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## ILA BOARD NAMES NICOLA WEDDERBURN NEW INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

NEWARK, Del. (February 3, 2022) — The International Literacy Association (ILA) Board of Directors announced today that Nicola Wedderburn has been appointed Interim Executive Director.

Wedderburn has been with ILA since February 2011, most recently as Director of Business Development, during which she oversaw ILA's marketing program as well as membership, the chapter and affiliate network, customer service and partnership development. In her new role, she will not only be the first Black woman to take the helm of the organization but also the first born outside of the United States and, at 41, the youngest ever to hold the position.

Throughout her tenure, Wedderburn has been a strong advocate for ILA's global membership, working diligently to ensure that the organization's offerings reflect the interests and diversity of all constituents. Her background in business administration and proven record of partnership development, coupled with this "members first" philosophy, made her a natural pick to fill the vacancy left by Marcie Craig Post, who stepped down from the position in January.

ILA Vice President of the Board Kenneth Kunz said that Wedderburn's appointment "comes at a vital point in ILA's history," adding, "Nicola's innovation, contagious enthusiasm and commitment to ILA's mission will help to carry out strategic initiatives."

It is a sentiment shared by his colleagues on the Board—a group that unanimously approved Wedderburn's appointment.

"Her ability to build and sustain relationships has breathed new energy into the ILA network," said Stephen G. Peters, ILA Immediate Past President of the Board and chair of ILA's Equity and Social Justice Committee, on which Wedderburn serves. "She is a leader whom others trust to value their voice and feedback, and we all look forward to working with her."

"Nicola brings the humanity, the ability and the drive to engage ILA in making a difference in the advancement of literacy worldwide," concurred ILA President of the Board Robert J. Tierney. "She ushers in a bright, bold day for ILA—one filled with possibility and promise."

### ***About the International Literacy Association***

The International Literacy Association (ILA) is a global advocacy and membership organization dedicated to advancing literacy for all through its network of more than 300,000 literacy educators, researchers and experts across 128 countries. With over 65 years of experience, ILA has set the standard for how literacy is defined, taught and evaluated. ILA's Standards for the Preparation of Literacy Professionals 2017 provides an evidence-based benchmark for the development and evaluation of literacy professional preparation programs. ILA collaborates with partners across the world to develop, gather and disseminate high-quality resources, best practices and cutting-edge research to empower educators, inspire students and inform policymakers. ILA publishes *The Reading Teacher*, *Journal of Adolescent & Adult Literacy* and *Reading Research Quarterly*, which are peer reviewed and edited by leaders in the field. For more information, visit [literacyworldwide.org](http://literacyworldwide.org).

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