CAR QUARTERLY

Center for the Advancement of Reading (CAR) The California State University

A Message from the Chancellor's Office

Beverly Young, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs

Greetings and congratulations on another productive year of teacher preparation in the California State University! You'll be pleased to know that we will highlight at May's Board of Trustees' meeting the positive findings regarding the outcomes of our programs to prepare K-8 teachers to teach reading. [Editor's Note: See page 3 of



this newsletter.] The CSU has long focused on preparing teacher candidates to provide strong instruction in literacy and the effect of this priority is obvious in our systemwide findings. We will also be making an announcement about the new CSU Center to Close the Achievement Gap, a partnership initiative designed to ensure that our graduates are well prepared to utilize best classroom and school level practices that have evidence of impact on strengthening all students' learning. I hope you have already heard about this work on your campus, and I invite you to look for more details as we officially launch the Center this spring. As always, thank you for the work that you do in literacy and teacher preparation. Have a wonderful summer!

News from the CAR Directors

Nancy Brynelson Hallie Yopp Slowik

Two new members were welcomed to CAR's Council of Faculty Representatives at our meeting in March. **Katya Karathanos** represents San José State University, and **Jayne McGuire** represents Humboldt State University. The Council consists of one faculty member from each CSU campus that has a teacher preparation program. Representatives are listed on the final page of this newsletter. These individuals represent the faculty and are the primary conduit of information among CAR, our public stakeholders (who serve on CAR's Advisory Board), and the campuses. They also are the voices of their communities. Feel free to contact them about issues in the preparation of teachers in the area of reading.

CAR representatives recently discussed the activity occurring in the area of early childhood care and education. The new *California Preschool Learning Foundations* have

implications for our reading methods and graduate courses. CAR developed an informational PowerPoint presentation with the assistance of **Shelia Arnold**, Region 9 Lead for the California Preschool Instructional Network, and **Joyce Wright**, CAR Advisory Board member and Assistant Superintendent in the Sacramento County Office of Education. Each council member has the PowerPoint. All faculty are welcome to use it as they wish in their courses. Reading faculty who have not yet seen the PowerPoint should contact their campus representative.

We extend a warm congratulations to former CAR Co-Director **Douglas Fisher** who was recently elected to the Board of Directors of the National Reading Conference!

CSU Reading Conference 2009 Save the Date!

We are delighted to announce that we have procured some private funds to support our 2009 CSU Reading Conference, "Literacy for All Learners." Teams of four or five faculty members from each campus will receive travel support. The conference will once again be held in collaboration with our supportive colleagues from the Association of California School Administrators at their annual Leadership Summit. This year, the summit will be in Sacramento, and CAR's sessions will be held on Thursday, November 5, 2009. Please plan your fall calendar accordingly! Participants will be treated to two outstanding keynote speakers: Ernest Morrell and

No Limits Literacy

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Richard Villa. Morrell, professor at UCLA, is an expert in the areas of urban education and critical literacy. Villa, president of Bayridge Consortium, specializes in differentiation and inclusion. Conference details will be distributed by CAR representatives.

What's New on the Web?

We encourage you to explore CAR's Web site (http://www. calstate.edu/car) periodically. As new documents are published that impact the work of reading faculty, they are posted on the site. Recent additions include the following:

State Resources:

- California Preschool Learning Foundations
- Reading/Language Arts and English Language **Development Adopted Instructional Materials**
- **RICA—Revised Content Specifications**

National Resources:

- Assisting Students Struggling with Reading: Response to Intervention and Multi-Tier Intervention in the Primary Grades (Institute of Education Sciences)
- Developmentally Appropriate Practice in Early Childhood Programs Serving Children from Birth Through Age 8 (National Association for the Education of Young Children)
- Report of the National Early Literacy Panel: Developing Early Literacy (National Institute for Literacy)

Faculty Publications

Recent publications by CSU reading faculty include those listed below. Congratulations to the authors for their contributions to the field.

Doyle, M. A., Gibson, S. A., Gómez-Bellengé, F., Kelly, P. R., & Tang, M. (2008). Assessment and identification of first-grade students at risk: Correlating the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early literacy Skills and An Observation Survey of Early Literacy Achievement. In Y. Kim, V. J. Risko, D. L. Compton, D. K. Dickinson, M. K. Hundley, R. T. Jiménez, K. M. Leander, & D. W. Rowe (Eds.), The 57th National Reading Conference Yearbook (pp. 144-159), Oak Creek, WI: National Reading Conference.

Kelly, P. R., Gómez-Bellengé, F. X., Chen, J., & Schultz, M. (2008, June). Learner outcomes for English language learner low readers in an early intervention. TESOL Quarterly 42(2), 135-160.

Lapp, D., & Fisher, D. (2009). It's all about the book: Motivating teens to read. Journal of Adolescent & Adult *Literacy*, 52, 556-561.

Mohler, G. M., Ah Yun, K., Carter, A., & Kasak, D. (2009). The effect of curriculum, coaching, and professional development on prekindergarten children's literacy achievement. Journal of Early Childhood Teacher Education, 30, 49-68.

Roberts, T. A. (2008). Home storybook reading in primary or second language with preschool children: Evidence of equal effectiveness for second-language vocabulary acquisition. Reading Research Quarterly, 43, 103-130.

Roberts, T. A. (2009). No limits to literacy for preschool English learners. Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin Press.

Rockett, H.G. (2008). Getting to know your students as writers through interactive centers: Evaluating your students' writing while they write! The California Reader, 42, 23-33.

Yopp, R. H., & Yopp, H. K. (2010). *Literature*based reading activities, 5th ed. Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Please send CAR Co-Director Hallie Yopp Slowik the full citation of any recent publications by CSU reading faculty. They will appear in an upcoming newsletter.

New RICA On Course

The first administration of the revised RICA remains on course for August 2009. To support campuses in learning more about the revised RICA and planning any needed program modifications, the Center developed and distributed two documents in March:

- Side-by-Side Comparison of 1998 and 2007 RICA **Content Specifications**
- 2007 RICA Content Specifications Worksheet

These documents are available through the CAR representatives at each campus or by contacting the Center directly. Please see page 3 of the newsletter for contact information.

The CSU played a significant role in the field testing of constructed response items. Thirteen of the 30 institutions participating in the field testing were CSU campuses. We expect further information on the revised RICA to be available through the Commission on Teacher Credentialing Web site (www.ctc.ca.gov) in June after the last administration of the current exam. We will keep you apprised of new developments and resources for the RICA as they become available through the CAR Web site as well.

K-8 Reading Preparation Highlighted at May Trustees' Meeting

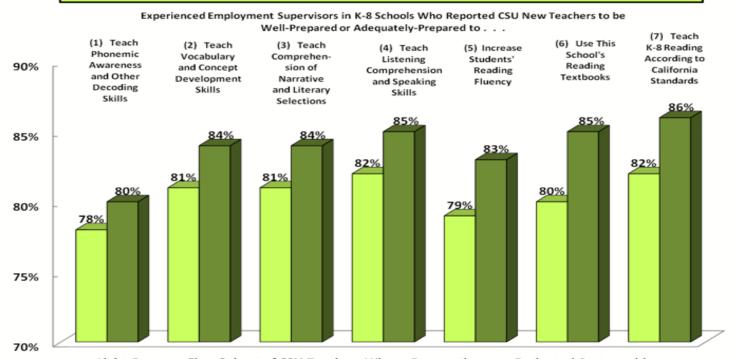
Beverly Young and **David Wright** shared the chart in the center of this page as part of a presentation on the evaluation of teacher preparation in the CSU. The chart demonstrates the gains made since the systemwide evaluation began early in the decade.

Looking Ahead

Among the topics in upcoming issues of the *CAR Quarterly* are the following:

- Preschool Framework Development
- Reading Conference 2009 Details
- New Standards for the Reading Certificate and Specialist Credential

Progress Toward CSU Excellence in Preparing Elementary Teachers for Reading-Language Arts Instruction (K-8)



Light Green = First Cohort of CSU Teachers Whose Preparation was Evaluated Systemwide

Dark Green = Most Recent Cohort of CSU Teachers Whose Preparation was Evaluated Systemwide

Contacting the Center

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Faculty Council of Representatives

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CSU Channel Islands	
CSU Chico	Deborah Summers
CSU Dominguez Hills	Lisa Hutton
CSU East Bay	. Valerie Helgren-Lempesis
CSU Fresno	Imelda Basurto
CSU Fullerton	Ruth Yopp-Edwards
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CSU Long Beach	Jessica Zacher
CSU Los Angeles	Joan Fingon
CSU Monterey Bay	Irene Nares-Guzicki
CSU Northridge	Kathleen Rowlands
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CSU Sacramento	Marcy Merrill
CSU San Bernardino	Ina Katz
San Diego State University	Barbara Moss
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San José State University	Katya Karathanos
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Mission Statement

The CSU Center for the Advancement of Reading, dedicated to excellence in literacy instruction, promotes the preparation of effective teachers and reading specialists in the California State University by:

- Facilitating faculty communication and research;
- Disseminating research and policy information;
- Fostering connections among the CSU literacy faculty,
 P-12 partners, and public education stakeholders; and
- Serving as a forum for the interchange of public and academic interests.

The Center is committed to ensuring that California's children and adolescents will be capable readers and writers; as such, they will have the greatest chance of becoming successful and productive citizens in today's changing world.