enrolled in higher education, the problem is not access but completion.

Parts of the book focus on younger children, but these children become the college freshmen we work with, and their experiences influence their college success. Readers will gain insights into their students and an appreciation of the obstacles they may have to overcome and continue to struggle with.

*How Children Succeed* is an important book for all levels of education. Join me at the CRLA 2014 conference in St. Paul to talk about the insights and challenges presented in the book and what we can do to help our students develop all of the necessary ingredients to have successful academic and future careers.



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## On to St. Paul!

*Sara Weertz, CRLA President-Elect & 2014 Conference Chair, Angelo State University*

What do Bob Dylan, Judy Garland, Garrison Keillor, and Jesse Ventura all have in common? Minnesota! These are just a few of the renowned from The North Star State. These celebrities charted their way to stardom; you can, too, by following a planned course to CRLA 2014 in St. Paul, Minnesota.

We chose The North Star as our logo following the state's nickname, being that Minnesota is the northernmost state in the U.S. The North Star is on the Great Seal of Minnesota as well as the State flag. Our theme, *Navigating Teaching & Learning*, comes from Minnesota's state motto: Navigate Your State, in reference to the Land of 10,000 Lakes—Old Man River, the Mississippi, rising from Lake Itasca and flowing between St. Paul and its twin city, Minneapolis.

Just as European explorers used celestial navigation, a fixing technique, to guide them across oceans and inland by the Mississippi, so, too, do student-oriented professionals look to CRLA as another kind of navigational tool, directing them to new methods to improve student learning.

Explore The Saintry City and you will see the Cathedral of Saint Paul, modeled after St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican in Rome. Take a tour of historic Fort Snelling, a living museum and preserved U.S. Army military post with costumed guides portraying residents from the 1820s. Summit Avenue Area boasts the longest stretch of beautifully restored Victorian homes in the country. For the outlaw enthusiast, St. Paul was once a safe haven for gangsters such as Babyface Nelson, John Dillinger and the Barker gang. Now relishing its history, the city offers tours to where these gangsters lived, planned, and executed the most infamous crimes of the 1930s. Whatever you do, don't pass up the chance to tour the Wabasha Street Caves, an underground city populated with dance halls and speakeasies during Prohibition.

Known as the arts and culture capital of the Midwest, St. Paul offers three world-class art museums, the Fitzgerald Theatre, named after Minnesota author, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and is home to Garrison Keillor's broadcasts of "A Prairie Home Companion," as well as a vibrant music scene with everything from Jazz to Rock to Minnesota Opera.

In between the Grand Avenue, West 7<sup>th</sup> and Selby Avenue dining districts, you will find an abundance of breweries and nightlife galore.

Worried about the cold? Have no fear—explore St. Paul using the city's skywalk, a network linking together 47 city blocks. Navigate the glass skyway tunnels to shopping and restaurants without ever stepping foot outside.

We look forward to seeing you in St. Paul this November. The Call for Proposals will be out shortly with proposals being accepted from February 1 to April 1.



## Tips for Student Success

*Interested in sharing the best for student success? Submit your tips for student success on the topic of your choice to Lindley Workman Alyea, Editor of NewsNotes at [lindley@txstate.edu](mailto:lindley@txstate.edu).*

I always put the old Chinese Proverb from Pauk's book, "Dig a well before you are thirsty," in my PowerPoint or on the board sometime before midterm, and we discuss all the ramifications of the saying. - *Leta Tyhurst, Learning Center Coordinator, Metropolitan Community College-Longview, October 2013*

Touch their hearts! A spin off from the book *Whistling Vivaldi* (Steele). As a first week activity, ask students to share one thing in their lives that they value. Everyone can respond, and it sets a good tone. - *Darla Shannon, Associate Professor of Reading, Tarrant County Community College-Southeast, October 2013*

Focus on the learning process, and the grades will follow. - *Kristina Alvarado, Learning Specialist, University of Southern California, October 2013*

Generate knowledge, efficacy, and power through the use of the Burkean Parlor metaphor in the classroom. - *Nita Meola, Writing Center Director, Columbia College of Chicago, November 2013*

Help students learn their strengths and weaknesses by introspective inventories. Once they identify, it becomes easier to scaffold their transition. - *Rajone Lyman, Student Success Instructor, Houston Community College – Northeast, November 2013*

Teach interactive "read it once" strategies to freshman. - *Jack Trammell, Director of Disability Support Services / Higgins Academic Center, Randolph-Macon College, December 2013*

The most important "text" we can teach students to read is often their professors! - *Sonya Armstrong, College Learning Enhancement Program Director, Northern Illinois University, December 2013*

"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act but a habit." – Aristotle  
Think about what you are doing each day. What are your habits? Get into the habit of doing your best in everything you do—particularly your academic life. - *Arden B. Hamer, Professor, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, December 2013*

## Upcoming Events

### January

January 1<sup>st</sup> CRLA Fiscal Year Begins

### February

February 1<sup>st</sup> SIG Newsletters Published  
February 15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> Call for Proposals for 47<sup>th</sup> Annual CRLA Conference  
[Conference on the First Year Experience](#), San Diego, CA

### March

March 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> S/R/C Newsletters Published  
March 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> [National Association for Developmental Education Conference](#), Dallas, TX  
March 23<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> [Teaching Academic Survival Skills \(TASS\) Conference](#), Ft. Lauderdale, FL  
March 26<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> [Association for the Tutoring Profession \(ATP\) Conference](#), Nashville, TN  
[Teachers of English to Teachers of Other Languages \(TESOL\) International Convention & English Language Expo](#), Portland, OR

### April

April 1<sup>st</sup> Spring Issues of *JCRL* Mailed  
April 15<sup>th</sup> Proposal Deadline for the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual CRLA Conference  
Copy Deadline for Submissions for May 2014 Edition of *NewsNotes*

### May

May 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> [International Reading Association \(IRA\) Conference](#), New Orleans, LA  
May 15<sup>th</sup> *NewsNotes* Published