

Special Interest Group

Early Education and Child Development

<http://www.aera-eecd-sig.org/>**AERA 2017**

**April 27 – May 1
San Antonio, TX
Proposals due
July 22**

Please submit proposals for the 2017 conference and urge colleagues to submit to the EE/CD SIG. The more proposals submitted to the SIG, the more conference slots we are allotted.

Also, if you volunteered to review proposals submitted to the SIG, thank you in advance for your help and please remember to respond to your reviewer invitation via the AERA website.

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**Message from the Chair**

Nancy File, Univ. of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Dear SIG members,

I've never been a person who gives a lot of thought to a five- or ten-year plan in life. My reaction to those exercises is that I most often would have been wrong about where I've ended up as I respond to what life brings and how I feel about what I'm doing. Luckily, my term as chair of the EE/CD SIG is only two years; I find that amount of time easier to forecast and plan in some way that feels realistic. But I still feel a mix of thoughts about the time to come – as a SIG, we have already charted some ideas for moving forward, and I know there will be things that we don't anticipate that present new opportunities.

I also know how quickly this time will pass. Living in the summer always reminds me of the grand plans with which I begin and the reality of how soon fall semester actually rolls around. But it is with that sense of excitement for a new time that I consider what might happen over the next two years for the EE/CD SIG.

At this year's business meeting we ratified a set of by-laws that we hope will soon be approved by AERA. With the approval of these by-laws we will change the membership of the executive board in two ways. First, we have determined that having one person operate as secretary/treasurer is demanding, and so we will be splitting those positions into the two constituent pieces. While the treasurer will continue to watch our finances and ensure that all bills are paid, the secretary will take charge of membership efforts. We have found that lapsed memberships are a constant issue. Our hope is that the secretary will devote time to reaching out to all current and past members to remind people of the benefits of renewing with the SIG. And if anyone asks, our membership numbers help not only to get us slots in the annual program but also to fund our annual efforts to provide graduate student travel awards and recognition awards to our membership.

Second, we have also approved adding a graduate student representative to the SIG executive board. Everyone is enthusiastic about the perspective a student can bring to the group and about how this might help to strengthen the pipeline in our SIG. Once we have approval for these positions in our by-laws we will announce the opportunity for nominations.

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2016 BUSINESS MEETING

The centerpiece of this year's business meeting was a panel of researchers who represented various points on the career track. Dr. Joseph J. Tobin, Elizabeth Garrard Hall Professor of Early Childhood Education at the University of Georgia contributed his perspective of many years in the field. Speaking as a mid-career professional was Dr. Cristina Gillanders, Associate Professor from the University of Colorado Denver. Dr. Ashley Vaughns, Assistant Professor from the College of Charleston, reflected upon being an early career professional. Together they discussed their own experiences as researchers and their perceptions of change over time and current research issues. SIG members were eager to jump into the conversation with their own observations and questions for panel members.

The business meeting was followed by our annual reception, with the expected good company and excellent food.

We hope to see you at the 2017 Business Meeting and Reception in San Antonio!



Ashley Vaughns, Cristina Gillanders, Joe Tobin



Chris Brown and Aubrey Wang

Call for Early Education and Child Development SIG Executive Board Nominations

AERA EE/CD 2017-2018 Executive Board Call for Nominations

The EE/CD SIG Executive Board will have three openings next spring: Senior Member-at-Large, Junior Member-at-Large, and Newsletter editor.

- **Senior Member-at-Large** is in charge of the SIG's Early Research Career Award and Executive Board nominations.
- **Junior Member-at-Large** is in charge of the Dissertation Award and Student Travel Award.

Both of these positions have a two-year term, beginning at the conclusion of the SIG's 2017 Business Meeting and ending at the conclusion of our 2019 Business Meeting.

- **Newsletter Editor** is in charge of the Spring and Summer newsletters. This is a three-year position beginning at the conclusion of the SIG's 2017 Business Meeting and ending at the conclusion of our 2020 Business Meeting.

If you are interested in running or would like to nominate someone for one of these positions, please contact Debi Ackerman at dackerman@ets.org by November 1, 2016.

2016 BUSINESS MEETING Reception



Message from the Chair

Continued from page 1

Two other important topics were discussed at the executive board meeting and reviewed at the SIG business meeting. We have continued to monitor the financial picture of the SIG in order to reach the sweet spot of balancing our revenue with our spending on awards, operating expenses, and the reception after the annual business meeting. Our goal will be to return as much to our members as we can. Several years ago the SIG's funds had built up, and as rewarding as it was to spend down the funds for the benefit of the SIG, we need to keep an eye on things as we resume year-to-year budgeting. For example, at the 2015 meeting we awarded junior member research enhancement grants, but this initiative is currently on hold.

Also, we discussed the Early Career Award. It was not presented this year for lack of nominees. The criteria for the award were fine-tuned to ensure that we can reach deserving scholars who are still at the earlier end of their careers. In addition, you'll be receiving several reminders from us about this so that the opportunity to nominate a former student or current colleague doesn't slip by you. Please remember that you can be the person who puts forward the name of a deserving honoree!

It is a bit daunting to think about the responsibilities of being the chair of a substantial group. The reality is different – this SIG functions because of the efforts of so many people, and this spreads the responsibility wide.

It is important to take this opportunity to thank those who have finished their turn at shouldering those responsibilities. Mary McMullen has been a part of the leadership for six years as chair-elect, chair, and past-chair. It will be strange to make decisions without her wise input after benefitting from it for so long. Aubrey Wang was a secretary-treasurer who always had her finger firmly on all of the details, and this was a gift. Myae Han, as senior member-at-large took turns chairing nominations and the early career award, while Ashley Vaughns as junior member-at-large handled turns at the travel awards and dissertation award. These responsibilities keep the SIG functioning, and Myae and Ashley handled them skillfully. Finally, Chris Brown, after assuredly carrying out chair responsibilities for two years, moves on to past-chair. His work isn't over, as he will certainly be getting questions from me via email, and his role does come with a position description. Still, on behalf of the SIG, I thank him for all he did to handle the many questions and issues that arose while constantly supporting the health, best interests, and continued growth of the SIG.

I will miss working alongside these wonderful colleagues, but also look forward to serving with current board members (some of whom will be mentioned in next year's good-bye and thank you) and newcomers to the executive board: chair-elect Marty Lash, secretary-treasurer Jennifer Vu, senior member-at-large Patsy Cooper, junior member-at-large Sara Michael-Luna, and listserv coordinator Melissa Sherfinski.

Lastly, I do want to remind you of the open call for proposals for the 2017 conference. We have traditionally had a large number of proposals, which helps to give us plenty of slots for the program. With our membership I find that there is such a variety of scholarship, and this makes for an interesting conference. Please do think seriously about submitting to the SIG and urge others to do so.

In closing, enjoy a bit of summer before it passes, and best wishes to all in your ongoing work for young children and their families.

-Nancy



AERA Annual Meeting April 2017

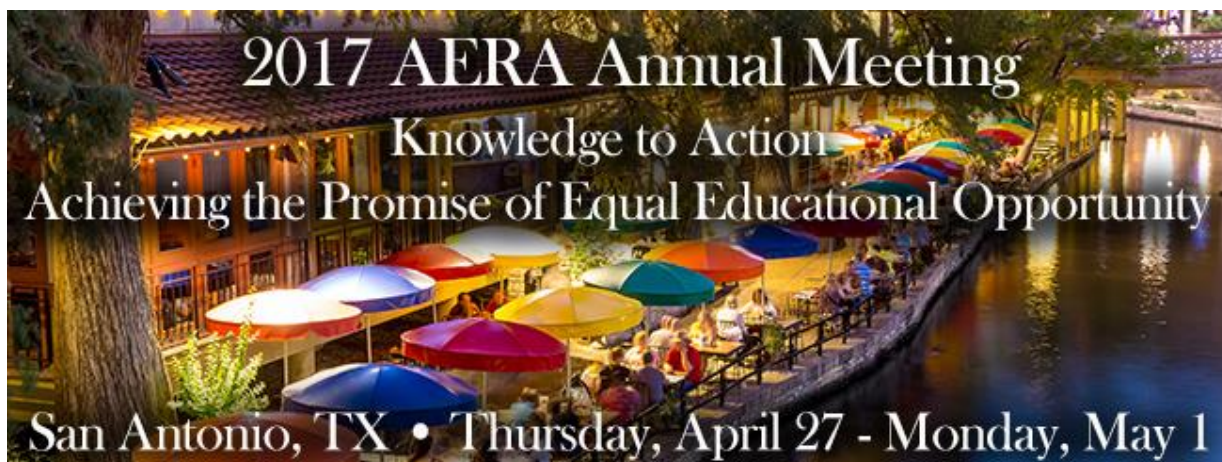
EECD SIG Program Co-Chairs
X. Christine Wang and Anne Douglass

Proposals due July 22

Please submit proposals for the 2017 Annual Meeting and urge colleagues to submit to the EECD SIG. The more proposals submitted to the SIG, the more presentation slots we are allotted.

AERA Annual Meeting Website

<http://www.aera.net/EventsMeetings/tabid/10063/Default.aspx>



2016 Distinguished Career Award

It was my sincere privilege to present Lilian Katz, Emeritus Professor of Elementary and Early Childhood Education at University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, with the Distinguished Career Award for Contributions to the Field at the annual meeting held in D.C. Lilian was born and raised in England, came to the US at age 15, became a US citizen in 1953, and received her Ph.D. from Stanford in 1968. Lilian's work has focused on research, theory, and practice related to the education and well-being of young children in programs, schools, communities, and at home. A few of her noteworthy accomplishments include that she was:

- Editor of the first, online peer-reviewed, bilingual early childhood education journal, *Early Childhood Research & Practice*;
- Founding editor of *Early Childhood Research Quarterly* and its editor in chief for 6 years;
- Co-Director of the ERIC Clearinghouse for Elementary and Early Childhood Education for 30 years;
- President of NAEYC and 1st president of the Illinois AEYC; and
- Author of a monthly column for parents of preschoolers for Parents' Magazine for 13 years; and
- Author of well over 100 articles, chapters, and books including her collection of essays, *Talks with Teachers*, and as a result of traveling 14 times to study at Reggio Emilia, her popular books *Engaging Children's Minds: The Project Approach*, co-authored by Sylvia Chard, and *Young Investigators: The Project Approach in the Early Years* co-authored by Judy Helms.

Lilian noted that what really matters to her in life is not her numerous accomplishments and awards, but her family, including the three children she raised with her late husband Boris, and the 5 grandsons and her 1 granddaughter whom she cherishes. Kudos to Lilian Katz!

My personal thanks to past-chairs of our SIG who served with me on the nomination and selection committee for this award, including: Andy Stremmel, Stuart Reifel, Nancy Barbour, and Beth Graue. In addition, thank you Kathy Sylva and Jean Mendoza for writing beautiful letters nominating Lilian.

-Submitted by Mary McMullen
Past President



Lilian Katz and Mary McMullen

2016 Outstanding Dissertation Award

Dr. Kristin Whyte

University of Wisconsin-Madison

The Dissertation Award Committee is pleased to announce that Kristin Whyte's dissertation research was selected for the 2016 EE/CD SIG Dissertation Award. The nominations were impressive and illustrate the depth and breadth of new research in the field of early childhood education. All submissions were reviewed by four independent reviewers. Submissions were scored in the following categories: significance of problem/topic; theoretical framework; method of inquiry/methodology; use of evidence and analysis; depth of analysis and organization of findings; and contribution of the topic to the field of Early Education and Child Development. Reviewers summed their scores, ranked nominees for the award, and the winner was determined based on scores and rankings. The Dissertation Awards Committee would also like to acknowledge the hard work and mentoring of all the advisors of the submitted dissertations as their influence was key. We were inspired by the rigor and creativity exhibited by all the nominees.

One dissertation clearly stood out as unique. Kristin Whyte, advised by Dr. Beth Graue at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, presents the story of Princess, a Head Start teacher. This narrative offers insight about how power, stereotypes, and perceptions of families relate to ideas about home-school relationships. Focusing on the narrative of Princess, Dr. Whyte asks educators to consider who is responsible for creating chaotic images of families' lives and what impact these stories have when they are the ones told about families who live in poverty.

As stated in the nominating letter, "From design to the implications, the quality of Kristin's research is rigorous, intellectually rich, and theoretically nuanced...She struggled, in a good way, with the challenge of how to write the case of a passionate professional whose view she did not always agree with. This is one of the great strengths of this study – her respectful but critical depiction of Princess' relationships with families."

It was an honor to work with dedicated committee members reviewing the stellar work of the nominees. I'd like to thank Sara Michael-Luna, Anne Douglass and Leanne Evans for their thoughtful sharing and feedback in the process.

Congratulations, Dr. Whyte, on this award!

*-Submitted by Lucy Heimer
Jr. Member-at-Large*



Beth Graue, Kristin Whyte, Nancy File

2016 Travel Award Winners

Congratulations to the recipients Juana Gaviria-Loaiza, doctoral student at University of Delaware and Rebecca Andrews, doctoral candidate at Macquarie University, Australia.

Recognizing that the financial resources of the ECE/CD SIG belong to the members and that the future of our organization lies in the work of young scholars, the SIG administers a travel grant program for graduate student members. These travel grants are used to support attendance at the AERA conference and SIG Business Meeting. In selecting award recipients, priority is given to applicants who will be presenting at the conference and first-time attendees.



Ashley Vaughns & Juana Gaviria-Loaiza



Ashley Vaughns & Rebecca Andrews

2017 Travel Awards Call for Nominations

Student Travel Awards will be available to graduate students for travel to the 2016 AERA conference. Applicants must be members of the EE/CD SIG and priority will be given to either first-time attendees or presenters. **The deadline is January 31, 2017.** Please watch the list serve for more information and reminders. Questions can be directed to Lucy Heimer, heimerl@uww.edu



2017 Outstanding Dissertation Award Seeking Applications

Annually, the EE/CD SIG awards the Outstanding Dissertation Award for a recent dissertation of exceptional merit. The recipient will receive a plaque from the SIG and a monetary gift at the EE/CD SIG Business meeting. The recipient also receives an automatic invitation to present the dissertation work as part of the EE/CD Business Meeting.

The criteria for this award are:

- 1) A completed and defended dissertation accepted by the Graduate School of the nominee's university within two years of the deadline for submission.
- 2) A study that investigates a topic related to the development of children between birth and age 8, including studies focused on families, teachers and others who care for and educate young children;
- 3) A nominating professor who is a current member of AERA.



Procedures:

To be considered for the award, please submit the following items by e-mail:

- One letter of faculty endorsement from a member of the student's dissertation committee who is an AERA member, attesting that the dissertation was completed by the student during the time period specified and that the faculty member nominating or endorsing the nomination served on the dissertation committee. Please also include the oral defense date. This letter should include a brief clarification of the purposes, scope, and quality of the student's dissertation research, as well as an explanation of how the dissertation contributes to the field of early childhood, child development, or early education.
- Title page for the dissertation (including university/college, name of the professor chairing the dissertation committee and a complete list of committee members). In addition, please add to the title page complete contact information (postal and e-mail) of either the student or the nominator that can be used for all correspondence regarding the award.
- Table of Contents from the dissertation.
- Journal-length manuscript summarizing the study derived from the dissertation and written by the nominee. This manuscript should adhere to the APA manual's (5th ed.) guidelines for manuscript preparation, should be approximately 25-30 pages (double-spaced), and should be geared toward publication. The summary should include: objectives/purpose; perspectives/theoretical framework; methods/mode of inquiry; data sources and analyses; results/discussion; and conclusion and educational/scientific importance of study. The summary should advance the scholarly publication potential of the research and will be judged primarily by a panel of scholars in the field and former dissertation winners.
- 1-2 page summary (abstract) of the study to be published in the SIG newsletter should the award be given to the recipient.

Please send inquiries, nominations, and all required items by November 14, 2016 via email to: Sara Michael-Luna, sara.michaelluna@qc.cuny.edu

2017 Early Career Award Seeking Applications

The Early Education/Child Development (EE/CD) SIG of the American Educational Research Association (AERA) annually presents the EE/CD Early Research Career Award. We are currently seeking nominations for 2017. This award is made annually to the an individual with a promising record as a researcher and scholar in the early childhood field, as evidenced through competitive publications and other scholarly activity suggesting a vital research agenda. Recipients of this award receive a \$500 monetary prize and are invited to present a brief synopsis of their research and interests at the SIG business meeting

Viable candidates for the EE/CD Early Research Career Award are no more than 10 years out from receiving their doctorate and have not received tenure. Nominators must be members of the EE/CD SIG. Nominees who did not receive the award in the initial round will automatically be placed in the following year's pool, even if the 10-year mark has passed. Updated information on the scholar's activity will also be considered in the second round.

Complete nominations will include the following in electronic, PDF format:

- 1) A letter of nomination from a member of the EC/CD SIG, with sufficient justification of nominee's qualifications.
- 2) A letter of support from a second scholar in the field, who can speak to the nominee's qualifications as well. The second letter does not have to come from a member of the EC/CD SIG.
- 3) A copy of the nominee's most recent Curriculum Vitae, including complete bibliographic information and present employment status.
- 4) Copies of 2 or more publications representative of the nominee's scholarly contributions to the early childhood/child development field thus far.

Please note that if the nominator was the nominee's dissertation chair or otherwise closely connected to the nominee's doctoral studies, the second letter of support should come from someone outside the doctoral degree program.

All nominations should be sent via email by November 15, 2016 to EC/CD Senior Member at Large, Dr. Patsy Cooper, patricia.cooper@qc.cuny.edu



Membership

Current EE&CD SIG membership count is 434 (as of 4.8.16). The table below compares current membership figures with those reported in the last 3 years. **Great news—we have ended the trend of decreasing membership!**

Membership Categories	April 2013 (San Francisco)	July 2014 (Philadelphia)	April 2015 (Chicago)	April 2016 (DC)
Current	397	465	428	434
New	108	103	94	94
Lapsed	223	282	334	331

Budget Summary from 2013 to 2015

EE&CD SIG's beginning balance over the past three years has decreased, reflecting its commitment in giving back to its members through more awards and grants. The SIG's income has remained around \$7,000, thanks to the new co-sponsorship income stream.

Category	Description/ Explanation	2013	2014	2015
Beginning Balance (January)		\$10,866.62	\$8,132.82	\$6,228.77
Income				
	Membership Dues	\$7,320.00	\$6,975.00	\$6,420.00
	Joint AERA event	-		
	Co-sponsorship		\$500.00	\$800.00
TOTAL INCOME		\$7,320.00	\$7,475.00	\$7,220.00
Expenses				
	Conference Reception	-\$3,308.92	-\$2,416.00	-\$3,363.00
	Awards 2012: 5 Student Travel, 1 Dissertation 2013: 5 Student, 1 Diss, 1 Early Career, 1 Distinguish Career 2014: 3 Student, 1 Diss, 1 Early Career, 1 Distinguished Career	-\$3,635.00	-\$3,135.00	-\$3090.00
	SIG Officer Travel	-\$1,800.00	-\$2,800.00	NA
	Meeting Expenses	-\$1,009.88	-\$585.55	-\$600.00
	AERA Management Fee (July)	-\$300.00	-\$300.00	-\$300.00
	Web Hosting + Web Management/Update		-\$142.50	-\$474.95
TOTAL EXPENSES		-\$10,053.80	-\$9,105.77	-\$7,827.95
Ending Balance (December)		\$8,132.82	\$6,228.77	\$6184.02

Budget Summary for Current Year 2016

Below is the estimated budget for this year, based on the current member count of 434.

1. Our member count as of 4.8.2016 is 434 which is more than our member count of 428 in April 2015. HOORAY! We are able to reverse the trend of decreasing membership!
2. By using the cost saving measures and not giving out awards to Early Career and Junior Faculty Research, our awards cost is much lower.
3. For the first time in several years, we will have a surplus of about \$1200 this year, bringing our remaining balance to around \$7,300.
4. This is assuming we did not get any co-sponsorship. If we did, the remaining balance will be higher.
5. By being cost sensitive, we've created more funds that can be used to support EECD mission for the coming year. HOORAY!

Budget Summary for Current Year 2016 (April 8, 2016)		
Month	Description	Amount
	Beginning Balance (January 1, 2016)	\$6,184.00
	INCOME	
	434 members @\$15 each (April 8, 2016)	\$6,510.00
TOTAL INCOME		\$6,510.00
	EXPENSES	
Conference Reception		-\$3,210.10
Awards/Grants	2 Student Travel Grants @ \$250 each (\$500)	-\$500.00
	1 Junior Faculty Research Enhancement Grant (not awarded)	
	1 Dissertation Award @ \$295	-\$295.00
	1 Early Career Award (not awarded)	
	1 Distinguished Career Award	-\$45.00
Meeting Expenses	Est. Executive Board Meeting Expenses	-\$600.00
AERA Management Fee		-\$300.00
Website Hosting (5 years)		
Update/Mgt of Webpage (est.)		-\$400.00
TOTAL EXPENSES		-\$5,350.10
	Remaining Balance	\$7,343.90

This report is respectfully submitted by Aubrey Wang, Secretary/Treasurer, EECD SIG.

**EE/CD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND
COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2016-2017**
Website <http://www.aera-eecd-sig.org/>

ELECTED MEMBERS:

**Nancy File, Chair
(2016-2018)**

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**Christopher P. Brown, Past Chair
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Sara Michael-Luna, Jr Member-at-Large

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**Peggy Apple, Newsletter
(2014—2017)**

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APPOINTED MEMBERS:

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