



Pennsylvania/ New Jersey Chapter

College Reading & Learning Association

March 2013

PA/NJ Current

Officers

President

Larisa Poznahovska

[poznahovskal@](mailto:poznahovskal@montclair.edu)

mail.montclair.edu

Past—President

Nicole Tracey

traceyn@bucks.edu

President-Elect

Nichole-Bennett-Bealer

[nbennett-bealer@](mailto:nbennett-bealer@northampton.edu)

northampton.edu

Treasurer

Cliff Woodward

cwoodward@cse.edu

Secretary

Lauren Humphries

humphrie@bucks.edu

Communications Coordinator

Lew Cohen

lcohen@ucc.edu

Membership Coordinator – PA

TBD

Membership Coordinator – NJ

TBD

<http://crlapani.50webs.org/>

2013 PA/NJ CRLA Conference a Great Success!

By Meg Eubank

Despite the wintry weather, more than 100 professionals from colleges in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York attended the 2013 PA/NJ CRLA Conference at King's College in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Tutors, faculty, mentors, and administrators from college tutoring centers and academic support programs met to discuss and share best practices, strategies, and ideas centered around the theme "Strategies for Student Achievement: Embracing New Paths for Active Learning."



The conference featured nineteen sessions on topics such as tutoring strategies, administrative models of tutoring centers, social media, tutor training, English as a Second Language, online tutoring, and methods for faculty collaboration. The presentations were offered as general sessions, tutor track sessions, or special interest groups to appeal to the varied audience attending the conference. Many of the sessions were interactive, allowing attendees hands-on practice in new strategies and engaging, productive discussion with their colleagues from thirty different colleges.



During lunch, PA/NJ CRLA President Larisa Poznahovska welcomed everyone with CRLA announcements and introduced the keynote speaker. The keynote address was presented by the inspirational Dr. Valerie Smith Stephens, Ed.D., from Rutgers University College of Nursing. Dr. Stephens enthused the crowd with her motivational address, "Strategies for Student Achievement: Best Practices and Enhancing Retention through the 21st Century Learning Center." She shared her experience working with students who have been disenfranchised with education and told stories of how individually encouraging students to reach their potential and accomplish their goals improved not only student retention, but also made a real and lasting difference in their lives.



During the conference, books were collected for the Magnolia Project, a mentoring program for high school girls in the Wilkes-Barre community. The books will be housed in a lending library to provide the girls with reading material that is relevant and meaningful to their lives. Two full boxes of books were collected in the book drive.

The annual conference provided an ideal opportunity for professionals in the region to network and share strategies. Attendees were left inspired and full of valuable new methods to take back to their respective colleges. They are already looking forward to next year's conference and the opportunity to continue to learn and share tactics with others in the academic support profession. Please visit our website at <http://crlapani.50webs.org/> to view pictures from the Conference!

The Elections Committee Introduces the Next President-Elect

By Nicole Tracey

The PA/NJ CRLA Board and Elections Committee are pleased to announce Lauren Humphries, the Assistant Director of the Tutoring Center at Bucks County Community College, as the new President-Elect. Over the last several years, Lauren has contributed to the Chapter by serving on and leading the Proposal Committee, assisting with the planning of the Annual Conference and Fall Cluster Meeting, being the Lead Editor of the Newsletter, and her most current contribution, serving as this year's Chapter Secretary. Lauren will officially take office on June 1, 2013. To learn more about Lauren, visit: http://crlapanj.50webs.org/lh_pres_elect2013.htm. We would like to congratulate Lauren and wish her luck as she moves into the next phase of leadership with the Chapter!



Thank you also to Beth Diggs, Associate Director of Educational Opportunity Programs at Montclair State University, and Rachel Heiser, Academic Support and Learning Resources Specialist at Bryn Mawr College, for their contributions to the Elections Committee.

PA/NJ CRLA Webinar - April 12, 2013 10:30am—11:30am EDT

“From Prospect to Active Alumni Status: Strategic Planning to Improve Student Learning, Retention and Satisfaction”

To Register for the Webinar, visit: <https://surveys.montclair.edu/survey/entry.jsp?id=1361475993923>

Please R.S.V.P. by April 11, 2013 (11:30 am)

Dr. Daniel Jean, the Executive Director of Educational Opportunity Fund and Academic Development at Montclair State University will be our presenter at the next Webinar on April 12, 2013. Dr. Jean was our Keynote Speaker at the 2012 PA/NJ CRLA Conference at Montclair State University.

SYNOPSIS: Strategic planning is essential to success in academia and the overarching goals of student learning, retention, and satisfaction. This webinar will outline the specific components of developing and/or improving a strategic plan, including mission, goals, organizational structure, enrollment funnel, services, partnerships, competencies, assessment, professional development, and internal/external marketing.

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHY: Dr. Daniel Jean is a professor, author, motivational speaker, swagger trainer, playwright, poet, and consultant. He currently serves as the Executive Director of the Educational Opportunity Fund Program and Academic Development at Montclair State University. His previous roles include serving as the Director of Student Activities, Director of Leadership Education, and Director of the Center for Academic Advising, First Year Experience and Testing. His research focuses on the academic and social integration of first-generation college students and he has conducted motivational and empowerment seminars across the country. He earned his doctorate from Seton Hall University, has published two books, teaches college courses in transformative leadership and hip-hop culture, and has performed his poetry at venues nationwide. His most recent play “Til Death Do Us Part?” ran Off-Broadway in NYC August 2010/2012. The Wordstravel Library, named after his empowerment movement, is currently under construction for the Ghana Knowledge Tree Leadership Academy (Tema, Ghana). He can be contacted at 973 655-7291 or via email at jeand@mail.montclair.edu

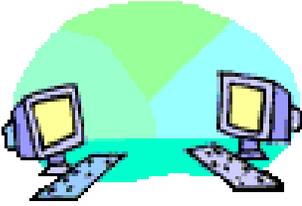


Dr. Daniel Jean,
Montclair State

We hope you can join us at the webinar on April 12, 2013!

The Next Lunch-Time Online Chat Discussion is Coming Up!

We hope that you are able to join us for the next Lunch-Time Chat on Wednesday, April 24th. We hope to have an interactive discussion about the challenges and successes of Learning Assistance Center Management.



Please R.S.V.P. by April 22, 2013 using the link:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F45AAAD23A64-learning1>

Space is limited to the first 8 people.

National CRLA Twitter Tuesdays returns!

CRLA Twitter Tuesday Chats @12:00 (CDT)
#crlachat

Tuesday, April 9th

Promising Practices in Teaching an Integrated Reading/Writing Course

Guest Tweeter: Maggi Miller

Manager for Cengage Learning's Peer to Peer

Faculty Development and Consulting group, TeamUP

Tuesday, April 16th

Marketing Yourself and Your Center with Social Media Savvy

Guest Tweeters: Colette Shaw

Student Support Specialist & Tutor Training Coordinator
and Laura Rolston

Tutor Training Assistant & Calculus Teaching Assistant
Rochester Institute of Technology

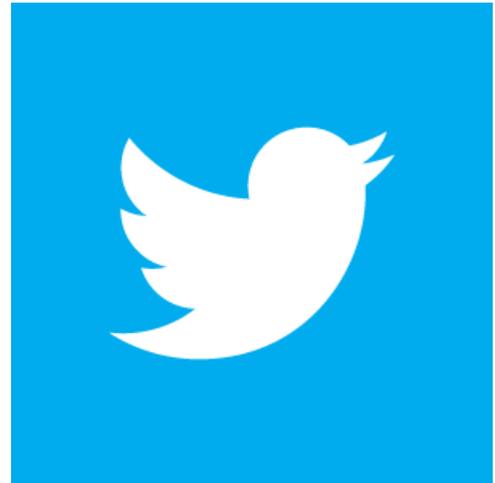
Tuesday, April 23rd

Can You REALLY Teach Reading Online?

Guest Tweeter: Lisa Roberto

TRIO Reading/Writing Specialist

Kent State University



For transcripts of past chats, please go to:

<http://www.crla.net/ProfDev/index.htm>

Interested in getting more involved with the PA/NJ CRLA? Coordinator positions available!

Coordinators for Pennsylvania and New Jersey are responsible for numerous outreach efforts to increase the membership of the region. They also assist with the distribution of promotional materials, invitations to conferences and meetings, as well as other Chapter announcements.

If you are interested, please contact Larisa: poznahovskal@mail.montclair.edu

Interested in hosting the March 2014 PA/NJ CRLA Conference?

Are you interested in hosting our next regional conference at your institution? Email Nichole Bennet-Bealer at Nbennet-bealer@bcc.edu to start the conversation! Traditionally, the conference alternates between Pennsylvania and New Jersey and would be held in New Jersey for 2014; however, all interested schools should contact Nichole! We look forward to hearing from you!

National College Reading
& Learning Association

President

Melissa Thomas
Melissa.thomas@utsa.edu

Past-President

Norm Stahl
stahl@niu.edu

President-Elect

Diana Bell
Diana.bell@uah.edu

Treasurer

Rosie Woodruff
woodruff@hawaii.edu

Secretary

Linda Russell
linda.russell@minneapolis.edu

Public Relations Director

Lindley Workman Alyea
lindley@txstate.edu

Professional Development Coord.

Lori Saxby
lsaxby@usi.edu

CRLA Member Services

7044 S. 13th St

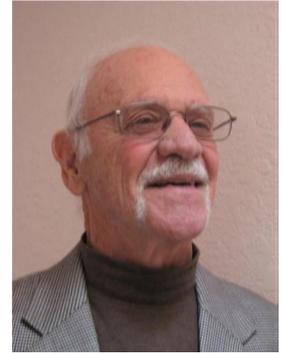
Oak Creek, WI 53154-
1429

crla.net

In Memoriam Frank Christ
“Father of Learning Assistance”
(June 25, 1923 - December 11, 2012)

By Suzanne McCarthy

Frank Christ, the founder and past coordinator (1972-1990) of the Learning Assistance Support System at CSU Long Beach, had been actively involved with learning assistance and study strategies for the past 35 years. For eighteen years, he served as Co-director of the annual Winter Institute for Learning Support Center Directors.



As a pioneer in the learning assistance field Frank Christ authored several publications, conducted workshops, and was the founder and content editor of the web portal, Learning Support Centers in Higher Education (LSCHE) at <http://www.pvc.maricopa.edu/~lsche>.

The PA/NJ CRLA chapter was honored to have Frank Christ lead our first chapter webinar on April 1, 2011 entitled “Doing More With Le\$\$.”

As stated on the LSCHE website, “Frank will be deeply missed by his family, friends, colleagues, and all those whose lives he touched. Memorial donations may be made to:

Frank and Alice Christ Scholar’s Library and Scholarship Fund
Texas State University—San Marcos
601 University Drive, JCK 480
San Marcos, Texas 18666

LSCHE will remain online and continue the dialogue as, in Frank’s words, ‘the only OER [Open Educational Resource—see Wikipedia] dedicated to learning assistance.’ If you have a story about Frank to be posted on LSCHE, contact Rick Sheets by emailing rick.sheets@lsche.net.”

To read more about the many ways Frank influenced the hearts and minds of so many, please review the tributes found on http://www.lsche.net/resources/memorial/christ_f/tributes.htm.