

Standing Committee on Research

Charge: *In order to identify and address issues of broad concern to NCTE members interested in advancing research in English language arts, the committee is charged as follows:*

- *to promote interest in research and research findings across the Council;*
- *to promote articulation across the various research groups within NCTE;*
- *to serve as the primary research strand review group for NCTE Annual Convention programming;*
- *to make ELA researchers aware of relatively under-researched areas and to encourage members of the Council to undertake studies in one or more of those areas;*
- *to explore ways to increase support for literacy research by engaging various groups in collaborative projects and by creating materials to help the Council make the case for governmental support for literacy research programs;*
- *to consider developing position statements and other publications helpful to teachers, administrators, and policymakers regarding research in English language arts;*
- *to maintain a presence in AERA and pursue efforts to secure private grants and foundation funding for NCTE research initiatives.*

Major activities: What major actions, projects, initiatives, or studies in your charge have been completed by your group since July 1, 2018? In each activity describe the more important features of the work, and connect your work to the [NCTE Vision Statement](#), if applicable.

1. List names, affiliations, and geographic region for all committee members.

Name	Affiliation	Geographic Region
Tamara Butler	Michigan State University	Michigan
Limarys Caraballo	CUNY	New York
Sybil Durand	Arizona State University	Arizona
Antero Garcia	Stanford University	California
David Green	Howard University	Maryland
Fahima lfe	Louisiana State University	Louisiana
Rosa Jimenez	University of San Francisco	California
Gerald Campano	University of Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania
David Low	California State U – Fresno	California
Nicol Mirra	Rutgers University	New York
Gholnecsar Muhammad	Georgia State University	Georgia
Nora Peterman	U of Missouri – Kansas City	Kansas
Tim San Pedro	Ohio State University	Ohio
Amy Stornaiuolo	U of Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania
Ebony Thomas	U of Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania
Leah Zuidema	Dordt College	Iowa

2. What actions, projects, initiatives, or studies are “in progress” at this time?

In order to identify and address issues of broad concern to NCTE members interested in advancing research in English language arts, the Standing Committee on Research is charged as follows:

1. to promote interest in research and research findings across the Council;
2. to promote articulation across the various research groups within NCTE;
3. to serve as the primary research strand review group for Annual Convention programming;
4. to make ELA researchers aware of relatively under-researched areas and to encourage members of the Council to undertake studies in one or more of those areas;
5. to explore ways to increase support for literacy research by engaging various groups in collaborative projects and by creating materials to help the Council make the case for governmental support for literacy research programs;

6. to consider developing position statements and other publications helpful to teachers, administrators, and policymakers regarding research in English language arts;
7. to maintain a presence in AERA and pursue efforts to secure private grants and foundation funding for NCTE research initiatives.
8. The committee discussed consideration of prohibiting one scholar winning multiple SCR awards during the same year (PRA and Purves), which occurred in 2019. This would require committees to discuss their award winners.

3. What have you accomplished so far, and what is your timeline for future work?

Accomplishments

New Members to the Committee

- We recognized and thanked the service of outgoing members: April Baker-Bell, Jennifer Clifton, and Peter Williamson.
- We welcomed new members to the committee: Limarys Caraballo, Sybil Durand, David Green, and Nicole Mirra.

NCTE 2018 Research Strand & Guaranteed Sessions

- The council discussed reserving one guaranteed research session each year for local teachers to discuss local issues.

Research in the Teaching of English Editorial Team

- On September 1, 2017, Ebony Thomas, Gerald Campano, and Amy Stornaiuolo became the lead editorial team for RTE. Since that time, they have worked to fill the first year's worth of issues with two central foci: 1) peer reviewed studies, featuring the highest quality empirical research on literacy and English education from around the world, and 2) In Dialogue, an open access invited section based upon each issue's theme.

Promising Researcher Award

- The 2019 NCTE Promising Researcher Award committee was chaired by Fahima Ife (Louisiana State University). Members were Gholnecsar Muhammad (Georgia State University), David Green (Howard University), and Sybil Durand (Arizona State University). Review of papers was facilitated through a blind peer-review process.
- The 2019 NCTE Promising Researcher Award winner is Tracey Flores, for her paper "*Cultivando La Voz Mujer: Latina Adolescent Girls and Their Mothers Rewriting Their Pasts and Imagining Their Futures*"

Timeline for Future Work

The Standing Committee on Research anticipates the following activities during 2019-2020:

- We will review all Research Strand proposals for NCTE 2019, and provide oversight for research-related convention program planning.
- We will arrange for two guaranteed research-related sessions during NCTE 2020.
- We will form a review committee for the NCTE Promising Researcher Award, of which a SCR member in good standing will serve as chair.
- We will continue to serve in our advisory and support capacity for *Research in the Teaching of English*, NCTEAR, and the Research Foundation.
- We will nominate NCTE members in good standing for the role of Member.

4. How has the work of your group contributed to NCTE's role in shaping the profession of teaching and/or the understanding of literacy in educational contexts?

The work of the Standing Committee on Research continues to shape the profession and the field by promoting national and international leadership in research on the teaching of English, literacy, and the English language arts. Our oversight of *Research in the Teaching of English*, roles in planning the Research Strand of the annual NCTE convention program as well as support of the NCTEAR annual Midwinter conferences, selection of the NCTE Promising Researcher, and connections to the Council's other research initiatives, continue to make the SCR a vital part of this organization.

Suggestions from your group: Your good ideas help direct future NCTE actions.

1. What significant changes or trends in our field point to action from the Council?

- The council would request an answer to the question discussed at our 2019 annual meeting: Is there a relationship between the position statements released by the Council and SCR? Ebony Thomas shared that the group has endeavored to put out research briefs and compile research resources in the past. They came out in the *Council Chronicle*. Doing this work would require additional funding. The idea of holding a 1-day preconference for SCR members to construct research briefs was discussed.
- The council suggested that we earmark some money for local educators/community activists to be able to attend this conference. This could work in conjunction with the councils' suggestions to reserve one guaranteed session for local educators.

Suggestions given during the 2016 SCR meeting in Atlanta are still relevant and need addressing:

- Students in White communities & criticality beyond communities of color; what kind of knowledge/understanding of diversity exists in those spaces? Most of our conversations about research and diversity are focused largely on students of color.
- Another area where NCTE's leadership and research initiatives need change is when we consider region & institutional type. How might we open the Council to other perspectives? How do we support colleagues at smaller universities?
- Teacher educators, critical Whiteness; reappropriate certain words for best practices, while being ever careful not to re-center Whiteness as normative in our research, teaching, and service.
- The ties among the research organizations of NCTE need strengthening. Facilitating connections among the SCR, RTE, NCTEAR, and the Research Foundation would be helpful. Also, given the current political climate, might the Squire Policy Research Office be revitalized?

2. What trends need to factor into medium- to long-term NCTE planning?

- NCTE would do well to facilitate PLCs and smaller learning communities of all kinds. Members of the SCR applaud recent efforts by the Council to use new media to encourage greater connections among members and others in education, such as #NCTEchat and the blog. Members hope that these efforts will continue.
- With an annual budget, NCTE's SCR could have a greater role in disseminating important research from our membership beyond *RTE* and the official conventions.

Timothy San Pedro, Chair