Citation of Merit Award for Research
Susan Hill
July 2016

Dr Susan Hill is an Associate Professor of Early Childhood Education at the University of South Australia. Susan’s research work has influenced the fields of literacy, language education, and early childhood education both in Australia and internationally and she is the author of a number of books for researchers, teachers and children.

Her work includes 23 books and over 44 articles and chapters, including work in international research handbooks including: *Handbook of research on the education of young children*, *Handbook of research methods in early childhood education*, *Transitions to early care and education: International perspectives on making schools ready for young children*, *Early childhood education: an international encyclopaedia*, *Contemporary perspectives on research in assessment and evaluation in early childhood education*.

Susan has over 38 Scopus citation references and 259 current Google Scholar citations.

Susan’s current research involves the connection between oral language and learning to read and write. She conducts research into improving children’s early reading and writing in the first years of school.

Over her career, Susan has been involved in a number of significant research projects. She was the chief investigator on the longitudinal research project titled *Babies and books: A longitudinal study into family reading practices with children birth to three years* in 2014.

Susan has also worked on the Reading Restart early literacy project. This project was with children aged 6-8 years who have slipped through the cracks when learning to read. This project involved volunteers, peer tutors and mentors.

Susan has also conducted research into literacy at home in Indigenous communities in the project *What do young Indigenous children want to read?* and was chief investigator on the *Mapping multiliteracies: children of the new millennium* project ARC Linkage (2002-2006), exploring how young children engage with technology and the way teachers work in the digital environment.

Susan was the director of two large longitudinal national research projects *100 children go to school* and the continuation of the longitudinal research in the project *100 children turn 10*.

With such an impressive career in literacy research it is therefore with great pleasure that ALEA recognises Susan Hill’s outstanding contribution to literacy research with our prestigious Citation of Merit Award for Research.