



NewsNotes

College Reading & Learning Association

September 2009

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President's Corner: The Value of Conferences

By President Jane McGrath

In preparing for CRLA's 42nd Annual Conference in Richmond next month, I've been helping colleagues write "Why I should attend a professional conference" justifications for their deans and professional growth committees.

It's discouraging to experience this trend, but our institutions are not the only ones questioning the value of people traveling to in-person conferences. As James G. Leventhal, with Berkeley's MAGNES Museum, wrote in his May Westmuse (Western Museums Association) blog, "There's been a lot of back channel recently about the relevance and even necessity of professional conferences in this perpetually, overwhelmingly networked world." Indeed, my quick search discovered an amazing number who forecast the imminent demise of "carbon-based conferences."

Fortunately there are bloggers like Caroline Davies Posynick, a Museum & Heritage Consultant in Victoria, British Columbia, who negate that view with this perspective: "I go to a conference for more than the PowerPoint presentations and information sessions and the ice cream at afternoon breaks. I personally go to conferences in order to connect with other real, live people who love the same work I do, speak the same lingo as me and to generally hang out with kindred spirits.... This face-to-face interaction cannot be replaced with online workshops/chats/facebook/twittering."

However, to clarify that those who share her view are not Luddites, Posynick affirms how incorporating new technologies can expand and extend and enliven our conference experience: "...what IS cool about the online stuff is it... allows me to keep the conversation going, to not forget a face and name.

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President's Corner: The Value of Conferences, continued

It [online] even allows me to meet and connect with new people in the field.... This new way of meeting makes actual conference attendance that much more valuable because now I have the name, have the face, I know some of that person's ideas and a bit of their point of view . . . and await conference to get the chance to find out about that spirit the other person holds. There is simply no other way to do that but to do so in person, and I need that from my colleagues, new and old. After all, isn't some sort of real connection with others what it is all about?"

Yes, forging connections with colleagues is the justification for us gathering in Richmond because it's those connections that will:

Keep us current. Where else can we get 3 days of "best practices" in one place, for one airfare and hotel stay?

Help us grow. Presenting a session and attending a session are both great educational experiences: We learn a lot in the process of preparing a presentation and one of the best ways to learn is from the experiences of others.

Put us in touch with experts. Being able to chat with the author of the textbook we use or the researcher whose data confirmed the effectiveness of a program similar to ours is phenomenal. The value of talking one-on-one with some of the Council of Learning Assistance and Developmental Education Associations (CLADEA) Fellows is incalculable.

Strengthen the profession. Whether this is our first or forty-first CRLA conference, we can all *share our best for student success*. If you are new to the profession, find a mentor; if you are experienced, mentor someone. Our profession and our students will be better for it.

I hope to see you in Richmond as we kindle new and revitalize existing connections,

Jane

CRLA's New Mission, Vision, and Guiding Principles

In July 2009 the CRLA Board met to up date CRLA's vision, mission, and guiding principles. The Board will create its yearly action plans based on these principles. The guidelines provide the foundation for the Association's decision-making, such as funding, committee action, and conference emphases. Future Boards may modify the guidelines as needed for the Association to maintain its vitality. The next page shows the new document as adopted by the CRLA Board on July 18, 2009.

"A single conversation with a wise man is better than ten years of study.."

—Chinese Proverb

CRLA's New Mission, Vision, and Guiding Principles

Vision Statement

CRLA is the leading international organization providing expertise in post-secondary student learning.

Mission Statement

To facilitate the professional growth of its members to improve student learning in post-secondary education.

Guiding Principles

CRLA: for college professionals active in reading, learning assistance, developmental education (reading, writing, mathematics, study strategies), college success programs, and tutorial services.

Any individual who belongs to the faculty, professional staff, or administration of a public or private college or university, and who has an interest in college learning assistance, tutorial programs, reading, or developmental education is invited to join CRLA.

The following principles guide the actions of the College Reading and Learning Association:

- Provide professional development opportunities;
- Support best practices;
- Promote research in the field;
- Promote a culturally responsive approach to teaching and learning;
- Cultivate a diverse and active membership;
- Promote ethically responsible professional behavior;
- Collaborate with other professional associations for mutual benefit; and
- Manage the Association efficiently and effectively.

These principles take the place of a detailed, yearly strategic plan. They are now the guidelines for virtually all Association decision-making, such as funding, committee action, and conference emphases. These principles will weather unpredictable change within the Association, and modification by future Boards and memberships is not precluded.

"The whole purpose of education is to turn mirrors into windows."

—Sydney Harris

15 Fascinating Facts About Virginia

By Jack Trammel and Jenny Bruce, On Site Co-Chairs

- 1) Virginia was named for England's "Virgin Queen," Elizabeth I.
- 2) Virginia is known as "the birthplace of a nation."
- 3) The present state capital in Richmond was also the capital of the Confederacy.
- 4) About ½ of all the people in the United States live within a 500 mile radius of the capital of Virginia, Richmond.
- 5) The College of William and Mary in Williamsburg is the second oldest in the United States; it was founded in 1693.
- 6) The nation's first collegiate secret society was the Flat Hat Club, founded in 1750 at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg.
- 7) The state nickname is "Old Dominion."
- 8) The first peanuts grown in the United States were grown in Virginia.
- 9) Union Passenger Railway was the first successful electric street railway transit agency. It was formed in 1888 at Richmond.
- 10) The first Thanksgiving in North America was held in Virginia.
- 11) Virginia has been dubbed the "Internet Capital of the world."
- 12) Patrick Henry made his "Give me Liberty or Give me Death" speech in St. John's Church in Richmond.
- 13) Built in 1928, the Byrd Theatre in Richmond is one of the nation's grand movie palaces with a 2.5 ton Czechoslovakian crystal chandelier, marble walls, and murals. The "mighty Wurlitzer" organ is play on Saturday nights.
- 14) Live alligators used to lounge in a fountain at the elegant 1895 Jefferson Hotel in Richmond. The hotel's sweeping marble staircase is said to be the model for the staircase in the Atlanta mansion in the classic 1939 movie, "Gone with the Wind."
- 15) The 40-acre Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden in Richmond began as the Lakeside Wheel Club for bicyclists. The garden was built in the 1880's by millionaire and horticulturist Ginter, a founder of the American Tobacco Co.



Photo of Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
by Terri Routh

From <http://www.americanprofile.com/tidbits/virginia.html>
<http://www.50states.com/facts/virginia.htm>

Cover Design Contest for Students

By Karen Agee and Russ Hodges

The editors of the *CRLA Handbook for Training Peer Tutors and Mentors*, to be published in fall, 2010, seek entries to design the cover. Students of any institution of higher learning with a CRLA member on the faculty or professional staff are eligible to submit entries. Visit www.crla.net to learn more about the College Reading and Learning Association, the first organization in the field. The 2010 handbook will update the 2003 *CRLA Tutor Training Handbook* with more than 100 articles and training modules on nearly 100 topics, which for the first time will include mentor training.

*"Learning without
thought is labor lost."*

~Confucius

The competition will be judged by the *Handbook* editors and a panel of evaluators. The winning cover may be used all or in part for any and all CRLA literature or material and becomes the property of CRLA. **All submissions must be received by February 14, 2010.** The winner will be notified no later than February 28, 2010, via email or telephone and will be awarded \$200.00. All contestants will be notified of the results of the contest.

Rules:

1. Each entry must be original graphics (not clip art).
2. The graphics must be designed in such a manner that reduction or enlargement will not distort the image.
3. Graphics may be in color but must convert well to black and white or grayscale.
4. The graphic must be submitted electronically as an attachment in JPG, TIFF, or EPS.
5. Designs should be emailed to Karen Agee (karen.agee@uni.edu) with a copy to Russ Hodges (rh12@txstate.edu). The subject line is HTPTM coverart.
6. In the body of the message should be included the artist's name, address, email, telephone, institution attended, and name of at least one CRLA member at that institution.
7. Multiple submissions from the same artist are permitted.

Fellows of the Council of Learning Assistance and Developmental Education Associations

The Council of Learning Assistance and Developmental Education Associations (CLADEA), formerly the American Council of Developmental Education Associations (ACDEA), serves as a clearinghouse for shared information and collaboration among professional associations in the field. Our mission is “to foster mutual support among national and international organizations dedicated to postsecondary learning assistance or developmental education.” CLADEA member associations—Association for the Tutoring Profession (ATP), College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA), National Association for Developmental Education (NADE), National Center for Developmental Education (NCDE), and National College Learning Center Association (NCLCA)—are pleased to announce the selection of Fellows for 2009: **Barbara Bonham, Nancy Carriuolo, Russ Hodges, Jack Truschel, and William G. White, Jr.***. The induction ceremony was held at NCLCA’s National Conference on October 1, 2009.



The idea of initiating a program to recognize and honor leaders in the profession was originally conceived by the distinguished researcher and scholar Martha Maxwell. Fellows are selected based on their long-term and significant contributions to our field. Selection as a Fellow represents the highest honor conferred upon professionals in learning assistance, tutoring, and developmental education.

Individuals selected as Fellows must be nominated by a current Fellow or by a member association. Current Fellows then review a portfolio of each nominee’s accomplishments and vote to determine who will be selected as new Fellows. Previously inducted Fellows include the following:

David Arendale	Jeanne Higbee	Michael Rose
Carol Bader	Gene Kerstiens*	John Roueche
Nancy Bornstein	Lucy MacDonald	Kate Sandberg
Hunter Boylan	Georgine Materniak	Gladys Shaw
Kathy Carpenter	Martha Maxwell*	Michele Simpson
Martha Casazza	Robert McCabe	Rita Smilkstein
David Caverly	Jane McGrath	Karen G. Smith*
Frank Christ	Jane Neuburger	Milton "Bunk" Spann
Susan Clark-Thayer	Cathy Nuse	Norman Stahl
K. Patricia Cross	Carol O’Shea	Linda Thompson
Al Granowsky	Karen Patty-Graham	Vincent Tinto
Phoebe Helm	Walter Pauk	Claire Ellen Weinstein

*deceased

CRLA Leadership Positions and Changes

The CRLA President and Board of Directors encourage members to seek leadership positions! At the fall conference, the elections committee will meet to nominate candidates for elected positions. This year the treasurer and president-elect positions will be open. Updated position descriptions are available on the [CRLA website](#).

New appointments are:

Lindley Workman Alyea has been named to a three-year term as *NewsNotes* Editor. Lindley is Assistant Director of the Student Learning Assistance Center at Texas State University.

Texan Linda Callen has been named to a three-year term as CRLA Conference Registrar. Linda is Program Coordinator at Texas A&M's Student Learning Center.

Dr. Gretchen Starks-Martin, St. Cloud State University, has been appointed to a second term as Executive Assistant to the Board.

Dr. Elizabeth Boretz, University of California-Merced, has been appointed as Conference Sessions Evaluator.

All four begin their terms at the end of the 2009 Conference, October 31.

Calling All Students to the 42nd Annual CRLA Conference!

The annual CRLA conference provides a unique educational experience for graduate students and undergraduate students who serve in the roles of teaching assistants, research assistants, tutors, mentors, and peer educators. In addition to assisting with session presentations, attending the various concurrent sessions can serve as a tremendous learning opportunity for our students.

For graduate and professional students, don't forget to encourage them to join and attend the meeting of the Graduate and Professional Student Success SIG! In many instances, we need to ask the experts---our students---for their opinions and ideas. We can learn a lot from our students, so don't forget your resident "experts" when you make plans to attend the 2009 CRLA conference in Richmond!



It takes all of us!

Do you have tutors that should be recognized for their work? Visit [CRLA](#)



CRLA: A Truly International Organization

By Linda Russell

This summer I had the distinct pleasure and honor of representing the CRLA Board at the Technology Institute for Developmental Educators (TIDE) at Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas. I learned many amazing ways to incorporate technology into my teaching, met wonderful colleagues, learned the Texas two-step, and met three CRLA colleagues from North-West University in Potchefstroom, South Africa.

Mariaan Klopper, Rassie Louw and Mandi Wallace came to TIDE as a team to learn about ways they can improve the use of technology at their university. In South Africa they face particularly difficult circumstances when it comes to things we take for granted, such as high speed internet access.

How did Mariaan, Rassie and Mandi learn about TIDE? From CRLA, of course! We are so glad they were able to make the long trip, and very happy to know that our efforts to be an international professional organization are reaching colleagues far beyond our borders.

Send name, address, email, phone, or institution changes or corrections to Vicki Papineau, Membership Coordinator:
vpapineau@cccneb.edu
papineau@hamilton.net



Left to right: Rassie Louw, Mariaan Klopper, Mandi Wallace

Conference Site Chairs Wanted

Do you live in or near a city with an airport served by major airlines? Would you like an opportunity to become more active in CRLA? Does the chance to be part of the team planning a CRLA conference make you smile? If so, YOU could be an On-site Chair for CRLA's 2012 Annual Conference!

We are looking for enthusiastic, organized volunteers to be prospective On-site Chairs for future conferences. Membership in CRLA is a must and prior conference attendance is a plus. Meeting planning experience is not a requirement.

Interested? Email Lonna Smith, Conference Site Selection Chair at Lonna@pacbell.net for more information.

"A good character is the best tombstone. Those who loved you and were helped by you will remember you when forget-me-nots have withered. Carve your name on hearts, not on marble".—Charles H. Spurgeon

In Memoriam: Martha Maxwell

NewsNotes is sad to report that CRLA lost two long-time members and colleagues recently.

Martha Maxwell

Dr. Frank Christ wrote on LRNASST:

Colleagues, it grieves me to announce that our beloved developmental education pioneer and my long-time personal friend ((we were grad students at the University of Maryland in the late 1950's), Martha Maxwell has died. I received the news from her husband in Maryland.

A special memorial bibliography of Martha will be added in LSCHE along with the present one of Gene Kerstiens. If you have not viewed Gene's and would like to do so, please access the LSCHE page at http://www.pvc.maricopa.edu/~lsche/resources/res_bib_memlist.htm

The LSCHE website also has biographical information about Martha in her role as mentor for Winter Institute:

Martha founded learning centers at American University five decades ago, at the University of Maryland, 30 years ago, and at the University of California-Berkeley in 1973. The Annual Institute for Learning Assistance Professionals (now the Winter Institute) began under her direction in 1977 and the first six institutes were held summers at UC Berkeley.

In Memoriam: Martha Maxwell, continued

She was the author of four books: *Skimming and Scanning Improvement* (1968), *Improving Student Learning Skills* (1978), *Evaluating Academic Skills Program: A Source Book* (1991, 1996) and *Improving Student Learning Skills: Programs and Practices for Working with the Underprepared College Student*. A new, revised edition of *Improving Student Learning Skills* was published in 1997. She also edited *When Tutor Meets Student* (1991, 1994), and *From Access to Success: Readings in Learning Assistance and Developmental Education* (1994).



Since retiring from Berkeley in 1980, Martha kept busy writing, consulting, mentoring, and revising the CAS standards for learning assistance programs.

Peter Stevens, President of Cambridge Stratford Ltd, posted the following on LRNASST:

Martha was the first professional reviewer of *The Master Tutor* in 1994. Her public and private support of this research-based tutor training curriculum is one of the most important reasons it was subsequently published and presented to the profession.

Martha's unbiased contributions to the advancement of tutor training are a testament to her professionalism. Her life's commitment to the profession has carved a path that has made the tasks of those that followed clearer, easier, and more successful.

In Memoriam: William White

Russ Hodges posted the following (edited) on LRNASST:

It is with utmost sadness that I announce the death of Dr. Bill White, Professor at Grambling State University. Dr. White was as a superb college teacher, gifted researcher, and dedicated advocate for the field of learning assistance and developmental education.

In Memoriam: William White, continued



Dr. White was Professor of Educational Leadership at Grambling State University and has been with that institution since 1985. He was instrumental in shaping Grambling's doctorate in developmental education: currently the country's only doctoral program specializing in developmental education.

While I attended Grambling, Dr. White mentored me through the doctoral program and was chair of my dissertation committee. He was the consummate academic, requiring rigor and excellence while maintaining a warm and empathic approach. He loved teaching and mentoring, had served as chair of 21 dissertation committees and was currently the major professor for 18 doctoral- and 7 master-level students. Many of his former students are now employed as vice presidents, deans, faculty members, practitioners, and researchers within our field.

Dr. White's career of over 30 years was also steeped in his dedication to scholarship and he made significant contributions to our field in areas such as learning support center physical environments, the history of learning assistance and developmental education, college access, and land-grant colleges. He was considered by many to be a leading expert in these areas and often consulted with universities or was an invited speaker for meetings. He was also a gifted writer and found reward in co-authoring book chapters, monographs and journal articles with his former and current students.

Dr. White spent endless hours talking to students about the benefits of graduate studies and often referred students to not only Grambling's program but to programs around the country. His collaborative and collegial efforts are a tribute to his character. Dr. White was to be inducted as a Fellow of Council of Learning Assistance and Developmental Education Associations (formerly ACDEA) this fall. This is the highest honor awarded within our field.

2009 Special Conference Events

By Karon Mathews

Conference Welcome with Sweet Treats, Program, and ITPC Celebration – Event co-sponsored by Cengage Learning *Complimentary Ticketed Event; Cash Bar*

Wednesday, October 28, 7:30 pm – 9 pm Capital Ballroom

Kick-off the conference with a sweet treat as you renew friendships and make new ones! Join in the 20th anniversary celebration of ITPC. **(Program and ITPC celebration, 8 pm – 8:30 pm.)**

Evening Hospitality Room

Complimentary

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, October 27-30, 9:30 pm – 11 pm

Join with colleagues to enjoy conference hospitality provided by the Mid-Atlantic Region and friends. Spirits and snacks provided each evening. Cheers!

Cyber Café

Complimentary

Thursday and Friday, October 29-30, 7:30 am – 6:00 pm, Commonwealth

Check your email or correspond briefly with associates. If extensive computer time is needed, please provide your personal laptop. Free wireless Internet service is provided throughout the conference area and in hotel facilities open to the public.

Conference Opening Session with Breakfast and Keynote Address

Complimentary Ticketed Event

Thursday, October 29, 8:00 am – 10:00 am, Capital Ballroom

Start your day with breakfast during the conference opening session. The keynote conference address will be presented by Dr. Constance Staley.

Scholarship Raffle Sales

Thursday, October 29, 10:00 am – 5:30 pm; Friday, October 30, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

The CRLA Awards and Scholarship Committee conducts its annual raffle during the conference in order to raise funds for CRLA's Professional Development Scholarship program. Be a part of this program by (1) contributing an item to the Scholarship Raffle that represents your institution, geographic region, or personality and (2) purchase raffle tickets! Tickets may be purchased when you register for the conference and at the Raffle table during the conference. In order to win, you must be present at the raffle drawing Friday during the Conference Social Hour, 5:45 pm – 6:45 pm.



CRLA Executive Board

President

Jane McGrath

janemcgrath@cox.net

President Elect

Karon Mathews

k-mathews@tamu.edu

Treasurer

Joe Barnhill

joe.barnhill@avila.edu

Secretary

Ed Fernandez

malc@mail.utexas.edu

Executive Assistant

Gretchen Starks-Martin

gastarks@stcloudstate.edu

Membership Coordinator

Vicki Papineau

papineau@hamilton.net

vpapineau@cccneb.edu

NewsNotes Editor

Linda Russell

Linda.russell@minneapolis.edu

2009 Special Conference Events, continued

CRLA State, Region, and Chapter Meetings

Thursday, October 29, 12:00 pm – 12:45 pm

All conference participants are invited and encouraged to attend the meeting of your state, region, or chapter to network with colleagues and learn how to become involved in CRLA in your area. Plan to continue your discussions and agendas over lunch together from 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm.

Constance Staley Book Signing

Thursday, October 29, 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Meet Dr. Staley and get your signed copy of her latest textbook.

Exhibits Open

Thursday, October 29, 2:00 pm-6:45 pm; Friday, October 30, 7:15 am – 4:00 pm; Grand Ballroom

Visit with publishers and vendors displaying and demonstrating the latest developments for our students.

Exhibitors' Reception and Book Signing by CRLA Authors

Complimentary Ticketed Event; Snacks and Cash Bar

Thursday, October 29, 5:45 pm – 6:45 pm, Grand Ballroom

Enjoy hors d'oeuvres and with your preferred beverage from the cash bar while meeting with our exhibitors. The book signing event provides you the opportunity to meet CRLA authors.

Special Interest Group (SIG) Meetings

The SIGs were developed to provide CRLA members a format to network throughout the year as well as during the conference. Most of the SIG Leaders have pre-scheduled ticketed meetings with conference planners. Please check with your SIG Leaders for the time and place of your meeting.

Kellogg, TIDE, and Winter Institute Reunions

Thursday, October 29, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

All participants of the Kellogg Institute, TIDE (Technology Institute for Developmental Education), and the Winter Institute are invited to reunite and enjoy dinner-on-the-town as a group. Assemble first in the Hospitality Suite.

2009 Special Conference Events, continued

Dinner on the Town

Thursday, October 28, and Friday, October 29, 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm

Visit the Richmond information table to help you determine your dinner plans Thursday and Friday evenings. Richmond offers a variety of restaurants serving delicious cuisine to satisfy everyone's palate!

Exhibitors' Breakfast

Complimentary Ticketed Event

Friday, October 30, 7:15 am – 8:30 am, Grand Ballroom

Begin your day enjoying a continental breakfast fare. Continue exploring the exhibitors' materials before the second general session and CRLA business meeting.

Lunch with a Mentor

Ticketed Event (cost \$25)

Friday, October 30, 12:15 pm – 1:45 pm, Capital Ballroom

Take advantage of an unparalleled opportunity to join in a small group discussion over lunch with leaders and visionaries in our field. Each Mentor's group is limited to nine participants. This event fills quickly! Don't miss out on the luncheon. Make sure you purchase your ticket when you register for the conference!

Conference Social Hour with Scholarship Awards and Raffle Drawing

Complimentary Ticketed Event; Hors d'oeuvres and Cash Bar

Friday, October 30, 5:45 pm – 6:45 pm

Join your colleagues in honoring this year's recipients of the CRLA scholarship awards. Also, are you holding the lucky ticket? Don't leave until all the winning tickets have been drawn for the items donated to the Scholarship Raffle! You must be present to win; no prizes will be mailed.

On-to-Salt Lake City Brunch with Keynote, Dr. Jack LaVista

Ticketed Event (cost \$25)

Saturday, October 31, 10:30 pm – 12:15 pm, Capital Ballroom

The On-to-Salt Lake City Brunch features remarks from Dr. Jack LaVista. Additionally, CRLA's new officers will be installed and information will be presented on the 2010 annual conference in Salt Lake City.

Job Postings

NewsNotes announces a new feature: Job Postings. If you would like to publicize your openings, you may send your posting to our new editor, Lindley Workman Alyea at lindley@txstate.edu.

In addition, don't forget to bring your announcements to the annual conference where you may put them on the Share table. CRLA would like to help you get the word out about opportunities at your institution!

NewsNotes is published three times a year: January 15, May 15, and September 15.

Editorial Board:

Dorothy Bonser

Maggi Miller

Linda Russell

Diane Van Blerkom

See [Publication Guidelines](#) for submission information and dates.

Upcoming Events

September

23-25 MRADE/IDEA conference in Hannibal, MO.

[Contact Kathy Haberer](#)

24-25 [Minnesota / South Dakota / North Dakota](#)

[\(MNADE\) conference](#) in Rochester, MN. [Contact Victoria Williams](#)

October

1-2 [National College Learning Center Association \(NCLCA\)](#) conference in Golden, CO.

9 PA/NJ Regional Meeting in Lakewood, NJ. [Contact Phyllis Kremen](#).

20-23 [Texas CASP Conference](#) in San Antonio, TX.

28-31 College Reading and Learning Association conference at Richmond, VA. [Contact Karon Mathews](#).

November

November *SIG Newsletters* published

5-9 [College Reading Association \(CRA\)](#) conference in Charlotte, NC.

Upcoming Events, continued

December

S/R/C Newsletters published

1 SIG and S/R/C funding requests, goals and activities report deadline. Requests and reports should be submitted to [Jane McGrath](#), Coordinator of SIGs & S/R/Cs.

15 Copy deadline for January 2009 **NewsNotes**.

"The dream begins with a teacher who believes in you, who tugs and pushes and leads you to the next plateau, sometimes poking you with a sharp stick called "truth." ~Dan Rather



Foundations for Success in Times of Change
College Reading and Learning Association
42nd Annual Conference
October 28-31, 2009
Richmond, Virginia

Call To Conference!!

For more Information:
www.crla.net

Karon Mathews
CRLA 2009 Conference Chair
Student Learning Center
Texas A&M University
118 Hotard, 4230 TAMU
College Station, TX 77843-4230
kmathews@tamu.edu
(979) 845-2724 office
(979) 845-6419 fax

