

Klingner lecture highlights reading comprehension research



Professor [Janette Klingner](#) presented the prestigious Cruickshank Memorial Lecture at the [International Academy for Research on Learning Disabilities \(IARLD\)](#) Conference in Miami Jan. 16. Klingner's lecture, "Reading Comprehension and Students with Learning Disabilities: Past, Present, and Future," highlighted a reading comprehension model that she has been working on and researching since (and starting with) her dissertation, *Collaborative Strategic Reading*.

Klingner discussed reading comprehension models and what is known from research about promoting the reading comprehension of students with learning disabilities. She emphasized "reading as thinking" and the importance of interest, motivation, and genuine engagement, as well as text factors, when looking at students' comprehension. Providing students with time to discuss what they are reading about is important. She noted that both a focus on content and reading comprehension strategies seem to be essential when instructing students. She concluded by raising questions for consideration in future research.

The William M. Cruickshank Memorial Lecture was established in honor of the founder of IARLD, who was one of the original scholars to focus on learning disabilities. IARLD, an international organization, conducts and shares research about people with learning disabilities.

Professor Klingner specializes in bilingual special education and joined the School of Education faculty in 2001 in the [Educational Equity and Cultural Diversity](#) area.