

### <Reasons for the Presentation of the Award>

Clare Bradford, Emeritus Professor of Deakin University, has made significant contributions to children's literature scholarship not only through her excellent award-winning research publications but also her exceptional leadership and service to the international children's literature community.



She has made ground-breaking contributions to the field, leading with research into new areas such as multiculturalism, colonialism and postcolonialism. Her work focuses on Australian Aboriginal texts and more broadly on the theme of indigeneity, with reference to eco-criticism and the environment, transnationalism, girlhood and the medievalisms in children's literature.

Her book *Reading Race: Aboriginality in Australian Children's Literature* (University of Melbourne Press, 2001) won the International Research Society for Children's Literature Award and the Children's Literature Association Book Award. Her 2007 monograph *Unsettling Narratives: Postcolonial Readings of Children's Literature* (Wilfrid Laurier University Press) won the Children's Literature Association Honor Book Award in 2008. It is her most cited work, and established her as a leading international authority in postcolonial and indigenous studies. Her 2015 monograph *The Middle Ages in Children's Literature* (Palgrave Macmillan) won the Children's Literature Association Book Award in 2016.

Through her numerous highly cited influential publications, Dr. Bradford has demonstrated that she has the innovative capacity to utilize research paradigms previously unseen in children's literature research, notably through her work on colonial and postcolonial textuality, utopianism, and creative approaches to discourse analysis.

Not only is Dr. Bradford an outstanding academic, she is also a children's book author. Her creative works include *Phillip and Jack the Monster* (1992), *Birthday Wishes*

(1994), *The Best of Friends* (2004), *The Story of Zadig* (2004), and *The Rare Bird* (2004).

She was a long-time editor of *Papers: Explorations into Children's Literature* and is currently the joint editor of the *Critical Approaches to Children's Literature* series (Palgrave Macmillan). In 2011, she was elected to be a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities, in recognition of the excellence and impact of her scholarship in the Humanities. In 2014 Deakin University gave her the title of Alfred Deakin Professor, the highest honour that the university can bestow on its staff.

Dr. Bradford has consistently promoted children's literature research and supported junior scholars in their research. She served as President of the International Research Society for Children's Literature from 2007 to 2011 and President of the Australasian Children's Literature Association for Research from 1998 to 2002. She has also been the keynote speaker, participant in plenary discussions and invited guest speaker at major conferences, associations, and universities all around the world.

Thus, her contribution to research in children's literature internationally, her outstanding and seminal work spanning a range of significant, cutting-edge topics, and the influence she has had in the development of these fields of study, make her a worthy recipient of the 19<sup>th</sup> International Brothers Grimm Award.