Teaching Literacy in a Digital World  
Inaugural Conference  
March 14, 2015  
1:00 – 7:30 pm

Welcome: 1:00 – 1:20 pm

Dr. Leila Christenbury, Chair, Department of Teaching and Learning, VCU

Session 1: 1:20 – 2:20 pm

(Re)conceptualizing the Reading Process with Digital Literacy

Dr. Denise Johnson, Professor School of Education, College of William & Mary

A re-conceptualized picture of the reading process will be presented taking into consideration sources of information in digital environments. Internet Reciprocal Teaching will be presented as a lesson framework for teaching comprehension strategies in digital environments. Digital tools will be shared that support monitoring, assessing, critical thinking and decision making.

Session 2: 2:30 – 3:30 pm

Digital Literacies and Curriculum

Dr. Gardner Campbell, Vice Provost, Learning Innovation & Student Success, VCU

The idea of curriculum in the Western educational tradition dates back at least as far as Plato’s Republic, where the groundwork is laid for the famous tradition of the trivium and quadrivium of classical and medieval Europe. Many, if not most of the assumptions behind Plato’s idea are still active today. How do these assumptions map onto the digital world and the literacies required for effective agency in that world? What new ideas are emerging, and how do they align with, revise, or replace the older assumptions? What might we gain, and what might we lose, as we explore new ideas of curriculum in a digital world? This presentation aims to raise questions, make a few provisional claims, and open up areas of thought and conversation for all participants.

Break & Poster Sessions: 3:30 – 4:15 pm
Session 3: 4:20 – 5:20 pm

Technology, Information, and Networks: The Multiple Literacies of Social Media

Dr. Jonathan Becker, Associate Professor, Educational Leadership; Director, Online Academic Programs & Learning Innovation (ALTLab), VCU

Social media are changing our world in profound ways. Using social media in pro-social ways, though, requires the development of new literacies, including at least technological literacy, information literacy and network literacy. Through the lens of Twitter, we will examine how these new literacies come into play.

Dinner & Keynote Speaker: 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Deepening Comprehension through Digital Inquiry, Collaboration, and Participation

Dr. Julie Coiro, Associate Professor, Reading, School of Education, University of Rhode Island

The Internet has dramatically changed the way we think about reading, writing, and communicating. This session invites you to consider both the potentials and challenges of teaching and learning in a digital world. Promising practices for using new technologies to foster deeper thinking, collaboration, and personal voice will be explored while also considering how to address the needs of students who may struggle with aspects of Internet inquiry in an academic setting. Walk away with strategies and resources to keep up with new technologies in a changing world.