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**EDUCATION:** **Northern Illinois University:** DeKalb, IL, Aug. 1996. EdD in Literacy Education. GPA 3.89/4.0. *Cognate: Children's and Adolescent Literature.*

**Northern Illinois University:** DeKalb, IL, Aug. 1992. MEd in Reading Education/Curriculum. GPA 3.85/4.0.

**Judson College:** Elgin, IL, May 1987, 1989. BA in Human Relations/ Psychology; Certification in Elementary Education/Language Arts. GPA 3.6/4.0.

**Illinois Certification:** K-9/ Reading, Language Arts, Social Studies; 6-12/ English, Reading. Certified Reading Specialist K-12.

**WORK EXPERIENCE:** **Department of Education Chair:** Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL, 2021-current. Organized, prepared for, and led Department Task Forces, Meetings, and Faculty Searches. Developed reports for accountability purposes. Reviewed faculty as needed. Oversaw a departmental merger, and taught courses in children's literature and reading methods.

**Professor of Education:** Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL, 2020-current. Taught undergraduate courses in reading methods and senior seminar. Supervised student teachers in clinical practice as well as methods practicum students at the elementary level. Provided oversight of middle school methods practicum. Mentored interested students in literacy book clubs. Apprenticed with current Department Chair for assuming Chair responsibilities effective July 2021.

**Assistant Dean and Professor of Practice:** University of the Pacific, Stockton, CA, 2019 – 2020 Academic Year. Responsible for academic program development, operations, budget, staffing, student recruitment and support, state and national compliance, assessment and accreditation, and course delivery for undergraduate/graduate educator preparation programs and programs in school counseling. Serving as a member of the Dean's Council which has been tasked with "re-imagining" the School of Education.

**Chair of Graduate Programs in Literacy Education:** Judson University, Elgin, IL, 2014 – 2019. Founder and Co-Director of Doctoral Program in Literacy Education serving a population of approximately 36 doctoral candidates

annually as well as founder and Director of the Masters Program in Literacy Education. Responsible for faculty oversight, marketing, recruitment, and budget as well as teaching graduate courses in both programs.

**Tenured Professor of Literacy Education:** Judson University, Elgin, IL, 2010 – 2019.

**Professor of Literacy Education:** Judson University, Elgin, IL, 2009 – 2019. Promotion in rank. Founder and Director, Master of Education in Literacy Program which opened in 2008. Administrative responsibilities include recruitment, budget management, advertising and marketing, chairing advisory council and teaching graduate courses in evaluation of children's literature and reaching reluctant readers and writers.

**Associate Professor of Education:** Judson University, Elgin, IL, 2004 to 2008. Taught undergraduate courses in reading and social studies methods as well as in children's and adolescent literature. Advised undergraduate students and supervised practicum and student teaching placements.

**International Literacy Consultant:** Self-employed, 2002 to present. Provide staff development to teachers and administrators in school districts both inside and outside of the U.S on a variety of topics including: Literacy Engagement, Literacy Climate, Literacy Leadership, Reading Aloud, Comprehension of Expository Text, Written Composition, and Children's/Young Adult Literature.

**Author-in-Residence/Visiting Author:** Self-employed, 2002 to present. Provide writing workshops, roundtable book discussions, and/or informational assemblies to school-aged children in grades PreK-12 in public and private schools both inside and outside of the U.S.

**College Instructor:** Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL, Annually, 2003 – 2004. Taught undergraduate course in *adolescent literature* for the Department of English. Developed course proposal, outline, and syllabus and accepted position on a recurring basis.

**College Instructor:** Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL Aug. 2002 – Dec. 2002. Instructed undergraduate students in the course *Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum in the Middle Grades* for the Department of Education.

**University Instructor:** Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, Aug. 2002 – Dec. 2002/June 2000 – July 2001/June 1997 – Aug. 1997. Instructed graduate students in an advanced course in the *evaluation of children's literature* grades K-12. Developed new course outline.

**College Instructor:** Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL, Annually, 1999 – 2004. Taught undergraduate course in *children's literature* for the Department of English. Developed new course syllabus and accepted position on a recurring basis.

**Classroom Teacher:** Butler Jr. High School, Oak Brook, IL, Aug. 1996 – 2002. Responsible for language arts education with a reading/literature emphasis for students in grades six, seven, and eight. Assisted in the design of an innovative rotational program for junior high students to provide additional support and specialization in the areas of written composition, grammar/vocabulary, research/public speaking, and reading/literary analysis.

**University Instructor:** Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, Sept. 2001 – Dec. 2001. Instructed graduate students in an advanced course in *teaching reading in the secondary school setting*. Developed new course outline.

**College Instructor:** Judson College, Elgin, IL, Jan. 2001 – Apr. 2001. Instructed undergraduate students with an emphasis in secondary education in the methods of *disciplinary literacy in the secondary setting*. Developed new course outline and syllabus and accepted the position on a recurring basis.

**University Instructor:** Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, Sept. 2000 – Dec. 2000/Aug. 1996 – Dec. 1996. Instructed graduate students in an advanced course in the *methods of teaching language arts*. Guided students in the research and writing of an extensive review of the literature related to a self-selected area of the language arts. Introduced students to the process of preparing written reviews of newly published language arts resources, and aided students in submitting a piece of prose/poetry with a language arts emphasis to an educational journal.

**University Instructor:** Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, March 2001 – June 2001/June 1999 – August 1999/June 1998 – July 1998. Developed workshop-designed course for graduate students covering critical elements of *disciplinary literacy in middle and high school settings*.

**College Instructor:** Judson College, Elgin, IL, Jan. 1999 – May 1999. Instructed undergraduate students majoring in education in an *elementary reading methods* course.

**University Instructor:** Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, Jan. 1998 – May 1998/Jan. 1997 – May 1997/Aug. 1994 – May 1995. Taught introductory course in *children's literature* for undergraduate students in the elementary education program. Covered genres and literature appropriate to grades K-9. Developed a new course outline with an emphasis on practical application for the classroom teacher.

**University Instructor:** Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, Aug. 1995 – Dec. 1995/Aug. 1997 – Dec. 1997. Instructed graduate students in *diagnostic reading procedures* and corresponding corrective instruction.

**University Instructor:** Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, June 1997 – Aug. 1997/Jan. 1996 – May 1996. Instructed graduate students in an advanced course in the *methods of teaching social studies*. Heavy

emphasis was placed on curriculum design, assessment, and integration of literature into the social studies program.

**Classroom Teacher:** Brook Forest Elementary School, Oak Brook, IL, Aug. 1990 – July 1996. Responsible for instruction and management of a fifth-grade, self-contained classroom. Implemented new curriculum design, inserviced staff, created new programs, chaired reading/language arts committee for the district. (Vacated position to gain increased experience)

**University Instructor:** Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, June 1996 – Aug. 1996. Supervised graduate students in an advanced *practicum in the clinical diagnosis of reading difficulties*. Assisted in the development of assessment plans for students referred to the reading clinic, supervised diagnostic sessions, aided in the preparation of formal case study evaluations prepared for both home and school.

**University Instructor:** Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, Jan. 1993 – May 1993. Provided instruction to undergraduates in the second of a series of required courses in *reading methodology*. Designed new course outline under guidance of department chair.

**University Instructor:** National-Louis University, Lombard, IL, Sept. 1992 – Dec. 1992. Instructed a course in *social studies methodology* to students in a master's degree program. Created new syllabus, advised students and worked collaboratively with department heads.

**Classroom Teacher:** Perry Elementary School, Carpentersville, IL, Aug. 1989 – July 1990. Provided instruction to students in a fifth-grade, self-contained classroom setting. Worked as part of an established team to meet educational and emotional needs of children from a wide variety of backgrounds.

**Counselor:** St. Joseph's Hospital, Elgin, IL, June 1987 – July 1991. Provided 1:1 counseling and group therapy to adults on a specialized inpatient psychiatric treatment center for highly successful career-oriented adults. Worked as part of an established collaborative team of doctors, nurses, counselors, and social workers to meet patients' needs and reintegrate them back into their families and the workforce.

**PROFESSIONAL  
AFFILIATIONS:**

American Educational Research Association  
American Library Association  
Assembly on Literature for Adolescents - NCTE  
Association for Literacy Educators and Researchers  
Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development  
Children's Literature Assembly - NCTE  
Fox Valley Reading Council  
Illinois Reading Council  
Illinois Council for Affective Reading Education  
International Literacy Association

Literacy Research Association  
National Council of Teachers of English  
Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators  
Young Adult Library Services Association

- PRESENTATION HIGHLIGHTS:**
- \***Keynote Speaker** – Australian School Libry. Conf., **[livestream]Australia** – 2021
  - Presenter** – Reading for the Love of It Conf., **Toronto, ON, Canada** – 2020
  - \***Plenary Speaker** – NZ Lityc. Assn. Conf., **Christchurch, New Zealand** – 2019
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Teachers' College Literacy Conf., **NY** – 2018
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Placer County Reading Council, **CA** – 2018
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Illinois Reading Council Conference, **IL** – 2018
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Literacy in Motion Conference, **IL** – 2018
  - \***Plenary Speaker** – AATE/ALEA Literacy Conf., **Tasmania, Australia** – 2017
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – SIOP Conf., **CA** – 2017
  - Co-Presenter** – CCCU Conference on Doctoral Collaboration, **Biola U.** – 2017
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Iowa State Reading Conference, **IA** – 2017
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Massachusetts State Reading Conf., **MA** – 2017
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Virginia State Reading Conference, **VA** – 2017
  - \***Plenary Speaker** – U of Akureyri Literacy Conf., **Akureyri, Iceland** – 2016
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Literacy Promise Conf., **BYU, UT** – 2016
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Connecticut Reading Assn. Conf., **CT** – 2016
  - Featured Speaker** – Illinois Reading Council Conf., **IL** – 2016
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Northwest Educator's Conf., **OR** – 2016
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Grand Valley State Literacy Conf., **MI** – 2016
  - \***Featured Speaker** – International Literacy Assn. Conf., **MA** – 2016
  - \***Plenary Speaker** – UK Literacy Assn. Conf., **Nottingham, England** – 2015
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – WI Concl. for Admin. Spec. Services Conf., **WI** – 2015
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Texas Assn. for Improvement of Rdng. Conf., **TX** – 2015
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Indiana State Reading Assn. Conf., **IN** – 2015
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Alaska Literacy Assn. Leadership Retreat., **AK** – 2015
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Texas Assn. of Literacy Educators Conference, **TX** – 2015
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Lutheran School Educators Conf., **OH** – 2015
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Eastern NY School Library Media Assn. Conf., **NY** – 2015
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Osceola County Administrators Academy., **FL** – 2015
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – California Reading & Literature Project Conf., **CA** – 2015
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Rigor, Relevance & Relationship Conference, **TX** – 2015
  - Featured Speaker** – International Literacy Assn. Annual Conf., **MO** – 2015
  - Presenter** – Literacy Research Association Conference, **CA** – 2015
  - Presenter** – CCCU Summit of Doctoral Program Directors, **CA** – 2015
  - Presenter** – National Council of Teachers of English Annual Conf., **MN** – 2015
  - Presenter** – Assn. for the Adv. of Interntl. Educ. Conf., **CA** – 2015
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – California Reading Association Conf., **CA** – 2014
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Florida Reading Association Conf., **FL** – 2014
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Michigan Reading Assn. Summer Conference, **MI** – 2014
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Rutherford Cty. Transforming Teaching Conf., **TN** – 2014
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Hamline University Summer Literacy Conf., **MN** – 2014
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – University of Nebraska at Omaha Lit. Conf., **NE** – 2014
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Rotary District 6490 Banquet, **IL** – 2014
  - \***Keynote Speaker** – Write to Learn Conference, **MO** – 2014

\***Keynote Speaker** – Ohio Educational Library Media Assn. Conf., **OH** – 2014  
 \***Presenter** – United Kingdom Literacy Assn. Conf., **Brighton, England** – 2014  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Rochester Area School Librarians Conference, **NY** – 2013  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Colorado Council of the IRA Conference, **CO** – 2013  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Redlands Forum at Redlands University, **CA** – 2013  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Wisconsin Title I Association Conference, **WI** – 2013  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice Conf., **IL** – 2013  
 \***Featured Speaker** – Rigor, Relevance & Relationship Conference, **TX** – 2013  
 \***General Session Speaker** – International Rdg. Assn. Annual Conv., **IL** – 2012  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Vermont Council on Reading Conference, **VT** – 2012  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Diamond State Reading Conference, **DE** – 2012  
 \***Plenary Speaker** – Australian Literacy Ed.Conf., **Sydney, Australia** – 2012  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Assoc. Ind. Schools WA, **Perth, West Australia** – 2012  
 \***Featured Speaker** – GA Conf. on Teaching Reading & Writing, **GA** – 2012  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – UVU Engaged Reading Conference, **UT** – 2012  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – East Tennessee Reading Conference, **TN** – 2012  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Missouri Assn. School Librarians Conference, **MO** – 2012  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – North Dakota Title I Conference, **ND** – 2012  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – BC Annual Lit. Conf., **British Columbia, Canada** – 2012  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – 20<sup>th</sup> Alabama Kindergarten Conference., **AL** – 2012  
 \***Plenary Speaker** – East Asian Reg. COS Conf., **Bangkok, Thailand** – 2012  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – New York State Reading Assn. Conference, **NY** – 2011  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Wisconsin State Reading Assn. Conference, **WI** – 2011  
 \***Featured Speaker** – Natl. Assn. of Elem. School Principals Conf., **FL** – 2011  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Literacy for All Conference, **RI** – 2010  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Alabama Reading Association Conference, **AL** – 2010  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Michigan Assn. of Media Educ. Conference, **MI** – 2010  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – FL Assn. of Chrstn. Colleges & Schools Conf., **FL** – 2010  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – ALEA Teacher Workshop, **Tasmania, Australia** – 2010  
 \***Featured Speaker** – World Cong. on Rdg., **Auckland, New Zealand** – 2010  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Australian Ltcy. Ed. Assn. Conf., **Perth, Australia** – 2010  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Starved Rock Young Authors' Conference, **IL** – 2010  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Ohio Council of Teachers of English Conf., **OH** – 2010  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Arabian Rdg. Assn. Conf., **Dharan, Saudi Arabia** – 2010  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Adolescent Literacy Conference., **IN** – 2009  
 \***Institute Speaker** – IRA National Convention – 2009  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Surrey Schools Dev. Day, **Surrey, BC, Canada** – 2009  
 \***Featured Speaker** – National Title I Conference, **TX** – 2009  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Santa Clara County Reading Conference, **CA** – 2009  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Florida ASCD Conference, **FL** – 2008  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Reading First State of Tennessee Conv., **TN** – 2008  
 \***Featured Speaker** – Literacy for All National Convetion, **NV** – 2008  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Young Authors' Festival, **KY** – 2008  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Nebraska State Reading Conference, **NE** – 2008  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Maryland State Reading Conference, **MD** – 2008  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – North Carolina State Reading Conference, **NC** – 2008  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Saskatchewan Reading Conf., **Regina, Canada** – 2008  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – Colorado Reading Conference, **CO** – 2008  
 \***Keynote Speaker** – IRA Rocky Mountain Regional Conf., **MT** – 2007

**\*Keynote Speaker** – IRA Southwest Regional Conference, **AR** – 2007  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Texas Assoc. for Improvement of Reading, **TX** – 2007  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Florida Reading Association Conference, **FL** – 2007  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – IRA Annual Conv. Banquet, **Ontario, Canada** – 2007  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Iowa Reading Association Conference, **IA** – 2007  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Maryland State Reading Conference, **MD** – 2006  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – North Carolina State Reading Conference, **NC** – 2006  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Virginia State Reading Conference, **VA** – 2006  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Arkansas 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teachers Conference, **AR** – 2006  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Texas State Reading Conference, **TX** – 2005  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – West Virginia State Reading Conference, **WV** – 2004  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Connecticut State Reading Conference, **CT** – 2004  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Missouri State Reading Conference, **MO** – 2004  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Arkansas State Reading Conference, **AR** – 2004  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Minnesota State Reading Conference, **MN** – 2004  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Mahoning Valley Council of the IRA, **OH** – 2004  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Tennessee State Reading Conference, **TN** – 2004  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Keystone State Reading Conference, **PA** – 2004  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Alabama State Reading Conference, **AL** – 2004  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Plains Regional Reading Conference, **ND** – 2004  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – New England Reading Assoc. Conference, **NH** – 2004  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Western Early Lit. & Reading Rec. Conf., **OR** – 2004  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Colorado Council of the IRA Conference, **CO** – 2004  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Arkansas Assoc. of School Librarians Conf, **AR** – 2004  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – New Hampshire Library Conference, **NH** – 2004  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Granite State Reading Council, **NH** – 2004  
**Symposium Speaker** – International Reading Assoc. Conf., **NV** – 2004  
**Featured Author** – Texas Library Association Conference, **TX** – 2004  
**Featured Author** – CMSU Children’s Literature Conference, **MO** – 2004  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Illinois Reading Council State Conference, **IL** – 2004  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Georgia State Reading Conference, **GA** – 2004  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Guam Council of the IRA, **GU** – 2004  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Nevada Reading Week Project, **NV** – 2004  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – British Columbia IRA Conference, **BC** – 2003  
**Featured Speaker/Author** – Florida State Reading Conf., **FL** – 2003  
**Featured Author** – IRA National Conf., **FL** – 2003  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Tennessee Reading Assn. Conf., **TN** – 2003  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Louisiana State Reading Conf., **LA** – 2003  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Kentucky State Reading Conf., **KY** – 2003  
**Featured Speaker/Author** – Iowa State Reading Conf., **IA** – 2003  
**Featured Speaker/Author** – Bed, Breakfast, & Books Conf., **VT** – 2003  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Alaska State Literacy Association Conf., **AK** – 2003  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Washington State Reading Conf., **WA** – 2003  
**Featured Speaker/Author** – Wyoming State Reading Conf., **WY** – 2003  
**Featured Speaker/Author** – Wisconsin State Reading Conf., **WI** – 2003  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – CCIRA Leadership Training Conf., **CO** – 2003  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Texas State Reading Association Conf., **TX** – 2003  
**Featured Speaker** – Michigan Reading Association State Conf., **MI** – 2003  
**Featured Speaker** – IRA West Regional Literacy Conference, **OR** – 2003

**Featured Speaker** – Two Rivers Reading Council, Bourbonnais, IL – 2003  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – IRA Leadership Training Seminar, **UT** – 2002  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – Arizona State Reading Association Conf., **AZ** – 2002  
**Featured Speaker** – Midwest Regional Middle School Conf., **SD** – 2002  
**Featured Speaker/Author** – Arkansas State Reading Conf., **AR** – 2002  
**Featured Speaker/Author** – Tennessee State Reading Conf., **TN** – 2002  
**Featured Speaker/Author** – Mid-South Literacy Conference., **AL** – 2002  
**Featured Author** – Bed, Breakfast, and Books Conference, **MI** – 2002  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – MTA Conf. for Pre-Service Teachers, **MA** – 2002  
**Featured Speaker/Author** – Indiana State Reading Conf., **IN** – 2002  
**Featured Speaker/Author** – IRA Plains Regional Conf., **KS** – 2002  
**Presenter** - IRA National Conference, **CA** – 2002, [1995, 1994]  
**Featured Speaker/Author** – IRC State Conf., **IL** – 2002, 2001, 2000  
**\*Keynote Speaker** – CUSD #200 Literacy Festival, Wheaton, IL – 2002  
**Featured Speaker** – Illinois School Library Media Assoc. Conf. – 2002  
**Featured Speaker** – Chicago Public Schools, All-City Conf. – 2002  
**Featured Speaker** – West Suburban Reading Council, Hillside, IL – 2002  
**Featured Speaker** – Lake Area Reading Council, Barrington, IL – 2002  
**Featured Speaker** – Quincy Leadership Conference, Quincy, IL – 2002  
**Featured Speaker/Author** – NCTE National Conf., **MD** - 2001  
**Featured Speaker/Author** – IRA Great Lakes Regional Conf., **OH** – 2001  
**Featured Speaker/Author** – IRA Plains Regional Conf., **SD** – 2001  
**Featured Speaker/Author** – Lewis/Clark Reading Council – 2001  
**Featured Speaker/Author** – South Suburban Reading Council – 2001  
**Guest Author** – Lowell Elementary School, Wheaton, IL - 2001  
**Presenter** – IRA Plains Regional Reading Conference – 2000  
**Featured Speaker/Author** – Fox Valley Reading Council – 2000  
**Featured Speaker/Author** – Starved Rock Reading Council – 2000  
**Featured Speaker/Author** – Sauk Valley Reading Council - 2000  
**Presenter** - Northern Illinois Reading Council Summer Conference - 1999  
**Featured Speaker/Author** - IL Reading Council State Conference -1999  
**Keynote Speaker** - Will County Teacher Institute Day, 1999  
**Guest Author** - Authors' Festival, Carol Stream, IL - 1999  
**Guest Author** - Anne Jeans School, Hinsdale, IL - 1999  
**Guest Author** - Pritchett Elementary School, Buffalo Grove, IL - 1999  
**Guest Author** - Family Reading Night, St.Charles Public Library - 1998  
**Presenter** - NIRC Fall Conference - 1998  
**Presenter** - NIRC/NIU Summer Reading Conference - 1993  
**Presenter** - Concordia University Reading Conference – 1993, 1991  
**Trainer of Trainers** - Illinois Reading Council State Conference – 1992

**KEYNOTES**

**AND**

**PRESENTATIONS:**

Balcony People: Teachers Make a Difference

I'd Like to Say A Word for the Teachers

The Success Story Nobody Else Can Write

Climate Change: Creating A Vibrant Literacy Culture in Schools

Engagement Factors: Playing the Dating Game with Kids & Books

Why God Made Reading Teachers/School Librarians

Confessions of a Reading Arsonist

Stories Rarely Told



Literacy Lessons for a Lifetime  
What If?  
The Story Behind the Stories  
Reading, Writing, & Teaching Books that Johnny Wants to Read  
And The Research Suggests: Book Talks as a Motivational Influence  
Powerful Writing Communities: A How-To Manual  
Reaching Reluctant Readers in the Middle Grades  
Writing Woes: In Search of Focus  
Making Writing Real  
Executing a Plan: Writing Instruction that Works  
Steve's Top Five Writing Tips  
Igniting a Passion for Writing  
Writing Engagement: It Starts with the Books  
Fictitious Characters – Emotional Reality: Universal Truth in Narrative  
Process and Product: An Author's Confession  
All I Know About Writing I Learned from the Eighth Graders  
Where in the World Do Writers Get Their Ideas?  
Books the Little Kids Love  
Picture Books as a Springboard to Literacy  
Ignoring the Affective: A Common Core Catastrophe  
Successful Strategies for Building Lifetime Readers  
Igniting a Passion for Reading  
In Defense of Read-Aloud  
Children's Choices  
Dynamic Read-Aloud Programs and Titles that Work  
Using Children's Books to Excite Young Writers  
What Parents Can Do to Nurture Lifetime Readers

- PUBLICATIONS:** Parsons, E. (2021). Parent/teacher conference: A dialogue with Dr. Steven Layne. *Illinois Reading Council Journal*, 49(2), 60-69.
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- Layne, S. L. (2018). *Play with puppy*. Gretna, LA: Pelican.
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- Layne, S. L. (2013). *Life's literacy lessons: Stories and poems for teachers*. Portland, ME: Stehnouse.
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- Layne, S. L. (2010). *Share with Brother*. Gretna, LA: Pelican.
- Layne, S. L. and Layne, D.D. (2010). *W is for windy city: A Chicago alphabet*. Chelsea, MI: Sleeping Bear Press.
- Layne, S. L. (2009). *Igniting a passion for reading: Successful strategies for building lifetime readers*. Portland, ME: Stenhouse.
- Layne, S. L. (2008). *Teachers' night before Halloween*. Gretna, LA: Pelican.
- Layne, S. L. and Layne, D.D. (2008). *Number one teacher: A school counting book*. Chelsea, MI: Sleeping Bear Press.
- Layne, S. L. (2007). *Love the Baby*. Gretna, LA: Pelican.
- Layne, S. L. (2006). *Mergers*. Gretna, LA: Pelican.
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- Layne, S. L. (1999). There's something. *The Reading Teacher*, 53, 115.
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- Layne, S. L. (1995). Censorship: The best defense is a strong offense. *Contemporary Education*, 66, 103-105.
- Layne, S. L. (1995). [Review of Language arts: A process approach]. *Reading Horizons*, 35, 365-366.
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**AWARDS:**

- 2011 *Outstanding Alumnus in Literacy Award*, Northern Illinois University  
2011 *Lights of Literacy Award*, Judson University, Dept. of Literacy Education  
2010 *Hall of Fame Award*, Illinois Reading Council  
2009 *Distinguished Alumnus Award*, Judson University Alumni Council  
2001 *Milken \$25,000.00 National Educator Award for Excellence in Teaching*, Milken Family Foundation  
2001 All-USA Teaching Team, USA TODAY National Newspaper  
2001 *Edwin A. Hoey Award* for Outstanding Middle School Teacher in the United States, National Council of Teachers of English  
2000 *ICARE for Reading Award Winner*, Illinois Council for Affective Reading Education  
1999 *Junior High Reading Educator of the Year*, Illinois Reading Council  
1997 *Winn Research Award Winner*, Illinois Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development  
1997 *Outstanding Research Award Winner*, NIU Alumni Council/College of Education, Northern Illinois University  
1995-1996 *Literacy Award Winner*, Alpha Delta Chapter of Alpha Upsilon Alpha – Honor Society of the International Reading Association

**WRITING HONORS:**

- 2009 Learning Magazine's 2006 Teachers' Choice Award List for *T is for Teachers: A School Alphabet*.  
2006 Learning Magazine's 2006 Books for Special Kids for Back-to-School: *Over Land and Sea: A Story of International Adoption*.  
2006 Learning Magazine's 2006 Teachers' Choice Award List for *T is for Teachers: A School Alphabet*.  
2003-2004 Texas Lone Star List of Top 20 Books for Teens for *This Side of Paradise*.  
2003 IRA Young Adult Choices Award for top 30 books for young adults in the U.S. for *This Side of Paradise*.  
2002 IRA Children's Choice Honor for Top 100 New Picture Books voted on by children in the U.S. for *The Teachers' Night Before Christmas*.  
2002-2003 Indiana Library Federation Read Aloud Books Too Good To Miss for High School Students for *This Side of Paradise*  
2001-2002 Missouri Library Association Best of the Best for Young Adults for *This Side of Paradise*  
2001 Hal Clement Award for Best New Science Fiction Novel for Teens in the U.S. for *This Side of Paradise*.  
Bestseller Status for *Igniting a Passion for Reading, Life's Literacy Lessons: Poems for Teachers, The Teachers' Night Before Christmas, Love the Baby, My Brother Dan's Delicious, and This Side of Paradise*.

**CHURCH, CIVIC, COMMUNITY, & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:**

- 2020-curr. *Member*, Editorial Review Brd, *Illinois Rdg. Council Jrnl*.  
2020-2021 *Leader*, Student Mentoring Group in Literacy Education  
2020-2021 *Leader*, Wheaton College Life Together Group for Undergraduates  
2019-curr. *Member*, Community Group, First Baptist Church, Lodi, CA  
2019-curr. *Member*, Step-It-Up Ministry, First Baptist Church, Elgin, IL  
2017-2018 *Member*, Program Review Committee, International Literacy Association Annual Conference

2014-2015 *Member*, Brand Ambassador Committee, International Literacy Association

2013-2018 *Member*, Editorial Review Board, *Reading Research & Instruction*

2011-2014 *Member*, Board of Directors, International Reading Association

2010-2014 *Member*, Editorial Review Brd, *Illinois Rdg. Council Jrnl.*

2009-2011 *Chair*, Poetry and Prose Award Committee, International Reading Association

2006-2008 *Member*, Poetry and Prose Award Committee, International Reading Association

2005-2006 *President*, Illinois Reading Council

2004-2005 *President-Elect*, Illinois Reading Council

2004-2012 *Member*, FBC Kids' Ministry, First Baptist Church, Elgin, IL

2003-2004 *Vice President*, Illinois Reading Council

2003-2004 *Evaluator*, Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award

2001-2002 *Evaluator*, Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award

2000-2002 *Member* of Board of Directors, Literacy Volunteers of America, Fox Valley Affiliate

2000-present *Member* of IRC Reading Educator of the Year Committee

1999-00 *Co-President* of Northern Illinois Reading Council

1998-00 *Member* of IRC Publications Committee

1998-99 *Volunteer* for Literacy Project F.I.R.S.T. at Elgin Crisis Shelter

1997-99 *Director* of fifty-five voice touring jr./sr. high youth choir, First Baptist Church, Elgin, Illinois

1997-1998 *President*, Alpha Delta Chapter, Alpha Upsilon Alpha Honorary Society of the International Reading Association

1996-00 *Coach* of JV Girls' Volleyball Team, Butler Jr. High

1996-1997 *Vice President*, Alpha Delta Chapter, Alpha Upsilon Alpha Honorary Society of the International Reading Association

1988-2003 *Member*, Worship Team, First Baptist Church, Elgin, IL

1988-91 *Director* of fifty-five voice touring jr./sr. high youth choir, First Baptist Church, Elgin, Illinois

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Executive Director of the International Literacy Association

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Faculty Colleague and Former Student at Judson University