



Reading Recovery® Council
of North America

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**CSU PROFESSOR JUDITH NEAL BECOMES PRESIDENT OF
THE READING RECOVERY COUNCIL OF NORTH AMERICA**

Columbus, OH – Dr. Judith Neal, Professor Emerita of Education at California State University, Fresno, is the new president of the Reading Recovery Council of North America (RRCNA), an 8,000-member international membership association dedicated to helping first graders who have extreme difficulty with beginning reading.

Dr. Neal's presidency is the culmination of 18 years of local and national service in behalf of young readers. At Fresno State, Dr. Neal directed the Central California Reading Recovery Project supervising teacher training sites in 5 Western states and teaching graduate-level courses for Reading Recovery teacher leaders. Professionals trained under her leadership served in 60+ school districts, implementing literacy intervention to over 30,000 struggling young children. In addition, she has traveled across the United States providing professional development for Reading Recovery teachers and providing implementation assistance to Reading Recovery schools and districts.

Dr. Neal has also played an important editorial role for the tens of thousands of professionals in the Reading Recovery community. From 1997 to 2001, she edited *The Running Record: A Review of Theory and Practice for Reading Recovery Teachers*; she is founding editor of *The Journal of Reading Recovery* and served as its editor-in-chief from 2001 to 2006.

Reading Recovery's specialized and continuous professional development results in strong teaching that improves student achievement for the lowest-performing children entering school. After a full series of individualized, daily 30-minute lessons, 75% of targeted children reach grade level standard. Over twenty years of evaluation data indicate that Reading Recovery is successful in closing the achievement gap between sub-groups of children served and random samples of children from the general population.

Web Site: www.readingrecovery.org