

**2012 Annual Conference of the American Reading Forum
Sundial Beach and Tennis Resort, Sanibel Island, FL**

Conference Co-Chairs: Randi Stanulis and Janine Certo, Michigan State University

Dynamic Text Discussions: Pushing Curricular Boundaries in Contemporary Classrooms

It has long been argued that discussions should be part of a balanced approach to literacy, language, and literature instruction. Students, too, should have opportunities to participate in discussions across multiple genres and across the curriculum. Our 2012 theme recognizes that the field of education should not sacrifice social interactions nor inclusion of a wide variety of genres. We welcome proposals that focus on discussion broadly-construed: discussion in a variety of formats, discussion of various genres, and discussion across the curriculum. What do teachers learn about student understanding from engaging students in talk about text? What do students learn from interacting with others across genres and across the curriculum? We especially encourage proposals that push boundaries---ways teachers strive to have agency and to negotiate discussion in environments with mandated or scripted curriculum. We encourage proposals that share ways students benefit from participating in dynamic discussions around a wide variety of texts.

Since the American Reading Forum is an 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, we extend this invitation to all members of the Reading/Literacy community to participate in this year's 2012 American Reading Forum Conference.

The 2012 conference theme calls for participants to submit proposals, panels, and/or problems court sessions relating to text- based discussion: how teachers learn to facilitate text-based discussions in contemporary classrooms and/or what students learn from engaging in dynamic discussions.

General Information

Proposals for Papers, Panels, and Problems Courts will be considered for inclusion in the 2012 American Reading Forum Annual Conference Program if they are received by **April 1, 2012**. The theme is: **Dynamic Text Discussions: Pushing Curricular Boundaries in Contemporary Classrooms**. All presenters are expected to **register** and **attend** the conference, in order 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 programs but s/he 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 considerations. However, if the original paper is not accepted in the initial 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 and appoint a reactor who will start the session 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 welcome in the panel approaches. If additional time is needed, please request additional time on the proposal cover sheet.

Problem Court sessions will be allotted 60-90 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 as Word documents (.doc or .docx) and must include:

1. One cover sheet
2. A one- page, single-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, single-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.

**2012 American Reading Forum
PAPER PROPOSAL COVER SHEET
DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSAL: April 1, 2012**

Person Submitting Proposal:

Institutional Affiliation:

Mailing Address:

Telephone: Office: (____) _____ Home: (____) _____

Fax: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

SESSION TITLE:

Name of First Presenter:

Institutional Affiliation:

Mailing Address:

Telephone: Office: (____) _____ Home: (____) _____

E-mail: _____ Cell: (____) _____

Second Presenter:

Institutional Affiliation:

Mailing Address:

Telephone: Office: (____) _____ Home: (____) _____

E-mail: _____ Cell: (____) _____

Please add all additional presenters here (Just copy and paste format above).

Suggested Reactor:

Institutional Affiliation:

Mailing Address:

Telephone: Office: (____) _____ Home: (____) _____

E-mail: _____ Cell: (____) _____

_____ **I have contacted this reactor.**

If you are a graduate student, who may be nominating you for a scholarship?

Return this cover sheet, along with the complete proposal to:

Erica Hamilton, Program Organizer

Email: ehamilto@msu.edu (subject line: **ARF 2012 Paper Proposal**)

Please save your paper proposal submission as: **lastname.ARF2012PaperProposal**

2012 American Reading Forum
PANEL/PROBLEMS COURT PROPOSAL COVER SHEET
DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSAL: April 1, 2012

Person Submitting Proposal:

Institutional Affiliation:

Mailing Address:

Telephone: Office: () _____ Home: () _____

Fax: () _____ E-mail: _____

SESSION TITLE:

PLEASE CIRCLE TYPE OF SESSION: PANEL PROBLEMS COURT

Name of First Presenter (Chair):

Institutional Affiliation:

Mailing Address:

Telephone: Office: () _____ Home: () _____

E-mail: _____ Cell: () _____

Second Presenter:

Institutional Affiliation:

Mailing Address:

Telephone: Office: () _____ Home: () _____

E-mail: _____ Cell: () _____

Third Presenter:

Institutional Affiliation:

Mailing Address:

Telephone: Office: () _____ Home: () _____

E-mail: _____ Cell: () _____

Please add all additional presenters here (Just copy and paste format above).

Reactor (required for panels and problems court):

Institutional Affiliation:

Mailing Address:

Telephone: Office: () _____ Home: () _____

E-mail: _____ Cell: () _____

_____ I have contacted this reactor.

Graduate students: Who may be nominating you for a scholarship?

Return this cover sheet, along with the complete proposal, to:

Erica Hamilton, Program Organizer

Email: ehamilto@msu.edu (subject line: ARF 2012 Panel/Problem/Court Proposal)

Please save your proposal submission as: **lastname.ARF2012Panel-ProblemCourtProposal**

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH SESSION PROPOSAL COVER SHEET
DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF PROPOSAL: September 15, 2012

Name of Graduate Student Presenter:

Institutional Affiliation:

Mailing Address:

Telephone: Office: ()

Home: ()

Fax: ()

E-mail:

Faculty Advisor/Mentor (ARF Sponsor):

Institutional Affiliation:

Mailing Address:

Telephone: Office: ()

Home: ()

Fax: ()

E-mail:

The cover sheet is for graduate students presenting research papers at the 2012 ARF conference who wish to be considered for the ARF 2012 research scholarship awards. The due date for the graduate student proposal is later (September 15, 2012) to give entering graduate students time to submit a proposal.

Return this cover sheet, along with the complete proposal, to:

Erica Hamilton, Program Organizer

Email: ehamilto@msu.edu (**subject line: ARF 2012 Grad Student Research Session Proposal**)

Please save your paper proposal submission as: **lastname.ARF2012GradStudentProposal**

**American Reading Forum
REACTOR REQUEST**

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT: April 1, 2012

I would like to participate in the 2012 American Reading Forum by serving as a reactor to paper sessions.

Name: _____
Institutional Affiliation: _____
Mailing Address: _____
Telephone: Office: (____) _____ Home: (____) _____
E-mail: _____ Cell: (____) _____

IF YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO MAY BE INTERESTED IN BEING A REACTOR, PLEASE
FILL IN THE INFORMATION ON THE FORM BELOW.

Name: _____
Institutional Affiliation: _____
Mailing Address: _____
Telephone: Office: (____) _____ Home: (____) _____
E-mail: _____ Cell: (____) _____

Return this cover sheet, along with the complete proposal, to:

Erica Hamilton, Program Organizer
Email: ehamilto@msu.edu (**subject line: ARF 2012 Reactor Request**)
Please save your reactor request as: **lastname.ARF2012ReactorRequest**

TIMELINE

January, 2012	All ARF members receive Program Proposal Forms
March 30, 2012	All proposals must be submitted to Program Co-chairs
April 13, 2012	All proposals sent to reviewers
May 4, 2012	Proposals returned to Program Co-Chairs
June 1, 2012	Notification of proposal status
June 20, 2012	Preliminary programs sent to website for July newsletter
August 1, 2012	Corrected preliminary program returned to Program Co-Chair
September 15, 2012	Graduate Student proposal submitted to Program Co-Chair
October 10, 2012	Notification of Graduate Student proposal status
December 5-8, 2012	American Reading Forum Convenes