

# The Journal of Balanced Literacy Research and Instruction

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Volume 3 | Issue 1

Article 1

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2015

## A Letter from the Chair of Balanced Reading Instruction

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### Recommended Citation

Fusco, Esther (2015) "A Letter from the Chair of Balanced Reading Instruction" e-Journal of Balanced Reading Instruction 3(1), article 1 Available at <http://digitalcommons.lsu.edu/jblri/vol3/iss1>

# A Letter from the Chair of Balanced Reading Instruction



Dear Sig Member,

Welcome to another addition of Balanced Reading Instruction. The Goal of the Balanced Reading Instruction SIG is to share our experiences and research about balanced reading

instructional practices through our collegiality and participation in the SIG, at the ILA Annual Convention, our website, and SIG sponsored endeavors. Balanced reading instruction means combining the strongest elements of literacy into a whole program. Balance reading acknowledges recognizes that the needs of each reader as an individual must be met.

Our online journal continues to be a refereed resource for our member. Please note the information about our session in St. Louis where the annual conference will be held. Along with this, there is membership information and articles that we feel will benefit you professionally. These are written so we all can continue to build better literacy instruction. We are a community of learners. We hope you will enjoy the new books and literature titles that we have included. We believe they may be of interest to you. If you read a good book or use one in a course that you teach, please feel free to write a review that we may include in our journal. We really appreciate your sharing with us.

Currently, we have two new officers on our board. Elizabeth Galarza, who will be our treasurer, teaches Writing Enrichment in Bayshore School District in the middle school. Check out her webpage, <http://www.bayshoreschools.org/webpages/egalarza/>. Leah K. Saal will be our new membership chair. She is an Assistant Professor at Loyola University-Maryland.

Please note that we are always looking for people to

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become members of the board. If you are interested, please share your name with us. We welcome idea and suggestions that you may have to help build the professional level of our publication and special interest group.



Meet us in St.Louis! Get details on IRA 2015.

Our session at the annual conference is *Teaching the Critical Vocabulary of the Common Core*. It is designed to present information and strategies that will help build word knowledge for all learners including ELL learners. We hope to see you at the session.

Please feel free to share information about the Balanced Literacy Special Interest Group with your colleagues. Our goal is to continue to build our SIG and share our joint knowledge with all members of the professional community. And remember to attend our session in St. Louis: *Teaching the Critical Vocabulary of the Common Core*, Saturday July 18 at 11 in the America's Center.

Sincerely,

Esther Fusco  
Chair Balanced Literacy Sig  
Associate Professor, Hofstra University

Spring/Summer 2015  
Volume 3 Issue 1

# e-Journal of *Balanced Reading Instruction*

© 2015. *e-Journal of Balanced Reading Instruction*  
is produced and distributed to its members semi-annually  
by the Balanced Reading Instruction Special Interest Group  
of the International Reading Association.

ISSN: 2328-0816

<http://www.balancedreadinginstruction.com>