

The Forum General Session Speakers

◆ **First General Session: Report of the National Reading Panel**
Sally E. Shaywitz

Dr. Shaywitz is Professor of Pediatrics and Co-Director, Yale Center for the Study of Learning and Attention, Yale University School of Medicine. She has received international recognition for her research contributions in reading development and reading disorders. Most recently she served on the National Academy of Sciences Panel on Preventing Reading Difficulties in Young Children and on the National Reading Panel on Teaching Children to Read - An Evidence-Based Assessment of the Scientific Research Literature on Reading and Its Implication for Reading Instruction.

◆ **Second General Session: Teaching Reading IS Rocket Science**
Louisa C. Moats

Dr. Moats is currently the District of Columbia Director for a five-year study of early reading instruction being conducted in Houston, Texas, and Washington, D.C., public schools with funding by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development of the National Institutes of Health. Specializing in reading development, reading disorders, spelling, and related language concerns, she has written and lectured widely throughout the United States and abroad. Dr. Moats also designed and teaches innovative courses for teachers on language structure and its role in learning to read and write through the Greenwood Institute in Putney, Vermont.

◆ **Third General Session: Virginia Reads - Programs in Virginia**
Marcia Invernizzi

Dr. Invernizzi is an Associate Professor of Reading Education in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at the Curry School of Education at the University of Virginia. She is also clinical director of the McGuffey Reading Center. In addition to being the co-author of the *Words Their Way*, and the successful community-based tutorial program, Book Buddies, Dr. Invernizzi is one of the authors of PALS K and the author of PALS 1-3. She is currently piloting an in-class, small group collaborative intervention program for upper elementary readers, previously served by early intervention programs, with a focus on comprehension in the content areas.

◆ **Fourth General Session - Reading in the Content Area**
Judy Richardson

Dr. Richardson is Professor of Reading at Virginia Commonwealth University. Before teaching at the university level, she taught secondary English, directed a reading clinic, and taught special education. Her books include, *Reading to Learn in the Content Areas*, *An English Teacher's Survival Guide*, and *Read It Aloud! Using Literature in the Secondary Classroom*. Her current projects include, *From Mogadishu to Richmond: An ESL Journey*, *What Works for Developing Critical Readers and Thinkers in the Secondary School*, and developing on-line modules for content reading instruction.

◆ **Fifth General Session - Reading Research in the Classroom**
Michael Pressley

Dr. Pressley is Professor of Psychology at the University of Notre Dame. He has received major research awards for his work on reading instruction from the International Reading Association and the American Educational Research Association. He currently edits the *Journal of Educational Psychology* and is the former editor of the *Journal of Reading Behavior*. Dr. Pressley is interested in a broad array of issues pertaining to learning and instruction. In recent years, he has studied the characteristics of effective reading instruction, including major emphasis on comprehension instruction.