

# Michelle Lia

820 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 601  
Chicago, Illinois 60611  
E-mail: [mlia@luc.edu](mailto:mlia@luc.edu)  
(312)915-6925

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**Education** 2010: Ed.D, Literacy Education  
Northern Illinois University

2001: M.S., Literacy Education  
Northern Illinois University

1992: B.A., Elementary Education  
St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana

1990: St. Patrick's College  
Maynooth, Ireland

## Experience

*July 2009 to present:*

**Professional Development Coordinator, Center for Catholic School Effectiveness,  
School of Education, Loyola University Chicago**

### ***Responsibilities***

- Provide instructional coaching, support, and professional development in the areas of differentiated instruction, reading instruction, assessment, and behavior management for teachers in the Archdiocese of Chicago as well as dioceses state-wide and nationally
- Plan and execute national conferences with the Center to encourage Catholic school leadership and sustainability
- Plan, create, and review curricula for Catholic schools
- Promote Master's and Doctoral cohort programs in the School of Education
- Teach courses as a clinical assistant professor in the Teaching and Learning Affinity Group of the School of Education in the area of Reading Instruction
- Act as Project Manager for the Archdiocese of Chicago's social studies and science curricula revision, including leading 50 teachers to create and implement inquiry-based units in these areas
- Train 40 schools on the use and implementation of inquiry-based units

### ***Memberships:***

Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD)

International Reading Association (IRA)

Alpha Upsilon Alpha Pi Chapter Reading Honors Society

National Catholic Education Association (NCEA)

Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers (ALER)

### ***Courses Taught:***

CIEP 350: Adolescent Literature

CIEP 422: Assessing Literacy

CIEP 426: Analysis of Reading Materials

CIEP 428: Administration and Supervision of Reading Programs

CIEP 429: Children's and Adolescent Literature

### ***2002 to 2009: Reading Specialist, Western Trails School, Carol Stream, Illinois***

#### ***Responsibilities***

- Assessed students in grades K-5 using the Illinois Snapshot of Early Literacy (ISEL), Qualitative Reading Inventory (QRI), Test of Word Reading Efficiency (TOWRE), Gates-MacGinitie Reading Test, Test of Reading Comprehension (TORC), Dynamic Indicators of Basic Literacy Skills (DIBELS), Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English-Language Learners (ACCESS for ELLs)
  - Diagnosed and serviced students in grades K-5 with reading difficulties using Houghton-Mifflin's Soar to Success, Wilson Reading System, S.P.I.R.E. Phonics, and the district's K-2 early intervention programs
  - Consulted with administrators regarding the building's goals as well as analyzed data and acted accordingly daily and at Building Leadership Team meetings
  - Consulted and collaborated with teachers regarding use of evidence-based practices in their classrooms as well as ideas regarding differentiation of instruction, balanced literacy, assessment, and accommodations of students' needs
  - Conferenced with parents regarding their child's progress and strategies to use at home
  - Collaborated with other reading specialists in the district approximately four times per year
  - Provided staff development regarding vocabulary instruction, *The Four Blocks* and *Strategies That Work* to a faculty of 30 teachers, the principal and assistant principal at staff meetings and institute days. Responsive, small-scale staff development was also provided during teachers' collaboration times regarding use of running records and oral reading fluency assessment for the purpose of progress monitoring.
  - Provided information to first-grade parents at Curriculum Night and Kindergarten Round-Up regarding literacy instruction and strategies for parents
  - Supervised and evaluated up to five paraprofessionals
  - Supervised universal screening tool for oral reading fluency for grades 2-5
  - Mentor, new fourth-grade teacher
  - Participated on interview teams for new faculty
- Member, International Reading Association (IRA)  
Member, Northern Illinois Reading Council (NIRC)

#### ***Committees***

Building Leadership Team

District Leadership Team

PBIS Universal Team

Character Counts/Discipline Committee

Reading and Library Committee

Student Services Team

First-Grade Literacy Night Committee

**1996-2002: Fourth-Grade Teacher, Western Trails School, Carol Stream, Illinois**

***Responsibilities***

- planned and differentiated for diverse classes of students, including students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs), English-language learners, talented and gifted students, and students with behavior management plans
- Collaborated with grade-level team
- Participated in district-wide curriculum committees including language arts and social studies
- Attended Parent-Teacher Organization meetings
- Conferenced with parents
- Initiated a team-teaching plan for two years with another fourth-grade teacher for two years to better meet the needs of students; shared the instruction and supervision of 48 students in two classrooms
- Collaborated on planning for yearly grade-level music programs
- Supervised and evaluated clinical students and student teacher from Northern Illinois University

***Committees***

Carol Stream Education Association Building Representative  
Language Arts Curriculum Committee  
Social Studies Curriculum Committee

**1992-1996: Second-Grade Teacher, St. Joan of Arc School, Lisle, Illinois**

***Responsibilities***

- Instructed reading/language arts, math and social science to groups of students from the grade-level group of 80 students
- Instructed religion and managed homeroom of 40 students
- Collaborated with grade-level teachers and mentors
- Differentiated instruction for grade level of 80 specifically with regard to math and language arts
- Planned Masses at least once a month
- Prepared students for the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion
- Attended Archdiocese of Joliet institute days
- Conferenced with parents regarding their child's progress

**Honors**

2008: Finalist, Illinois Teacher of the Year

2007, Winner, Judges' Recognition, Carol Stream Citizen of the Year

2005: Winner, U.S. Department of Education's American Star of Teaching Award

Five-Time Golden Apple Award Nominee