

**Upcoming
Conferences**

July 10- 13, 2013
[Society for the
Scientific Study of
Reading](#)
Hong Kong
[Event Website](#)

July 21- 26, 2013
[Human- Computer
Interaction](#)
Las Vegas,
Nevada
[Event Website](#)

July 31- Aug 3,
2013
[Cognitive Science
Society](#)
Berlin, Germany
[Event Website](#)

July 31- Aug 4,
2013
[American
Psychological
Association](#)
Honolulu, Hawaii
[Event Website](#)

August 27- 31,
2013
[European
Association for
Research on
Learning &
Instruction](#)
Munich, Germany
[Event Website](#)



lrdepitt

The History of LRDC: Part III

From Part II: The cognitive shift of the 1970s coincided with the construction of a new building . . .

Meanwhile, in the 1980s research on cognitive processes accelerated and focused on higher level processes such as Micki Chi's studies on misconceptions and self-explanation, James Greeno's work on problem solving, James Voss' research on the role of knowledge in comprehension, Charles Perfetti's research on reading processes, and Walter Schneider's research on attention and practice. A unique feature of the Center's work was cognitive analysis of content knowledge, in geometry and algebra by Greeno, in physics by Chi, in social science by Voss, in social studies by Margaret McKeown and Isabel Beck, and in history by Gaea Leinhardt and Perfetti. This attention to subject-matter learning resulted in LRDC's establishment as a National Research Center on Student Learning funded by the Department of Education in 1985. In 1988, a grant from the A. W. Mellon Foundation committed funds for deeper studies of literacy and reasoning in specific domains, including Chi's work on scientific reasoning, Leinhardt's work on historical expertise, and Perfetti's research on learning history. The A.W. Mellon Foundation grant also supported collaborations with Pitt's philosophy and English departments -- creating relationships across the Pitt campus. In 1988, The Ford Foundation turned to LRDC to lead a national reform effort in mathematics learning – the QUASAR project, headed by Edward Silver at 13 million dollars, was the largest single grant to date for the foundation. The Mellon and Ford funding left their legacy in the continued work in mathematic instruction and policy by LRDC Associate Director for Education Research and Practice Mary Kay Stein and Senior Scientist Peg Smith.
Cont'd in Part IV.

LRDC Celebrates 50 Years

On May 16, 2013, the LRDC community celebrated its 50 year anniversary with two special events. A symposium "New Directions in Research on Learning and Education" was held during the day on the University of Pittsburgh campus and featured ten LRDC former graduate students. The featured speakers addressed more than 120 attendees on topics such as games for collaborative inquiry, knowledge communities, and smart classrooms. View the days' sessions [here](#). A gala dinner was held the evening of May 16th with more than 200 LRDC alumni, staff and guests celebrating at Pittsburgh's historic Phipps Conservatory. A historical documentary chronicling 50 years of LRDC research was shown at the dinner. View the [documentary here](#).



**September 19: Marshall
Smith "Federalism and
School Reform in a
Changing
Environment"**

**October 17: Judith
Harackiewicz, "Optimal
Motivation in
Education"**

New Books . . .

*From Words to Multiple
Texts*, celebrates the impact of Charles Perfetti's research on reading and text comprehension and acknowledges his mentorship of the scholars who contribute to the increasing knowledge base about reading processes. View the book on Amazon, [here](#).