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INTERNATIONAL VISUAL LITERACY ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES JAMES G. SUCY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Virtual Conference 2021 –Dana Statton Thompson, MLIS Research and Instruction Librarian-Associate Professor at Murray State University in Murray, Kentucky, was awarded the International Visual Literacy Association’s (IVLA) James G. Sucky Distinguished Service Award at the 53rd Annual Virtual Conference hosted by the University of Toledo and the Toledo Museum of Art this November.

The James G. Sucky Distinguished Service Award is granted only when merited, to members who have substantially contributed to the organization and furthered the ideas of visual literacy far above traditional expectations of membership, committee work, or publication functions. It implies work quality and personal commitment that merit very special recognition beyond the Association’s usual appreciation.

Dana Statton Thompson was nominated for this award for her consistent contributions to the scholarship of visual literacy as well as her above and beyond service to IVLA. Thompson has published numerous articles on visual literacy education and co-created the online magazine, *Visual Literacy Today*, which includes an exhaustive literature review done by Thompson, blog posts about visual literacy, and free teaching resources. She is currently the Vice President of the International Visual Literacy Association and Chair of the Conference Planning Committee. Her dedication and service to IVLA is extremely admirable and impressive.

Jackie Fleming, current IVLA Communications Coordinator and Visual Literacy and Resources Librarian at Indiana University Bloomington wrote “Dana has made significant contributions to the field of visual literacy practice and scholarship as well as IVLA. It is hard to pick one accomplishment of Dana’s career and scholarship because I feel that all of her work has helped move the conversation of visual literacy forward”.

Thompson is one of thirteen people to be awarded the James G. Sucky Distinguished Service Award since its name change in 2001. Nominations for the 2022 awards will be announced shortly. For any questions in the meantime, contact Dr. Kazuyo Kubo, Awards Committee Chair, at kkubo@lesley.edu.

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Founded in 1968, the International Visual Literacy Association is an interdisciplinary organization of professionals working toward a fuller understanding of the way we derive meaning from what we see and the way we interact with our visual environment. For more information about IVLA, please visit <https://ivla.org/>.

