

**Isaac Willis Larison, PhD, Associate Professor**

**Marshall University**

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## **EDUCATION**

**The Ohio State University**

Doctor of Philosophy in Early and Middle Childhood Education, September 1998

Emphasis in Cultural Studies and Children's Literature

Dissertation title: *Seeing with the Heart: Learning and Teaching about Homelessness*

**Northern Kentucky University**

Post Master of Arts Degree, Rank I in Education, September 1991 - Reading Specialist

Master of Arts in Education, September: 1986 - Emphasis in Reading

**Edgecliff College of Xavier University**

Bachelor of Science in Education, May 1981 – Elementary Education and Special Education

## **HIGHER EDUCATION / PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE: 2000-2020**

**Marshall University:** August 2012 – Present

College of Education and Professional Development (COEPD) – Literacy Education Program

**Fulbright Roving Scholar – Norway:** August 2011 – June 2012

**Northern Kentucky University:** August 2006 – 2011 - College of Education and Human Services

**Director KIIS Summer Program in Denmark:** August 2002 – 2011

**Xavier University:** August 2002 – May 2006 - Department of Education

**Bellarmino University:** August 2000 – May 2002 - College of Education

## **ELEMENTARY AND SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHING EXPERIENCE – K-8:**

**Teacher,** Jefferson County Public Schools - Louisville, KY - 1998-2000

**Elementary and Intermediate Grades Reading Specialist**

**Teacher,** Covington Independent Schools Covington, KY: 1991-1993

**Special Education Resource Teacher**

**Teacher,** Diocese of Covington, KY - 1981-1991

**Elementary, Intermediate, and Middle Grades**

## SELECTED REFERRED PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS – 2010 – 2020

- Larison, I. (2021, March 27). *Teaching with Technology Matters: Story Writing with 30 Hands Learning*. [Conference Presentation]. Central West Virginia Writing Project. (virtual presentation), Charleston, West Virginia.
- Larison, I. & James, A. (2021, March 24). *Trauma Versus Happiness: The Transformation of Migration Stories in Children's Literature*. [Conference Presentation]. Child and the Book Conference (virtual presentation), Berlin, Germany.
- Larison, I. & Moffit, C. (2021, March 24). *United States Board on Books for Young People, Outstanding International Books – Displacement and Migration*. [Conference Presentation]. Child and the Book Conference (virtual presentation), Berlin, Germany.
- Larison, I. (2019, August 14-18). *Silence and Religious/Transcendental Motifs: A Journey into the Unknown: Images of the Divine in Books for Children*. [Conference Presentation]. International Research Society in Children's Literature (IRSCL), Stockholm, Sweden.
- Larison, I., Bodekær, L., Arneson, R., Dunham, W., & Colson, T. (2019, August 4-7). *Early Intervention: An Examination of Børnehave and Pre-Kindergarten Benefits and Challenges for Families and Teachers in Denmark and West Virginia, USA*. [Conference Presentation]. CPH 2019 Conference on Literacy, Copenhagen, Denmark.
- Larison, I., Arneson, R., McFall, K., & Sueme, Z. (2018, November 15-16). *Let's Talk about Books: Award-Winning International Literature for Children of All Ages*. [Conference Presentation]. West Virginia Reading Association, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, USA.
- Sueme, Z., **Larison, I.**, & McFall, K. (2017, November 16-17). *IBBY – The World at Our Fingertips: Award-Winning International Literature for Children of All Ages*. [Conference Presentation]. West Virginia Library Association and the Southeastern Library Association, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, USA.
- Larison, I. (2017, October 20-22). *From Gutenberg to the Internet: Borders and Limitations, Accessibility and Access to Transformative Children's Literature in the Digital Age*. [Conference Presentation]. 12<sup>th</sup> IBBY Regional Conference, Seattle, Washington, USA.
- Jones, S., **Larison, I.** Rollins, A., & Wahjudi, P. (2017, January 30-31). *Inquisitive Advising: Improving Student Retention*. [Conference Presentation]. American Association of Behavioral and Social Sciences (AABSS), Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.
- Jones, S., **Larison, I.** Rollins, A., & Wahjudi, P. (2017). The EDGE of the Murky Middle: Inquisitive Advising for Student Success. *Academic Advising Today*, 40(4)  
<https://nacada.ksu.edu/Resources/Academic-Advising-Today/View-Articles/The-EDGE-of-the-Murky-Middle-Inquisitive-Advising-for-Student-Success.aspx>

- Larison, I., Napier, K., Prince, M., & Thompson, S. (2016, November 17-18). *Investing in Literacy Acquisition Success for Future Students: Making Web Resources for Parents, Teachers, and Students*. [Conference Presentation]. West Virginia Reading Association, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, USA.
- Larison, I., Sueme, Z., McFall, K. (2016, November 17-18). *IBBY – The World at Our Fingertips: Award-Winning International Literature for Children of All Ages*. [Conference Presentation]. West Virginia Reading Association, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, USA.
- Larison, I., Miller, M., Franklin, H., & Runyon, K. (2016, November 17-18). *WV Public Broadcasting- LearningMedia: WVPB’s Investment in Resources, News, and Information for All Ages*. [Conference Presentation]. West Virginia Reading Association, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, USA.
- Larison, I., Bodekær, L., House, G. (2016, November 14-16). *Dog to the Rescue: Learning to Use iPad Technology to Assist Young Writers*. [Conference Presentation]. ICERI 2016 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Education, Research and Innovation, Seville, Spain. <https://library.iated.org/view/LARISON2016DOG>
- Larison, I. (2016, February 1-2). *Where Are You From: Technology and Cross-Cultural Writing Instruction*. [Conference Presentation]. American Association of Behavioral and Social Sciences (AABSS), Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.
- Larison, I., Ferguson, L., Bays, L., & House, G. (2015, November 19-20). *Literacy Strategies that Work with A.L.L. Students in Every Content Area*. [Conference Presentation]. West Virginia Reading Association, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, USA.
- Larison, I., Endicott, K., & Hatfield, M. (2015, November 19-20). *Tackling Traumatic Events through Thematic Instruction and Young Adult Literature*. [Conference Presentation]. West Virginia Reading Association, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, USA.
- Bond, E., Larison, I., Roth, S., & Hurwitz, J. (2015, October 16-18). *Princesses and the Pees: Connections and Disconnections in World Literature*. [Conference Presentation]. 11<sup>th</sup> IBBY Regional Conference, New York City, New York, USA
- Larison, I. and Bodekær, L. (2015, July 13-16). *It Could Happen to You: Outcomes of Good-practice from a Literature-based Traditional and Technology-assisted Personal Narrative Writing Project with Grad Two Students in Denmark and the USA*. [Conference Presentation]. 19<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Literacy, Klagenfurt, Austria.
- Larison, I., & Damron, E., Steltenkamp, K., Bodekaer, L., and Ait Man, H. (2015, November 2-4). *Creating Effective Schools: Comparing What We Are Teaching Administrators to What Is Actually Working in Other Countries*. [Conference Presentation]. Critical Questions in Education Conference, San Diego, California, USA.

- Larison, I. (2015, February 9-10). *Teaching to Serve: Learning About Indirect Service Learning in Literacy Education*. [Conference Presentation]. American Association of Behavioral and Social Sciences (AABSS), Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.
- Larison, I., Bodekaer, L., & Sickler-Voigt, D. (2014, November 20-21). *Fred Er Svaret! (Danish) Peace is the Answer!* [Conference Presentation]. West Virginia Reading Association, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, USA.
- Larison, I., & Damron, E. (2014, February 16-18). *Small is Beautiful: An Examination of the Educational Practices at Anna Trolles Skole in Brenderup, Denmark*. [Conference Presentation]. Critical Questions in Education Conference, Louisville, Kentucky, USA.
- Bodekaer, L., Larison, I., & Sickler-Voigt, D. (2013, January 6-9). *Peace is the Answer! Children and Pre-service Teachers as Agents of Positive Change through International Community Art-making*. [Conference Presentation]. Hawaii International Conference on Education (HICE), Honolulu, Hawaii, USA.
- Larison, I. (2013, June 24-28). *Mining for Success Online: A Case Study of Challenges in Literacy Education Instruction and Course Transformation from Face-to-face to Online Teaching*. [Conference Presentation]. EdMedia 2013: World Conference on Educational Media and Technology. Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.
- Larison, I. (2013, March 4-5). *Wake-up! How I learned to Use and Share Technology Resources and Programs with Students*. [Conference Presentation]. 7th International Technology, Education and Development Conference (INTED2013). Valencia, Spain.
- Larison, I. (2012, November 12-13). *The Blackboard Communication Jungle Nightmare*. [Conference Presentation]. The Big Picture: The West Virginia Higher Education Technology Conference. Morgantown, West Virginia, USA.
- Larison, I. (2010, January 5-8). *Tolerance, Texts, and Teacher Education Students: Gay and Lesbian Literature and Its Place in the Elementary Classroom*. [Conference Presentation]. Hawaii International Conference, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA.

#### **SELECTED NON-REFEREED PUBLICATIONS / PRESENTATIONS – 2010 - 2020**

- Larison, I. W. (2019). Traveling Libraries and Bookmobiles: How Librarians Have Served and Empowered American Communities. In S. Brunn & R. Kehrein (Eds.), *Handbook of the Changing World Language Map*. New York, NY: Springer International Publishing. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-73400-2\\_176-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-73400-2_176-1)
- Larison, I., & Young, T. (2019, October 10-13). *Cultural Connections: A Conversation with Outstanding Internationally Award-Winning Authors and Illustrators*. [Conference Presentation]. International Literacy Association, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

Larison, I. (2019, May 31- June 2). *Junie B. Jones, Bad Girl (s)Hero for Young Readers*. [Conference Presentation]. Heroes of Children's Imagination. Theory and Practice of Reception– Wrocław, Poland.

Larison, I. (2018, June 1-3). *Goodbye: An Examination of Cultural Texts Intended for Young Readers on the Subject of Memory, Emotion, and Loss*. [Conference Presentation]. International Scientific Conference, Wrocław, Poland

### COMPETITIVE GRANTS WRITTEN AND FUNDED – 2000 - 2020

**West Virginia Humanities Council Grant**, West Virginia Humanities Council, October 30, 2018, Who Is My Neighbor? This was an all-day event open to the public. Participants listened to four scholars and explored issues of immigration. <https://wimn.weebly.com>

**International Youth Library Fellowship**, International Youth Library, Munich, Germany. March 29, 2017, Whose God? Examination and Comparison of Images of God and the Use of Religious Symbols in Illustrations of Literature for Young Children in the USA and Elsewhere.

**Improving Teacher Quality Grant**, West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, February 5, 2014, Learning to Write, Writing to Learn: This grant provided in-service training to middle and high school teachers in Clay County, WV. Participants learned about the writing process, practiced strategies for implementing writing across the curriculum, and developed assessments to evaluate student work.

**West Virginia Humanities Council Grant**, West Virginia Humanities Council, October 25, 2013, Diversity Symposium. This grant augmented funds to provide guest speakers for the Marshall University Diversity Symposium and school and library visits for the author/illustrator, Chris Soentpiet.

**Community Partnership Grant**, Northern Kentucky University, 2008 - 2010, English/Spanish Language Program: This grant project addressed the needs of young English and Spanish speaking children in three schools in Boone County, Kentucky. Students in preschool and kindergarten were immersed in everyday Spanish and English language experiences to help build their fluency in both languages. In addition, funds from this project allowed twelve teachers to participate in a mini study tour in Mexico.

**Indirect Cost Project Grant**, Northern Kentucky University, 2007, Reading Success: A Cross Cultural Comparison Project. This research project was conducted in the spring and summer of 2007. Students in grade six from Denmark and America were assessed informally to compare reading success and reading interests.

**Wheeler Grant**, Xavier University, 2004, Picture Books: A Symposium of Art and Literature across the Curriculum (collaborative project with Ms. Suzanne Chouteau and Ms. Betty Porter to bring author/illustrator Diane Stanley to Xavier University).

**Academic Day Grant**, Xavier University, 2003, Understanding the Complexities of Diversity through the Simplicity of Literature for Children and Young Adults (collaborative project with Dr. Diane Ceo-DiFrancesco and Dr. Leslie Prosak-Beres)

**Very Special Arts Grant**, Kentucky Arts Council, 2000, Funded an artist-in-residence project with fourth and fifth graders to study the influence of traditional West African and Northwestern Native American culture on modern art forms.

### **SELECTED PROJECTS DIRECTED – 2010 - 2020**

**Coordinator:** The Diversity Symposium - for the Marshall University College of Education and Professional Development – Literacy Education Program - Fall 2012, Spring 2014.

**Director - Denmark Summer Study Program: Kentucky Institute of International Studies (KIIS) 2001 – 2011**, Designed and implemented summer study in Denmark in collaboration with the KIIS consortium for undergraduate and graduate students in Education and English.

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS – 2010 - 2020**

- International Literacy Association - Present
- National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) – Present
  - Co-Chair, Commission on Arts and Literacy 2010 – 2011
  - Standing Committee for International Concerns Member, 2006 – 2011
- National Council for Social Studies (NCSS) – Present
  - Notable Books for Children and Young Adults Selection Committee Member, 2008-2011
  - Chair, Notable Books for Children and Young Adults Selection Committee, 2010 - 2011
- West Virginia Reading Association (WVRA) – Research Committee 2015 - Present

### **MARSHALL UNIVERSITY INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE – 2010 - 2020**

- Honors College Committee Member - Present
- Chair, College of Education and Professional Development - Minority Faculty Fellow Committee Chair - 2016 – Present
- Service-Learning Application Review Committee – 2014 – 2016
- Faculty Senate Member 2013 - 2016
- Chair, Graduate Program Committee 2013 - 2014
- Graduate Program Committee Member 2012 - Present

### **COMMUNITY, STATE, AND NATIONAL SERVICE – 2010 - 2020**

- West Virginia Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (President) Present
- Board Member United States Board on Books for Young (USBBY) – Present
  - State Ambassador to West Virginia and International Literacy Association Liaison
- Editorial Review Board – Journal of Behavioral and Social Sciences – Present
- Steering Committee Kentucky Institute for International Studies, 2008 – 2010
- Board of Directors Member, Kentucky Institute for International Studies, 2006 – 2011

## SELECTED AWARDS – 2010 - 2020

- Golden Apple Award for Teaching Excellence, 1988. I received this award when I was a classroom teacher for the Diocese of Covington, Kentucky.
- Keizai Koho Center Fellowship, 2000 - I received a summer study fellowship to study social studies education in Japan.
- Leaps to Literacy - Community Partnership Grant, 2008-2010 - English to Spanish/Spanish to English Language Program.
- Fulbright Roving Scholar Award to Norway, 2011-2012 Academic Year. I taught English classes to upper secondary students in various schools throughout Norway.
- International Youth Library Fellowship, 2017. I received a six-week long fellowship to study religious images in picture books.

## REFERENCES

Dr. Teresa Eagle, Dean  
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Dr Evelyn Freeman  
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President, USBBY  
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