



A New Vision for Literacy Research in Iowa

**Iowa Reading Research Center (IRRC)
Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
December 1, 2016
9:00 a.m. – 2:30 a.m.
Iowa Center for Higher Education**

Members present: Mike Beranek, Michael Bunde, Kimberly Buryanek, Angelica Cardenas, Kara Dietrich, Mark Draper, Clark Goltz, Pat Hogan, Jaci Jarmes, Becky Miles-Polka, Claudia Reyes-Fry, Nita Schmidt, David Tilly, Cathy Wilt, Ryan Wise.

Additional attendees: Deborah K. Reed, IRRC Director; Sandy Schmitz, IRRC Assistant Director.

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by IRRC Advisory Council (AC) Chair Kimberly Buryanek. All AC members introduced themselves and reported on how their homework assignment (i.e., how they share information on the IRRC with their constituents).

2. Approval of agenda

On a motion by Clark Goltz and seconded by Mark Draper, the agenda for the meeting was approved, with zero “no” votes.

3. Approval of Sept. meeting minutes

On a motion by Becky Miles-Polka seconded by Nita Schmidt, the Sept. meeting minutes were approved, with zero “no” votes.

4. Public comment

Chairperson Buryanek allowed time for public comment. No comments were made by members of the public.

5. Director’s report (IRRC)

IRRC Director Deborah Reed announced that at this time of the year, the IRRC presents the Legislative report. The report follows the seven IRRC legislative priority areas. Legislative report highlights include:

Professional Development

Finalizing modules for K-5 including an



A New Vision for Literacy Research in Iowa

- Overview
- Graphing Phoneme Correspondence
- Morphology
- Frayer
- Text Structure

The modules will include videos of the following school personnel:

Kenra Basler, Shepherd of the Valley

Tabatha Frizell, Waterloo

Donny Short, Sioux City

Jeri Ayala, Fort Dodge

Some modules will be released this winter and remaining will be released later in the spring.

Statewide Presentations

Dr. Reed shared a slide showing the rate of presentations that occurred by IRRC staff over the last year with the highest occurring during training for the ISRP study

Ames Community School District

The IRRC is serving as an external evaluator for a study of three different phonics programs. The intended outcome is to identify a district-wide program for implementation in grades K-2.

Reach 2015 vs 2016

The slide showed significant increases in Facebook Likes, Twitter followers, blog subscribers. The IRRC stopped outsourcing for external support in this area and brought it all internal to the Center. The IRRC is proud that our support continues to grow given the transition.

Blogs

The majority of the people that follow the IRRC on Facebook are teachers, so the blogs that were only related to parents were not always considered useful. The IRRC has tried to add content with more substance to content to help teachers. Nita suggested that we ask graduate students to write blogs as we did last year.

Downloads

A pie chart was shared, showing the popularity of different downloadable resources.

Social Media 2015 vs 2016

The number of people that follow the IRRC on Facebook has increased and engagement is also higher.



A New Vision for Literacy Research in Iowa

IHE-TIER Support

This system is designed to give preservice educators experience with the TIER site and to help them get certified on FAST and IGDI. A chart was shared to show how each teacher prep institute is utilizing IHE-TIER. The IRRC is working with TIES to get better data on who is using it and how. Council members discussed who participated in the original training (Nita and Cathy indicated it was open to all instructors) and how the IRRC might share usage information once better reports are available.

Data Report; Council Bluffs

The IRRC has ongoing work to estimate effects of their summer program based on 2015 data. This has informed the 2016 ISRP study.

Dyslexia Training

The IRRC purchased licenses for pre-service candidates to participate in online training designed to help them satisfy the new legislation requiring information on dyslexia. As of November, 24 of 32 teacher prep programs have taken advantage of the training with over 350 participants. Spring semester pre-service candidates who want to participate in the training need to register by March 15, 2017. After that date, the IRRC will release the remaining licenses to current (i.e., in-service) teachers. The Council suggested a reminder about the deadline be sent to those IHE reps that attended the IHE-TIER training.

The IRRC was also asked to email the flyer to council members. It is available on the IRRC website: <http://www.iowareadingresearch.org/literacy-resources/dyslexia-training/>

6. ISRP Study Results

After acknowledging those who made the study possible, Deborah reviewed the background and design of the study. She presented results aligned to the 8 ISRP criteria in Code. The full report is available on the IRRC website: <http://www.iowareadingresearch.org/research/summer-study/>

Suggestion for guidance documents

The Council suggested several guidance documents that could be created by the IRRC in response to the study findings. Suggestions included:

- ISRP study talking points (Note: these are provided in the report)
- Positive aspects and “bright spots” uncovered by the study



A New Vision for Literacy Research in Iowa

- Additional data analysis including findings by student and district characteristics (e.g., student race/ethnicity. District 3-hour or 4-hour block of literacy instruction during summer school
- Further discussion about “why” no differences were detected between conditions
- Market the need for teacher prep students to obtain the Reading Endorsement with IHEs

7. Iowa Department of Education (DE) update (Iowa Department of Education)

Phil Wise and Shan Sievert provided legislative updates to the Council.

At this point, the IRRC portion of the meeting ended and the Council was asked to serve in an advisory role to the Department of Education. Ryan Wise, David Tilly, and Sarah Brown shared the newly released Retention Guidance document with the members and gathered questions and input.

IRRC Advisory Council meeting then resumed.

8. Announcement from Council members

There were no announcements from Council members.

9. Adjourn

On a motion by Mark Draper and seconded by Becky Miles-Polka the meeting was adjourned, with zero “no” votes.