

YOUR WEEKLY READER

Rescuing Reading Project

Thomas Nelson Community College
May 3, 2007

Rescuing Reading Faculty Survey

As the two-year Rescuing Reading project draws to a close, TNCC faculty will have an opportunity to complete a survey about the project, about its effects, and about their and their students' attitudes and dispositions toward reading.

Prepared in collaboration with the college's Office in Institutional Research, the survey will also provide some data that can be usefully compared to surveys previously conducted on campus and elsewhere.

The survey is being prepared for on-line administration, which will be convenient for faculty and will expedite the gathering of data.

Big Read, Big Events

The **Virginia Peninsula Literary Consortium**, partners in [The Big Read](#) including TNCC, announce the following events, several of which include TNCC faculty as subject experts:

- **May 8, 7 pm** — Author Talk: **Nancy Pearl**, Fountain Plaza, City Center

- **May 15, 6 pm** — Film & Discussion, Bailey Library, Newport News (Prof. Lisa Ray, TNCC)

- **May 16, 10 am** — Book Discussion, Poquoson Library 868-3060 (**Prof. Jacqueline Blackwell, TNCC**)

- **May 17 (Dr. Tom Long, TNCC) and May 24, (Prof. Hollis Pruitt, TNCC) 7 pm** — Book Discussion, Tabb Library, 890-5120

- **May 22, 6 pm** — Book Discussion West Avenue Library, Newport News (**Dr. Vic Thompson, TNCC**)

- **May 29, 7 pm** — Book Discussion Grissom, Newport News

- **June 2, 3 pm** — Author **Lucy Anne Hurston**, Bailey Library, Newport News

- **June 3, 1:30 pm** — Author **Lucy Anne Hurston**, Hampton Public Library, 727-1154



Rescuing Reading: A Valediction

Two years ago, I was honored by the Virginia Community College System's awarding me a Chancellor's Commonwealth Professorship for a project to explore a community college response to the National Endowment for the Arts' report, *Reading at Risk*.

The Chancellor's Commonwealth Professorship provided course reassigned time and an expense budget to pursue the project, which now draws to a close. I am grateful to the VCCS (Dr. Glenn DuBois, chancellor) and its Professional Development office (Nan Ottenritter, director), and the system's Professional Development Committee for this opportunity. Thanks also are due to my colleagues and administrators at Thomas Nelson Community College.

Over the summer, I will draft a complete report on the project (a summary version of which I have been invited to present at the Modern Language Association meeting in Chicago in December 2007), including the results of a faculty survey (see the first column in this issue of *Your Weekly Reader*). I will post this on the [Rescuing Reading Web site](#). In addition, I will propose a similar presentation at the next VCCS English peer-group meeting and will submit an article to *Inquiry*, the peer-reviewed research journal of the VCCS.

My special thanks to you, dear readers, many of whom have let me know when something we have included in this newsletter has struck you in some way.

--Tom Long