

Lori DiGisi, English Language Arts Department Head at Fuller Middle School in Framingham, Massachusetts, was elected to serve on the ILA Board of Directors from 2014 to 2017. Lori has served on the International Reading Association (IRA) Common Core Standards Committee from 2010 to 2013 and contributed to the IRA white paper *Literacy Implementation Guidance for the ELA Common Core State Standards*. She organized the “Discussion of the CCSS With State Council Leaders” in 2011. From 2010 to 2012, she was President of the IRA Secondary Reading Interest Group, organizing and chairing sessions on disciplinary literacy in middle and high schools, meeting the needs of English learners in secondary schools, and with President-elect Kelly Gallagher, a series of sessions on developing a love of literature in the age of the Common Core State Standards. She was President of the Massachusetts Reading Association from 2011 to 2012. She has served on the ILA Legislative Action Team since 1994. Lori was a distinguished finalist for the 1994 IRA Outstanding Dissertation Award for her qualitative and quantitative research on how biology teachers use textbooks.



Throughout her professional career, Lori has worked to create connections across disciplines and from researchers to practitioners. In her role at Fuller, Lori teaches two classes of reluctant readers and supervises the English department. Fuller is a public school in the midst of developing a Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics (STEAM) project-based learning approach for a diverse, high-needs population with 30% of students learning English.

Lori earned her doctorate from Harvard University in Reading, Language, and Learning Disabilities. She received her Master’s degree in Special Education from George Washington University and her Bachelors in Psychology, with a minor in English, from Lehigh University.

Lori has published numerous articles on science, math, and social studies literacy, and what administrators can do to support teachers in curriculum development, shifts in pedagogy, and instructing all students to meet the Common Core State Standards. She can be found on Twitter @LoriDiGisi.

Presentation Topics

- Integrating literacy across science, math, social studies, and the arts to meet the Common Core State Standards
- Literacy and adolescents: Bridging out of school and in-school literacies
- Literacy and diverse learners
- Developing curriculum units aligned with the CCSS
- Leadership of state and local councils in the 21st century