

# The Fifth Annual Literacy & Learning Conference



**Eastern Illinois University  
Saturday, February 27, 2016**

## **Agenda**

8:15 – 8:45	Registration & Coffee and Doughnuts
8:45 – 9:00	EC-EIU Business Meeting
9:00 – 10:00	Keynote
10:10 – 11:10	Breakout Session 1
11:20 – 12:20	Breakout Session 2

## **Sponsored by**

East Central– EIU (EC-EIU) Reading Council  
EC-EIU Student Reading Council  
National Road Reading Council  
affiliates of the Illinois Reading Council

## **Presentations**

**Keynote: 9:00 – 10:00**

### ***“The Vocabulary Critical to Your Students’ Success”***

Presenter: Marilee Springer

Room: Buzzard Auditorium

DELINEATE, INTEGRATE, POINT OF VIEW...Researchers estimate 85% of achievement tests are based on the vocabulary of the standards. Students from poverty, ELL students, and other at-risk students are particularly in need of learning these words in ways that meet their specific learning needs. Learn the critical words in the Common Core Standards and how to teach them in ways to make them part of ALL of your students’ long-term memories and an automatic part of your students’ vocabulary.

<http://www.marileesprenger.com/>

### **Visit the Illinois Reads Room – Buzzard 2430 10:00 – 12:20**

Come and browse through “Illinois Reads” books that have been selected for 2016. Pick up a list of the books, activity plans to accompany some of the titles, and bookmarks for each age band. Illinois Reads is an initiative that was started by the Illinois Reading Council in March 2013. The program encourages people to read books by Illinois authors. Each year, the program offers a new list of books at six different age levels. Illinois Reads kicks off in March and concludes in November with “Family Reading Night,” an annual statewide event.

<http://illinoisreads.org/booksselectedfor2016.html>

## First Breakout Sessions: 10:10 – 11:10

### ***"Reaching All Readers Through Readers Workshop"***

Presenters: Paige Nordland & Janette Van Meter

Room: Buzzard 2442      Grades: K – 3

This presentation will include an overview of Reader's Workshop, including information on how to set it up, develop centers, using data to make instructional decisions, and how to differentiate instruction. They will leave time at the end of their session for questions.

### ***"Unlocking Student Engagement"***

Presenter: Gail Huizinga

Room: Buzzard 2441      Grades: All

This session highlights the criteria of highly engaging instruction and the difference between student activity and actual intellectual involvement. It addresses the shifts in one's teaching stance that is needed to occur for this type of high-level instruction as well as provides specific strategies to promote student-owned learning.

### ***"Literature Circles in the Middle Grades"***

Presenter: Abigail Schmitz

Buzzard 2440      Grades: 5-8

Literature circles are a great way to address student interest and apply reading skills in new and exciting ways. With the use of literature circles, students are given opportunities to lead, challenge, question, investigate, and much more in a collaborative group setting. Join me as I share my various resources for literature circle implementation from book lists, to role sheets, and even methods of evaluation. We will explore how literature circles address common core state standards and ways to incorporate higher order thinking questions and accountable talk.

## First Breakout Session 10:10 – 11:10 (cont.)

### ***"Whole Brain Teaching"***

Presenter: Kati Harkins

Buzzard 2439      Grades: All

Whole Brain Teachers of America is one of the fastest growing education reform movements in the United States. It is a grassroots movement begun by founder Chris Biffle and Co-Founders Chris Rekstad and Andrea Schindler. Whole Brain Teaching is an approach designed towards maximizing student engagement, and focusing on the way the brain is designed to learn. It is an integrated method combining effective classroom management and pedagogically sound approaches to student engagement. Whole brain teaching includes seven steps that a teacher incorporates into their everyday classroom. This session will address the seven steps needed to start using Whole Brain Teaching in your own classroom to maximize student engagement and improve classroom management.

## Second Breakout Session 11:20 – 12:20

### ***"Active Strategies for Teaching Academic Vocabulary"***

Presenter: Patricia Tylka

Buzzard 2442      Grades: All

During this active session, participants will experience research-based instructional activities they can use to build students' academic vocabulary. We will examine the phrase "academic vocabulary," Beck, McKeown, and Kucan's three tiers of vocabulary words, and Marzano's approach to vocabulary instruction.

## Second Breakout Session 11:20 – 12:20 (cont.)

### ***“Discussion: A Powerful Tool for Comprehension”***

Presenter: Gail Huizinga

Buzzard 2441

Grades: All

What is your vision for student discussion? What does high-quality discussion look and sound like? This workshop features how to support and strengthen student-led discussion as well as empower students to deepen their learning through conversation.

### ***“A Text to Text and Text to Community Connection in ONE Middle School Unit”***

Presenters: Diana Thompson & Devan Fuller

Buzzard 2440

Grades: 5-8

Do you want to learn how to teach your students author’s purpose and author’s craft by connecting a historical fiction novel to a fable? Do you want to learn how to connect the author’s purpose and craft to your community? Participants in this session will learn the strategies to do all this in one unit. Everything is done for you! Resources and examples will be provided.

### ***“Ten Science Trade Books and Ten Activities”***

Presenter: Denise Reid

Buzzard 2439

Grades: K-5

The NGSS and CCSS allow for a natural integration of science and literacy. This session will introduce ten trade books and ten accompanying hands-on activities. Integrating literacy and science allows children to develop a deeper understanding of science knowledge.

Thank you for attending our **Fifth Annual Literacy and Learning Conference**. Please consider becoming a member of the Illinois Reading Council. Be sure to select your local council, e.g., East Central-EIU Reading Council or National Road Reading Council. There are many professional development opportunities available to you as a reading council member. For more information about membership, visit the informational table in the atrium or go to the Illinois Reading Council’s Website.

<http://www.illinoisreadingcouncil.org/>

Mark Your Calendar:

Spring 2016 EC-EIU Reading Council Meeting

*“Legos, Literacy, and 21st Century Skills”*

Tuesday, April 12, 2016, at 6:00 p.m.

Location: Buzzard Hall 2441

Presenter: Michael Carlton

Director of Education and Outreach - Quad Cities

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Handouts and “Illinois Reads” Activities  
Available on the EC-EIU Reading Council

<http://www.eiu.edu/~reading>