2014 Annual Conference of the American Reading Forum
Sundial Beach and Tennis Resort, Sanibel Island, FL

"Keeping our (Hi)stories Alive:
Providing Perspective on Current Practice and Policy**"**

In December 2014, the American Reading Forum will be entering its 35th year as a
professional organization that facilitates the dissemination of ideas and research and
places a high priority on providing its members opportunities for critical discussions of
ideas, issues, research, emerging research interests, and paradigms.

The 2014 conference theme is history/our histories. However, the conference theme is not
limited to looking back. Topics might include the need for lucid responses to the
intellectual vacuity that we face in today's American education policy and reform; the
power of local stories; oral history projects; textbooks used to teach reading; changes in
literacy instruction as related to gender, class, and race; the links between literacy and
society; what we've learned from the past; historical work that has helped us understand
the present; historical research that promoted interdisciplinary inquiry and understanding;
research that made a difference but should not have; research that should have made a
difference but did not; looking back to gain direction and purpose for the future; the history
of particular reading methodologies; the history of content area reading; what literacy has
meant to certain communities of readers; the history of audiences; who was literate; what
was read; young adult historical fiction, diaries, autobiographies, and letters; books in a era
of digital literacy; biographical studies of reading experts and much, much more.

The 2014 conference theme calls for participants to submit proposals, panels, and/or
problems court sessions relating to reading teacher preparation, reading teacher practices,
or other reading/literacy teacher-centered/teacher-focused topics. We extend this
invitation to all members of the Reading/Literacy community to participate in the year's
2014 American Reading Forum Conference.

Important Dates

- August 15, 2014 - Proposals for Papers, Panels, and Problems Courts must be
  submitted
- September 1, 2014 - Feedback on proposals will be sent out
- October 1, 2014 – Graduate student proposals must be submitted
- October 1, 2014 - Early bird registration ends
- November 1, 2014 - Feedback on graduate student proposals will be sent out
- November 11, 2014 - Online registration ends
- November 10, 2014 - Attendees make reservations at the Sundial

General Information

Proposals for Papers, Panels, and Problems Courts will be considered for inclusion in the 2014 American Reading Forum Annual Conference Program if they are received by August 15, 2014.

All presenters are expected to **register** and **attend** the conference to present and discuss the paper with the audience. The membership of the Forum has consistently requested that people submit proposals only if they fully believe the related obligations can be met. Generally, a person will appear only once as a presenter on the program but could also appear as a reactor for one of the various sessions. It is our hope that all presenters will become active conferees.

All presenters are invited to submit their papers for consideration for publication in the *Yearbook of the American Reading Forum*. Reactors and members of the audience are invited to write reactions for such consideration. However, if the original paper is not accepted in the peer review process, related reaction papers will be dropped from consideration.

Guidelines for Submitting Proposals

Generally, each **paper session** will be limited to 30 minutes. The Program Committee will schedule two or three papers on related topics in a time slot. If a reactor has not been named by the individuals submitting the proposal, the Program Committee will appoint a reactor who will start the sessions and conduct a 10-minute reaction to the papers including comments and questions from the audience. Special arrangements may be made for paper presentations that need more time, depending on time availability.

Panels will be limited to 60 minutes. Those proposing panel sessions should assemble a program on one topic or multiple but related topics. Panel proposers should name their own chairs, reactors, and any others who may have a specific role in the program. Novel approaches, ways of presenting, and/or ways of involving the audience are welcomed in the panel approaches. If additional time is needed, please request additional time on the proposal cover sheet.

Problems Court sessions will be allotted 60 to 90 minutes. Not more than 30-45 minutes should be spent presenting to the audience a problem or problems that need to be resolved along with some possible solutions or courses of action. The remaining 30-45 minutes should be reserved for audience participation. Panel proposers should name their own chairs, reactors, and any others who may have a specific role in the program.

Materials to be Submitted with a Proposal

All Proposals must be submitted electronically and must include:

1. One cover sheet (include institutional affiliation, mailing address, cell telephone, office telephone, additional presenters and their institutional affiliation, mailing address, cell telephone, office telephone).

2. A two-to-three-page, double-spaced summary of the proposal. The summary should include:
   a. Objectives
   b. Perspectives or theoretical framework
   c. Methods and/or techniques
   d. Data source(s)
   e. Results, conclusions, point of view
   f. Educational or scientific importance

Problems Court sessions should be outlined in a two-to-three-page, double-spaced summary.

Receipt of the proposal and notification of the decision of the Program Committee will be sent electronically to the first author.

PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE NAMES ON PROPOSAL SUMMARY.
NAMES SHOULD APPEAR ONLY ON THE COVER SHEET.

Audio Visual Equipment

Projectors will be provided; however, **laptops, or other computer equipment will not be provided.** Presenters are responsible for additional equipment, including adapters unique to their laptops.

Where to Submit a Proposal

Proposals must be received by August 15, 2014. The program coordinators are literacy professionals from Ohio & Kentucky. Proposals should be sent to Chet Laine at:

chet.laine@uc.edu

or
Chet Laine
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