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Letter from the Editor

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Moving Forward and Looking Back: A Letter from the Editor

Happy Spring! As you adjust to a new normal, I hope that you all will take the time to read the latest edition of the Georgia Journal of Reading. I am honored to take on the role of editor of the Georgia Journal of Reading, the research journal of the Georgia Association of Literacy Advocates, as longtime editor Lina Bell Soares steps down.

You will notice a few changes in our Spring 2020 edition. First, our editorial board unanimously voted to change our name from the *Georgia Journal of Reading* to the *Georgia Journal of Literacy*. In doing so, we mirror our parent organization (ILA), and reflect a more inclusive view of all things literacy.

Secondly, we have gone online. We are now on Digital Commons, which will allow for a larger readership base and a metric count to enable wider recognition for our journal and its authors.

Finally, we have expanded our focus to meet the needs of our broad readership base. You will see a “Voices” area, in which we highlight the views of a policy leader. In this issue, we feature Dr. Caitlin Dooley, Deputy Superintendent of the Georgia Department of Education, who shares her department’s work related to literacy in Georgia and what she sees as top literacy research needs in Georgia.

The “Perspectives” section provides varying points of view on topics. In this issue, we

address the potential effects of proposed dyslexia policies of Georgia PSC proposal 505.3-01. Dr. Nora Schlesinger explains the bill and why she feels that it is important to literacy education in Georgia, while Dr. Bonnie Mondesir and Dr. Robert A. Griffin’s article provides a summary of the theoretical tenets and past research on balanced literacy.

In the “Research” section, we highlight an article by Dr. Tracy Renee Hudson, Dr. Linda Reeves, Dr. Rebecca M. Giles, and Dr. Lauren R. Brannon, who share a study on the effects of computer assisted instruction on the reading achievement of first grade students.

In the “Reviews” section, Dale Ioannides offers her take on Jennifer Sarvallo’s *The Writing Strategies Book*.

We end the issue with a celebration of the life of a truly inspiring literacy educator and advocate, Dr. Ron Reigner, written by longtime GALA board member Dawn Owens.

On behalf of our editorial review board, we hope that you will enjoy reading this issue and consider contributing to your work.

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