

National Conference on Research in Language and Literacy

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The National Conference on Research in Language and Literacy (NCRL) was founded in 1932. Originally named the National Conference on Research in English (NCRE), NCRL's mission is to further research in the teaching of language and literacy and to improve instructional practice through the conduct and publication of research. NCRL strives (a) to stimulate and encourage research in the teaching of English language arts at all educational levels; (b) to synthesize, interpret, and publish significant research and compilations of research results in English language arts teaching; (c) to support research and special projects authorized by the Executive Committee; and (d) to recognize and reward outstanding achievements in English language arts research. The NCRL website is located at <http://www.coe.uga.edu/ncrl/index.html>.

In 1983, the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) and (NCRE) copublished Walter T. Petty's A History of the National Conference on Research in English. This volume provides a history of the organization's first 50 years. NCRE originated as an organization where elementary reading researchers could have the voice and visibility that they felt were unavailable in (NCTE), which was dominated by those interested in secondary schools. In these early years membership was highly exclusive. Over time secondary school researchers became more a part of NCRE and as definitions of research became more inclusive, so did NCRE's membership. To recognize the kinds of research that its members were conducting outside the realm of English, NCRE changed its name to the National Conference on Research in Language and Literacy (NCRL) in 1993. While its membership derives primarily from members of NCTE and

the International Reading Association (IRA), NCRLI is itself unaffiliated and draws no financial support from any parent organization.

NCRLI is governed by an Executive Committee consisting of a President, President-elect, Past President, Secretary, Treasurer, Research Chair, Newsletter Editor, Membership Chair, and Diversity Chair. The Executive Committee plans NCRLI programs such as the annual breakfast meeting and featured speaker at the fall meeting of the NCTE and the spring meeting of the International Reading Association. NCRLI programs may also appear at the annual conferences of the National Reading Conference and American Educational Research Association. The Research Chair additionally plans one state-of-the-art conference during the final year of his or her three-year term.

Membership is limited to those who are nominated by an NCRLI member and approved by the Executive Committee. NCRLI members of eminent distinction are approved as Fellows by the Executive Committee. Each year an Awards Committee identifies a member whose career accomplishments merit the NCRLI Distinguished Researcher Award.

NCRLI publications include a newsletter published biannually. NCRLI also has published bulletins, monographs, and edited collections. These books are listed at <http://www.coe.uga.edu/ncrll/Publications/NCRLIPublications.htm>, a web site that allows for downloading of selected titles. These publications have reviewed research on specific topics, collected the featured presentations at landmark conferences, and focused on a specific research methodology. Revenues from publications provide the primary financial support for NCRLI activities.