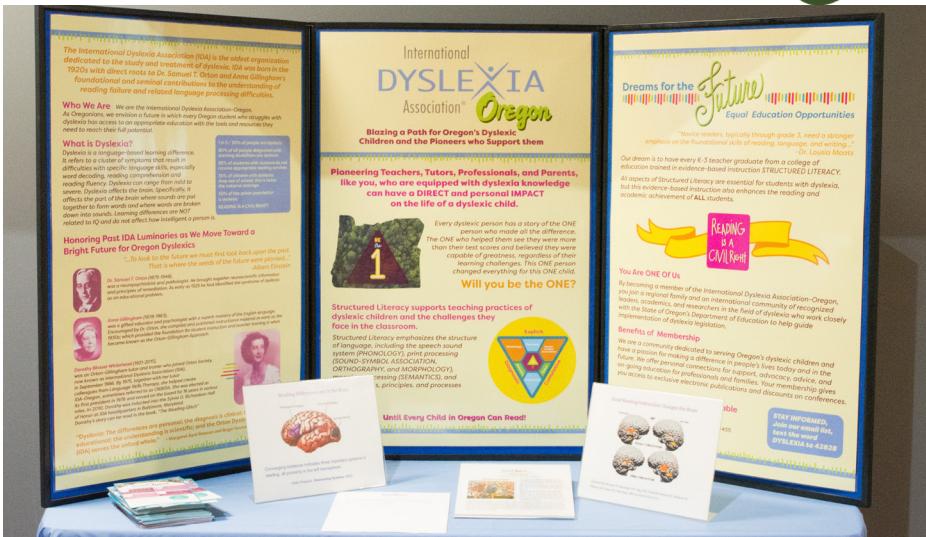


International DYSLEXIA Association®

2017 Annual Report

Oregon



Message from the President

November 15th, 2017

At the board retreat, held at Park Academy back in mid-January, the directors engaged in setting goals for the year that grew out of an exercise in which we established our 'Why?' Why do we, the International Dyslexia Association (IDA) – Oregon Branch, do what we do? We unanimously agreed upon an answer,

"... because learning to read is a civil right!"

From this point of compelling motivation, we set about fleshing out how we, as a board, would lead our organization in the essential pathways of growth set out at a national level. Working toward our ultimate destiny, the International Dyslexia Association's mission, is to:

'Create a future for all individuals who struggle with dyslexia and other related reading differences so that they may have richer, more robust lives and access to the tools and resources they need'

The pathways adopted to lead us toward this destiny include:

1. All stakeholders will realize their full potential to advance our destiny.
2. Everyone will know about the IDA, dyslexia, and the scope of our challenge.
3. IDA will be the go-to organization internationally.
4. We will advance our brand with unprecedented impact and speed.
5. We will articulate with urgency and clarity that reading is a civil right.
6. We will generate whatever funds are necessary to ensure that

2017 Board of Directors

President: Jane Cooper

Vice President: Danielle Thompson

Secretary: Christy Coss

Treasurer: Anne Mauboussin

Directors:

Alishia Anderson*

Michele Barnett*

Elizabeth Dove

Kate Franken

Ginny Hackenbruck

Rachel Hansen

Andrew Peterson

Sruti Raghavan*

Betsy Ramsey

Connie Rice

Donna Schumacher*

*Director fulfilled a partial term

Directors Elect:

Michele Barnett

Sruti Raghavan

Nominations Committee:

Christy Coss

Lynn Lamping

Scholarship Committee:

Dale Holloway

Myrna Soule

Lynetta Weswig

Judy Wright

appropriate resources are available to individuals, families, and school systems.

Lofty goals indeed, but I am honored to report that the board of directors elected to lead IDA- Oregon this past year have stepped up and achieved a tremendous amount toward ensuring that the IDA has a relevant voice amongst our stakeholders in Oregon and that we are actively serving our community in ways that promote literacy through research, education and advocacy.

Our Symposium held in March this year at Park Academy reached capacity, attracting 125 attendees. Dr. Craig Buscher from the University of Montana - Missoula, taught on the topic **Phonological Awareness: A Critical Component for Beginning & Proficient Reading**. At our symposium, Gary and Judy Wright were honored as this year's recipients of the Dale Holloway Service Award.

As we look to 2018, we are extremely excited to have secured Dr. David Kilpatrick as the presenter for our symposium on March 10, 2018, to be held at Marylhurst University.

IDA CEO, Rick Smith visited Portland in April this year. During his visit he met with several community partners and took part in a working session of the board. A highlight of his visit was a reception hosted by Piper Park at the Portland Racquet Club with our community partners.

2017 will undoubtedly be remembered for the year in which the requirements of Oregon's adopted dyslexia legislation were rolled out in the form of the Oregon Dyslexia Plan.

Two significant initiatives grew out of this for our organization. First, our programs committee led by Vice President Danielle Thompson, submitted a training module that was accepted by the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) that satisfies the requirements of SB 612 and SB 1003's dyslexia training component - **Understanding and Recognizing Dyslexia**. By the close of this year, this 4-hour training will have been presented to approximately 300 participants. 2018 dates for this training are being discussed and scheduled.

This year saw us present dyslexia simulations and information presentations to a wide variety of audiences beyond the ODE approved trainings. Students from our **Student Empowerment Panel** often share their stories at these presentations. Their personal accounts of struggle and victory, pain and success carry poignant meaning and shed insight to audience participants that cold facts about dyslexia can never convey. We are truly grateful to all of our students, as well as their parents who support them, for generously and bravely sharing their stories.

A second initiative that came from the passing of the legislation was the development of a video '**Essential Elements of Dyslexia Legislation in Oregon**', in which Dr. Carrie Thomas Beck, ODE's Dyslexia Specialist discusses Oregon's dyslexia laws and answers frequently asked questions. The video was directed and produced by board member Rachel Hansen and her colleague Jessi Sigander. It is intended for teachers, administrators, parents and community stakeholders. The video was released during October, Dyslexia Awareness Month, and has been widely distributed as a service to our community.



At the IDA National Conference on Reading, Literacy and Learning in Atlanta, our branch was honored with a **Branch Award of Excellence for Marketing and Communication** for these two initiatives.

Throughout the year we have exhibited at several education and community partner events. Our Information and Referral service is a valuable resource to our community. We have increased our communication through our social media: Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn, and website.



Without the generous financial support of members, our board of directors and donors, as well as dollars raised from grants, the work we do would be impossible. Thank you to each and every one who has made a financial gift to IDA-Oregon. In order to grow we will need to be intentional in our quest to raise the necessary funds to support the outreach we seek to do. Through the generous support of Cherida Collins Smith we continue to be able to offer scholarships that assist Oregon teachers attend the national IDA conference. This year we had 21 applicants! We could only support four. Our scholarship fund supports teachers to attend our local annual symposium too. In order to satisfy the growing demand for financial aid, our scholarship fund requires significant growth. It is our hope that TeamQuest, the International Dyslexia Association's endurance training and fundraising initiative, will be one of the vehicles through which we will achieve this.

I would like to thank our many members and volunteers who give their time, expertise and treasure to the Oregon Branch.

To out-going directors, Donna Schumacher and Alishia Anderson, thank you for your service to the board. To Sruti Raghavan and Michele Barnett who will serve out these vacated positions, welcome and thank you for offering your service to our board.

To my fellow officers and directors of the board, your generosity and commitment to our mission is profound. Thank you for a good year. It is hard work but an honor indeed to serve IDA – Oregon as President in these exciting times.



Until Everyone Can Read!

Jane

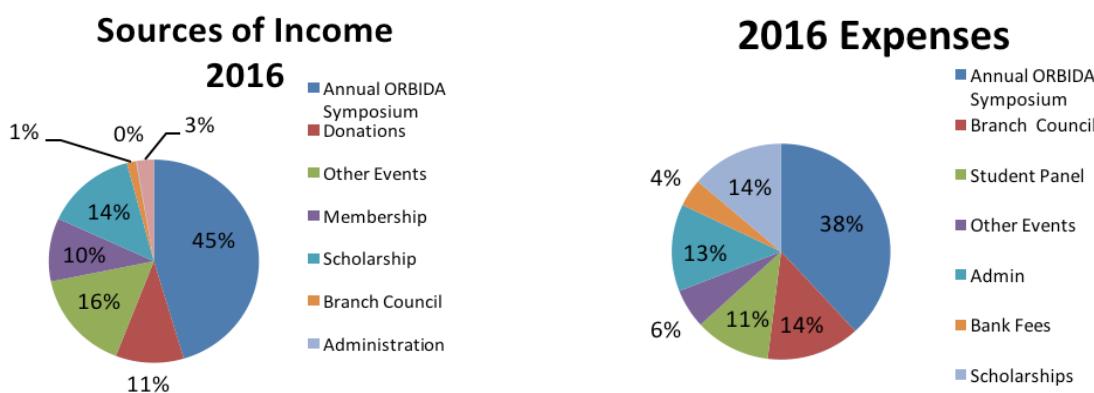


2016 Financial Report

The IDA, Oregon Branch's fiscal year starts on January 1st. We have therefore provided information on 2016 and year-to-date information for 2017 (through September 2017). The majority of our income comes from membership, development, and events. Our main expenses, after the annual symposium, are the bare minimum we must spend to keep our branch going under the IDA.

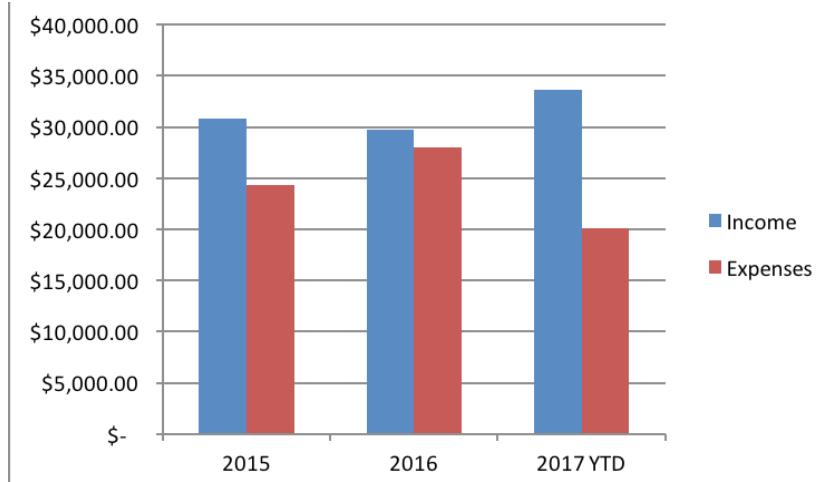
The year 2016 was no different. The majority of our income came from events, especially the annual symposium. While the budget was still tight, we were able to fund some rewarding endeavors; most notably our ability to send the student panel to the IDA conference in Florida where they were able to show how powerful their message is on a national stage.

The passing of the legislation contributed significantly to an uptick in activity for our IDA, Oregon Branch board in 2016. Our members responded with increased donations, up over \$1,500 from the year before. While this is positive, the need is ever increasing. Our most urgent need is scholarship funds. With the surge in teachers who are interested in, and need education about dyslexia, so has the demand grown for scholarships.



The IDA, Oregon Branch is extremely grateful to have received a \$10,000 grant from the Richard B. Siegel Foundation in 2017, which has allowed us to ramp up our teacher-education efforts this summer and fall. Below, you will see the impact this grant has had for 2017 so far. The expense numbers for 2017 are bit misleading, as we have had a significant number of events in October. For now, though, the most basic financials from the last few years may help add some perspective to the picture.

In short, our continuing goal is to be able to fund statewide learning opportunities for our teachers as well as send Oregonians to the IDA national conference. Additional resources will allow us to reach more teachers, who will, in turn, reach more students. We are optimistic that we will continue to see an increase in funding from multiple sources to reach these goals.



ORBIDA Committee Reports - 2017

Internal Audit Committee

The Internal Audit Committee meets at least every other month throughout the year to reconcile IDA, Oregon Branch accounts, advise the IDA, Oregon Branch Treasurer, and make recommendations concerning board policies regarding finances.

With the increase in activities, this committee recommended that all committees create and submit budgets to the IDA, Oregon Branch Executive committee related to their various activities, (including but not limited to presentations, symposia, student panel, and social networking opportunities) at the beginning of the fiscal year if possible, or well in advance of the commencement of that activity, in order for the board to better understand fiscal impact on general budget priorities and fundraising needs.

Reported by Betsy Ramsey

Collaborations Committee

In the past year, the IDA, Oregon Branch collaborated with the following Center for Excellence in Dyslexia (CED) organizations:

The National Center to Improve Literacy/University of Oregon (NCIL)

- The IDA, Oregon Branch facilitated a partnership between NCIL and the IDA following the spring visit of Rick Smith to Oregon. Common goals include 1) Support to Families and 2) Improvement of Literacy Instruction

Marylhurst University

- Collaboration to work toward IDA Accreditation in teacher preparation programs.
- Sponsor of the 2018 Spring Symposium with Dr. David Kilpatrick.

Blosser Center

- Communication of shared goals following leadership changes at Blosser Center.

Decoding Dyslexia

- Collaborated on monthly Tigard meetings with parents and teachers.
- Parent support for advocacy meetings and activities.
- School Board resolutions in Lake Oswego and Portland School Districts.
- October Light the Bridge Red activities to honor Dyslexia Awareness Month.
- Work on the dyslexia legislative agenda and dyslexia law implementation.

Oregon Department of Education (ODE)

- ODE approval of IDA, Oregon Branch presentation “Understanding and Recognizing Dyslexia”.
- Presentation at COSA conferences on Special Education and Early Childhood.
- Video production with Dr. Carrie Thomas- Beck explaining Oregon Dyslexia laws.

Park Academy

- Generous hosts to IDA, Oregon Branch educational events and IDA CEO Rick Smith social event.
- Convenor of the CED meetings.

ORBIDA Committee Reports - 2017 (Continued)

In addition, the IDA, Oregon Branch is a part of the Oregon Dyslexia Advisory Council (ODAC) which meets quarterly.

Special thanks to **Edison High School** for hosting IDA, Oregon Branch board meetings.

Reported by Betsy Ramsey

Information and Referral Committee

The IDA, Oregon Branch offers support to the community through its Information and Referral Committee. In the past year, the committee volunteers fielded eight to ten questions per month, primarily via email but sometimes by phone conference. Questions were from individuals with dyslexia, parents of children with dyslexia, and teachers and other educators.

Questions fit broadly into the following categories:

- **Requests for recommendations for private dyslexia testing/evaluation services (K-12)**
- **Requests for advice for working with schools - (K-12)**
- **Requests for names and recommendations of private tutors**
- **Requests for information about home-schooling**
- **Request for child/family support**
- **Questions from young adults concerning accommodations on college entrance/graduate school and professional licensing exams and how to ask for accommodation in higher education**
- **Questions related to ORBIDA “Understanding and Recognizing Dyslexia” trainings**
- **Questions from educators related to use of specific dyslexia screening tools**
- **Questions related to ORBIDA symposium and presentations registration and CEUs**
- **Questions from educators looking for training in structured language approaches to teaching reading and writing**

Reported by Betsy Ramsey

Legislative Action Committee

The IDA, Oregon Branch was kept up-to date on legislative action related to dyslexia by our participation on the Oregon Dyslexia Advisory Council and by collaboration with our partners at Decoding Dyslexia Oregon. IDA, Oregon Branch members participated by writing letters to legislators and attending hearings at the state capital.

Oregon Dyslexia Laws updated by the Oregon Legislature in 2017

- **SB 1003** is related to requirements for teacher training from SB612 legislation passed in 2015. This bill extended the deadline for completion of training to July 2018. Most importantly, the bill also added explicit requirements that schools must conduct universal screening for risk factors of dyslexia when students first enroll in kindergarten or 1st grade. The previous legislation only required that districts have a plan for screening. Other requirements of SB 1003 pertain to the development of ODE guidance related to screening measures, notifications from districts to parents regarding screening, and best practices for assistance to students who show risk factors for reading difficulties. Screening will apply to the 2018-19 school year.
- **SB 221** is related to HB 2412 the bill passed in 2015 that requires higher education educator preparation programs in early childhood, general education, special education and reading to require content on dyslexia

ORBIDA Committee Reports - 2017 (Continued)

that is consistent with the Knowledge and Practices Standards of an international organization on dyslexia. Bill Language related to requirements was updated and an item stating that the TSPC may not deny approval to programs for failure to comply with standards or rules for three years was added.

- **SB 182** established a mechanism for funding of professional development for education through grade 12 called the Educator Advancement Fund, governed by the Educator Advancement Council. In addition to other purposes, SB182 bill will help ensure that a sufficient number for K-5 teachers have received training to understand and recognize dyslexia and to implement appropriate instruction. \$1.9 million was appropriated through this legislation for dyslexia teacher training for the 2017-2019 biennium.

Implementation is ongoing.

Reported by Betsy Ramsey

Programming Committee

Programs subcommittee planning and preparation meetings held each month Dec 2016-November 2017. Our Goal was to conduct or sponsor 10 presentations over the course of the year. We are pleased to report that we scheduled a total of 13 this year, and have 4 already booked for the 2018 year. We secured a \$10,000 grant from the Richard B. Siegel Foundation to support teacher training. Our Understanding and Recognizing Dyslexia training was approved by the Oregon Department of Education to support SB 612/1003 implementation. Here is a list of our presentations and programs for 2017:

- Northwest Christian University
- Annual Symposium with Craig Buscher
- ORATE Conference
- Decoding Dyslexia OR, Portland
- Secret Language of Stories, Park Academy
- SPED Conference ODE-Approved Training
- WESD ODE-Approved Training
- Decoding Dyslexia, Salem
- Oregon GED Summit
- Oregon School Boards Association
- Early Learning Conference ODE-Approved Training
- Lake Oswego District
- ODe-Approved Teacher training offered in Forest Grove

A BIG thank you to all our member volunteers and to our student panel-we couldn't do it without you.

Reported by Danielle Thompson

Development Committee

The IDA, Oregon Branch continues to build a community that will assist in creating a philanthropic environment and culture. We continue to build relationships with like-minded organizations and strategically building partnerships whenever possible. While fundraising is still in its infancy, much professionalism has been established and a good groundwork is being formed.

ORBIDA Committee Reports - 2017 (Continued)

2017 brought a national focus on Oregon with IDA CEO Rick Smith joining the branch for various community member meetings and a gathering at the Racquet Club. In addition, with Jared Blank's interest in supporting the IDA, we have a new possible community to help market the Team Quest to in the future.



The Richard B. Siegel Foundation made a generous \$10,000 grant to the Oregon Branch and there has been many teacher trainings applied to the grant thus far.

2018 will bring a more clear definition of membership and the entire board will be asked to help steward our current membership and proactively seek new members.

Reported by Elizabeth Dove

Tigard Lecture Series Committee

The Tigard Lecture Series was in the second year with a consistent attendance of approximately 50 people to the monthly meetings. The board felt that a consistent location and time added to the success of the lecture series. On the second Wednesday of each month, a lecture was held at Tigard United Methodist Church from 7-9pm. Attendees were asked for a \$5 donation to help cover the cost of the room and insurance.

Due to heavy winter weather in the Portland Metro Area, two meetings were cancelled and rescheduled: December and January. One meeting was cancelled the day of the event due to an illness to the speaker. Every attempt was made to ensure that registered attendees were notified. One attendee showed up and was very upset, and still another came and stayed. She had a one-on-one lecture from Jane Cooper and Connie Rice. The speakers agreed to speak to the group the following fall.

In late May, Connie announced her intentions to move away from the lecture series to support the Board's upcoming events in teacher trainings. Steps were taken with DDOR and ORBIDA to find an appropriate replacement. Unfortunately, no reliable replacement has been found, and the Tigard Lecture Series has been suspended.

The final meeting in June was a great surprise for the organizing team. A Night for Dads was an opportunity for fathers of children with dyslexia to come together to hear stories and learn about ways fathers can help support their children. Only two people had RSVPed but the meeting went ahead as scheduled. Surprisingly, and with great joy, approximately 18 fathers arrived.

It is the opinion of this Board that the efforts made to connect with the community and to offer supports was well received. If the opportunity arises to continue this lecture series is made available through an organizer, it should so be done.

Additionally, it is vital to report that the Tigard Lecture Series was developed as a strong collaboration and partnership with Decoding Dyslexia, Oregon. This has paved the way to continue to develop a strong, working relationship with this organization. We thank the support of Lisa Lyons and Diana Sticker who were constant in their support, and look forward to more collaborations.

Reported by Connie Rice

Meet Jared

Meet a true Hero of dyslexia! Jared Blank was diagnosed with dyslexia when he was five years old, but with the help and support he received at an early age he was able to find success in the classroom and pursue his dream of taking on the World Marathon Challenge. He is going to run seven marathons on seven continents in seven days in support of TeamQuest and International Dyslexia Association.

Learn more about Jared's World Marathon Challenge:

<http://idysa.convio.net/goto/JaredBlank>



TeamQuest ...
UNTIL EVERYONE CAN READ™



**International Dyslexia Association
Oregon Branch**
PO Box 2609
Portland, OR 97208-2609

Email: info@orbida.org | Phone: 503-228-4455 | Web: or.dyslexiaida.org