

Department of Language, Literacy and Special Education  
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION  
ROWAN UNIVERSITY

SUSAN L. LYTLER PRACTITIONER RESEARCH AWARD  
COVER SHEET

**Person Submitting Proposal:**

Dr., Mr., Mrs., Ms., Miss \_\_\_\_\_  
(FIRST NAME, MIDDLE INITIAL, LAST NAME)

Institutional Affiliation: Rowan University

Position and/or Title: Graduate Student

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(STREET, CITY, STATE/PROVINCE, COUNTRY, ZIP/POSTAL CODE)

Telephone: WORK, HOME \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Completed Research Study:

Date Research Study Completed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(MONTH, DAY, YEAR)

Name of Thesis Advisor:

Name of Your Dean or Principal or Department Head:

E-mail Address:

Mailing Address: Department of Language, Literacy, & Sociocultural Education  
Herman D. James Hall, Room 2066  
201 Mullica Hill Road,  
Glassboro, NJ, USA 08028-1701

## Susan L. Lytle Practitioner Research Award

The Reading Faculty in the Department of Language, Literacy, and Sociocultural Education is pleased to announce the 2016 call for applications for the Susan L. Lytle Practitioner Research Award. The award is given annually to honor a MA in Reading candidate who has conducted outstanding research in the reading/literacy field. The following guidelines are provided to ensure the highest possible standards for the research award.

### Eligibility

The award is open to those who have completed a paper or thesis in any aspect of the field of reading/literacy between September 1<sup>st</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup>. Studies must use a qualitative practitioner research approach. Each study will be assessed in light of its approach, its scholarship, and its significant contributions to knowledge within the reading/literacy field. The following conditions must be met:

- a. Applicants must be current or past master's candidates at Rowan University.
- b. Applicants must have successfully completed their study within their last year at Rowan.
- c. A 150 word abstract and a thesis or paper should be e-mailed Seminar Instructors by March 15<sup>th</sup>. Applicants will receive an e-mail confirmation receipt of their submitted documents.

### Application Preparation and Guidelines for Format

The application package should include the following: Title Page (use form provided below and attached separate from the package), Abstract, Paper or Thesis, and References. Each page should be labeled with a short title of the study as indicated in the guidelines below. *Please submit these documents in that order.* Incomplete or late applications not in compliance with guidelines will not be eligible for the award. Additional guidelines are provided below in preparing the materials.

### Title Page

Please use the Title Page form that is provided in the application. Complete all items on this form. This should be attached separately from the package. **PLEASE NOTE!** The applicant's name should appear **only** on the Title Page form to permit blind review of the paper or thesis.

### Abstract

On a separate sheet, provide a 150 word abstract. You should state, in non-technical language, the purpose and major findings of your study. **Please include the full title of your study. (DO NOT include your name on anything other than the Title Page form).**

### Paper or Thesis

The applicant must submit a paper or thesis based on his/her practitioner research. The evaluation is made solely upon these documents. Please include a short title of your study

in upper right hand corner. Follow the guidelines below:

- a. Format of the manuscript. The paper or thesis should be prepared using American Psychological Association (APA) style (6<sup>th</sup> edition).
- b. To accommodate the blind review process, the applicant's own publications should not be cited in such a way as to give away his/her identity — applicant should substitute the word "Author" in the citations (e.g., Author, 2003).

The paper or thesis will be judged in terms of the following criteria:

1. Significance of topic within the field of reading/literacy
2. Quality of theoretical/conceptual rationale
3. Methodological and scientific soundness
4. Significance of findings and quality of interpretation and implications
5. Clarity of writing and organization

### **The Review Process**

1. The members of the Susan L. Lytle Practitioner Research Award Committee will read and rate all papers and theses through a blind review process. Each committee member is instructed not to rate any submissions if he or she (a) is the advisor of the paper or thesis, or (b) feels he or she cannot conduct an impartial review.

2. The review is conducted in a two-phase identification process. 1) The Seminar Instructors put forth their best theses to the Award Committee; 2) the Award Committee ranks the finalists based on the criteria above, and the winner is chosen from those identified in Phase One. In the event that the Award Committee selection process does not provide a clear winner, a third round should be conducted among the top finalist to identify one winner.

2. All applicants will be notified of the outcome by April 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **Awards and Recognition**

The winner and the finalists are encouraged to attend the College of Education Award Ceremony at Rowan University. The winner will receive a \$500 award and be recognized as the Outstanding Practitioner. His or her name will be permanently added to the Susan L. Lytle Practitioner Research plaque posted in LLSC Department in James Hall.

### **Sponsorship**

The Susan L. Lytle Practitioner Research Award is sponsored by the Reading Faculty in the Department of Language, Literacy and Special Education.

For questions or additional information, also please contact **either**:

Your Seminar Instructor

or

Dr. Catherine Michener ([michenerc@rowan.edu](mailto:michenerc@rowan.edu))