

Early Education and Child Development

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

Past Chair's Message: 2020 Annual Meeting

Marty Lash

Dear Early Education/Child Development SIG Members,

I am still disappointed with the professional ramifications of COVID 19 and our inability to gather. Put in context, this disappointment is understandable, expected, and minor compared to loss of life and income for so many. Staying safe continues to be on everyone's mind for children and their families, teachers, university students, faculty, and loved ones. It is an interesting time to live through and to be a researcher, professor, and scholar. I know lots of your universities are thinking through how to proceed for the coming year for safety, financial and political reasons and I know many of you are getting caught up in those processes. I hope you have been able to find supportive colleagues and can look to the EE/CD SIG as part of your support system as well as leading professional organization.

There are many new research topics that I hope many of our members choose to engage with if not for publication as least to document in view of the pandemic. How has teacher education changed for classrooms, fieldwork, and student teaching? What challenges do our preservice and inservice teachers face and how are they addressing those? How do we enter schools for research?

2020 SIG BOARD ELECTION RESULTS

We appreciate your participation in the 2020 election by nominating the candidates and voting for them. It allows us to be a strong SIG of AERA.

- **Chair Elect:** Melissa Sherfinski, West Virginia University
- **Secretary/Treasurer:** Jennifer Baumgartner, Louisiana State University
- **Senior Member-at-Large:** Tomoko Wakabayashi, Oakland University
- **Junior Member-at-Large:** Alison Hooper, University of Alabama
- **Graduate Student Representative:** Jill Claxton, Oakland University
- **Newsletter Editor:** Sohyun Meacham, University of Northern Iowa

2021 AWARD & BOARD POSITION NOMINATIONS

Begin thinking about excellent colleagues and students for awards and board position nominations. There will be three openings for the 2021 SIG board election: Senior Member-at-Large, Junior Member-at-Large, and Graduate Student Representative. Deadlines for nominations will be announced in the next newsletter. Stay tuned.



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**Looking Forward
to the 2021 Annual
Meeting!** Thank you
for volunteering to
be a reviewer. We
hope to have many
high-quality
research
presentation
proposals this year.

How do we document children's care, learning, and lives, in home and out-of-home care? What does a virtual preschool classroom entail? What is it like for schools and early year programs as they navigate returning to care with far fewer children and teachers to meet many states and countries' health and safety guidelines? Many ideas and concerns that affect our practices and scholarship.

In this newsletter you will have a "written business meeting" with announcements of award and grant recipients, membership report, budget report, program conference report, and program speaker plans.

We were planning a panel on *Seeing 20/20 on Early Education/Child Development* (rather ironic title in retrospect!) Three past EE/CD SIG Chairs Christopher Brown, Mary McMullen and Nancy File were the panelists after serving as the Editors for *The Wiley Handbook of Early Childhood Care and Education*, Wiley Blackwell Publishing (2019). They were going to lead us in talking and thinking about our issues in the field. I'm sure they would welcome any communication from you about current issues and related topics.

I wish to properly thank board members who worked so hard for the 2019-2020 year. We accomplished quite a lot and each board member was active in their respective roles:

- Past-Chair Nancy File, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, for chairing the Distinguished Contribution to Research Award, along with the committee composed of former EE-CD SIG Chairs.
- Chair Elect, Myae Han, University of Delaware
- Secretary-Treasurer Melissa Sherfinski, West Virginia University, completed minutes, budget, membership report, reception and board meeting luncheon plans.
- Program Conference Co-Chairs Debi Ackerman, Early Childhood Research & Assessment Center, Michelle Bauml, Texas Christian University, and Kate McCormick, SUNY, Cortland.
- Senior Member-at-Large Mary Jane Moran, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, chaired Early Career Award
- Senior Member-at-Large Stephanie Curenton, Boston University, chaired Nominations Committee
- Junior Member-at-Large Stephanie Sanders-Smith, University of Illinois, chaired Travel Award
- Junior Member-at-Large Dan Castner, Indiana University-Bloomington, chaired outstanding dissertation award
- Graduate Student Representative Mary Lyons, University of Illinois, who provided feedback on the needs and desires of our graduate student membership including initiation of writing groups.
- Interim Newsletter Editor, Kate Delaney, University of Toledo
- SIG Listserv, Bethany Wilinski, Michigan State University
- Webmaster X. Christine Wang, University of Buffalo (SUNY)

Please think ahead to AERA 2021 planned for (April 9-12) in Orlando, Florida. Soon, it will be time to submit your own proposal.

Together we can benefit the care and education of young children,

Dr. Marty Lash, Professor, Kent State University
Chair/Past Chair, EE/CD SIG

“There are many new research topics that I hope our members choose to engage with in view of the pandemic.”

Message from the Incoming Chair

Myae Han, Chair of EE/CD

Greetings! Early Education/Child Development SIG members,

I hope the members in our EE/CD community and their families are safe and healthy during the pandemic. I acknowledge some people may go through a particularly difficult time during this public health/economic crisis. My heart goes to those who may have been affected by the situation.

I was very much looking forward to meeting and greeting each of you in San Francisco. It was unfortunate that we were unable to meet in person. However, our spirit has never stopped us thinking of our community of early childhood education. Our EE/CD board members have been working hard to make a smooth transition to the next leadership team. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Marty Lash who has done a fantastic job as a chair in the past two years for our SIG. She will continue her role as a past chair.

I would like to thank the members who are exiting the board; Nancy File (Past chair), Mary Jane Moran (Senior-member-at-large), Stephanie Sanders-Smith (Junior-member-at-large), Monica Yudron (newsletter editor), Mary Lyons (Grad student representative), and Deborah Ackerman (Co-program chair).

Thanks to the continuing board members, Marty Lash (Past chair), Melissa Sherfinski (from Secretary/treasurer to Chair-elect), Stephanie Curenton (Senior member-at-large), Daniel Castner (Junior member-at-large), Michelle Bauml & Kate McCormick (Co-program chairs), Bethany Wilinski (Listserv manager), and Christine Wang (Website manager).

Welcome to the new board members, Jennifer Baumgartner (Secretary/treasurer), Tomoko Wakabayashi (Senior-member-at-large), Alison Hooper (Junior-member-at-large), Sohyun Meacham (Newsletter editor), Jill Claxton (Grad student representative), Kate Delaney (Co-program chair). I look forward to working with you all in the next couple of years.

Even though our situation is still unpredictable, our level of commitment at the board is at the highest. I and board members will work together toward stronger early childhood research communities with the goal of healthy children, family, teachers, and child care workers.

I have been attending many webinars from the AERA recently. The AERA is definitely planning to hold the 2021 conference. They are hoping to have an in-person meeting in 2021 but this is still in discussion and they are monitoring the situation. Proposal submission, review, and nomination plans are unchanged and follow the same schedule as usual at this point. I will keep in communication with our members via Listserv as I receive any new information from the AERA. Everyone, please hang in there and let's hope for the best but also prepare for the unpredictable situation. If you have any suggestions or wishes for the EE/CD SIG, feel free to email them to me any time (myaehan@udel.edu).

“We will work together toward stronger early childhood research communities with the goal of healthy children, family, teachers, and child care workers.”

DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTION TO RESEARCH AWARD

Nancy File

The Early Education/Child Development SIG's Distinguished Contribution to Research Award is given annually by a committee of previous chairs of the SIG. This year the award goes to Dr. Nancy Barbour, Professor Emeritus, Kent State University.

Three words describing Nancy's career were echoed throughout her nomination letters. These are vision, leadership, and mentoring. As a result of this approach to her work, we see many examples of facilitating paths forward for individuals, institutions, and professional associations.

As described by Dr. Diane Horm, "It is rare to find an individual combining depth of content knowledge who is active in discipline-based research and demanding professional service activities with a successful university level administrative record." This administrative record includes 7 years as an associate dean at Kent State University. Nancy's professional service activities would consist of a veritable alphabet soup were acronyms to be used. Using full association names, Nancy has held major leadership roles in both the EE/CD SIG and the National Organization of Child Development Laboratory Schools. She has participated in the leadership of the National Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators. Her multiple roles within the National Association for the Education of Young Children include important work on professional development of teachers and in accreditation of programs at both the AA and BS/BA levels. Finally, Nancy has been the leader within the United States for forming greater international relations with the European Early Childhood Education Research Association, serving as the U.S. country representative and a book series editor.

Nancy's many contributions to professional association work, as well as her scholarship, have contributed to how we envision and enact professional development within the field. Another area of contribution often associated with Nancy is her strong interest in child development laboratory schools. Her work has helped us to understand their history, as well establishing a vision regarding their ability to impact our field. According to Dr. Brent McBride, this interest has fueled "her belief that early childhood scholars need to situate their work in such a way as to make clear connections between theory, research and practice - an often overlooked perspective in our field." Throughout her career, Nancy has pursued applied research.

The work of Nancy's career has indeed been multi-faceted, including scholarship, leadership, and visioning. Establishing a record of contributions across so many venues and associations presents a commendable model of career impacts, and we are proud to present this 2020 Distinguished Contribution to Research Award to Nancy Barbour.

EARLY CAREER AWARD

Mary Jane Moran

This year's Early Career Award goes to Kate Delaney, Assistant professor at the time of nomination and recently promoted to Associate professor in 2020. Kate is an Associate Professor of Early Childhood and Special Education at the University of Toledo in Toledo, Ohio. Prior to this position, she completed a two-year post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Michigan, where she worked with Dr. Susan B. Neuman, exploring teacher practices around literacy interventions, as well as the scale up of universal pre-K (UPK) in New York City. She received her PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2013. Her research largely focuses on relationships between early education policy (with a particular focus on public pre-Kindergarten and Head Start) and the lived experiences of teachers, children and families as they engage in program implementation and reforms. Congratulations, Kate on your award and recent promotion.

OUTSTANDING DISSERTATION AWARD

Daniel Castner

There were several exemplary dissertations nominated for the EE/CD Outstanding Dissertation Award, which made the committee's task quite challenging. After extensive deliberation, the committee selected Dr. Kathryn Boonstra's dissertation titled, *First Time Out: An Ethnographic Multiple Case Study of Kindergarten Discipline* as the recipient of the EE/CD Outstanding Dissertation Award. Dr. Boonstra is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin Madison, and her dissertation research was supported by her chair, Dr. Beth Graue. She conducted an ethnographic multiple case study of three kindergarten classrooms investigating how everyday disciplinary practices unfold intersecting with race, dis/ability, culture, and context. Reviewers applauded this work for addressing a complex and pressing issue with impressive methodological rigor, and praised the high quality of Boonstra's writing. One reviewer admired: "Her writing comes alive on the page and compels the reader to think beyond her words to experience what she, the teachers, and the children were experiencing". Congratulations Dr. Boonstra!

Thank you to all of the colleagues who generously served on the selection committee: Debi Ackerman; Nancy Barbour; Cary Buzzelli; Kate Delaney; Dominic Gullo; Myae Han; Kate McCormick; Mary McMullen; Stephanie Sanders-Smith; Melissa Sherfinski; Andrew Stremmel; Christine Wang

TRAVEL AWARD

Stephanie Sanders-Smith

We had 15 very strong applicants for the SIG graduate travel award. The committee had a very difficult time with its decision. Our chosen recipients were:

- Mary Lyons, doctoral candidate in the department of Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Craig Van Pay, doctoral student in the department of Human Development and Family Studies at Iowa State University
- Toni Miguel, doctoral candidate in early childhood and research assistant at the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

The committee was honored to have been able to reward the work of such promising scholars and are deeply disappointed that we were not able to distribute these awards at our meeting in San Francisco. But we hope that these three students, and all of our graduate student members, know how much we value their work and their dedication to lives young children and their families.

I would like to thank the award committee: Molly Collins (Vanderbilt University), Lydia Chan (Yew Chung Education Foundation), Teresa Ripple (St. Catherine University), Katy Chapman (University of Kentucky), and Linda Taylor (Ball State University).

Program Committee Report : 2020 Proposal Submissions Summary

Debi Ackerman, Michelle Bauml, Kate McCormick, Kate Delaney

Total Submissions (n=232)

This year we received a total of 207 Paper and 25 Session submissions. Of this total, 2 papers and 1 session were transferred to us from other SIGs. Based on information reported in previous SIG newsletters, **this represents another new record.**

Deleted Submissions (n=2)

Two paper submitters voluntarily deleted their submissions before we began the reviewer assignment process.

Disqualified Submissions (n=2)

We screened all of the submissions prior to assigning reviewers to ensure that they were:

- related in some way to our broad early childhood focus,
- blinded,
- met the 2,000 word limit (or roughly 5 single-spaced pages or 7 double-spaced pages), and
- appropriate for the session type to which the proposal was submitted.

| Conference Year | Paper Submissions | Session Submissions | Total |
|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------|
| 2020 | 207 | 25 | 232 |
| 2019 | 173 | 17 | 190 |
| 2018 | 202 | 14 | 216 |
| 2017 | 152 | 8 | 160 |
| 2016 | 183 | 11 | 194 |
| 2015 | 140 | 23 | 163 |
| 2014 | 152 | 16 | 168 |
| 2013 | 156 | 12 | 168 |
| 2012 | 150 | At least 2 | ≥152 |

As a result, we reached out to several submitters to correct their word limit issues. In addition, we had to disqualify 2 session submissions that actually were a single paper. It should be noted that AERA does not allow transfer between “format types,” so this was our only option. However, we emailed both of these presenters to explain why their submissions were being disqualified.

Reviewed Submissions (n=228)

We assigned 3 topic-relevant reviewers (and from our pool of 92 non-student volunteers) to each of the remaining 205 Paper submissions and 23 Session submissions. All of the reviewers were alerted about their assignments via bulk email on July 28, 2019.

Conference Program Process

AERA allotted the SIG a total of 18 paper sessions and 91 roundtables or posters. We set aside 8 sessions for individual papers (and with 6 papers each) and the remaining 10 for session (AKA symposia) proposals.

To determine whether to accept or reject a reviewed submission, we considered its overall average score and normalized scores (with the latter created by AERA to take into account inter-rater differences in scoring), as well as the reviewers' comments and their accept/reject recommendations. In the case of widely varying reviewer scores or comments, we carefully read the submission ourselves and in some cases "overruled" the outlier reviewer. Throughout this iterative process, our aim was to develop a program that reflected the many important topics facing our field and the different populations of scholars (e.g., early career vs. more experienced, academics working in institutions of higher learning vs. individuals affiliated with research organizations, etc.) that submitted proposals to the SIG.

Then, to determine whether an accepted submission was slotted as a paper, roundtable, or poster, we considered its focus and the extent to which we could group it with similarly focused proposals. Our final program contains:

- 139 paper submissions, for a 67% acceptance rate. These papers were presented as part of:
 - 8 Sessions (n=48)
 - 10 Roundtables (n=35)
 - 4 Poster sessions (n=56)
- 10 session proposals, for an acceptance rate of 40%.

Thank you to everyone who submitted a proposal to the SIG, and especially to those of you who served as our volunteer reviewers!



2021 AERA Annual Meeting Theme ***ACCEPTING EDUCATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY***

The Call for Submissions for the 2021 AERA Annual Meeting is open. The deadline for submissions is **July 22, 11:59 pm PDT**. Please review the Call for Submissions as it contains important information about this year's Annual Meeting submission requirements. Please note "Paper or session submissions previously accepted for the 2020 AERA Annual Meeting may not be submitted for the 2021 AERA Annual Meeting."

https://www.aera.net/Portals/38/2021%20AM%20Call%20for%20Submissions_revised.pdf

How to cite canceled presentations from the 2020 conference in your vita?

See McAdoo's (March, 2020) posting in the APAstyle website titled "How to Create an APA Style Reference for a Canceled Conference Presentation"

at the <https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/canceled-conferences>

2020 Budget and Membership Report

Melissa Sherfinski

MEMBERSHIP

| | April 2017 (San Antonio) | April 2018 (New York) | April 2019 (Toronto) | April 2020 (No Conference) |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Current | 408 | 413 | 378 | 413 |
| New | 87 | 89 | 86 | 93 |
| Lapsed (All)* | 358 | 340 | 372 | 368 |
| Lapsed. (Still in AERA) | 76 | 58 | 74 | 109 |

* The "Lapsed (All)" row reflects numbers reported by AERA and represents all lapsed members who let their SIG membership lapse in the previous 2 years (so, for the 2020 year, those who let their SIG membership expire 12/31/2018 and 12/31/2019). This includes people who are no longer in AERA.

+The "Lapsed/Still in AERA" row reflects people who have an active AERA membership but are no longer part of our SIG.

BUDGET

| Category | Description/Explanation | 2020 (est.) | 2019 | 2018 |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Starting balance (January) | | \$10,016.52 | \$7,713.92 | \$9,785.73 |
| Income | Membership dues | \$6,000.00 | \$7,290.00 | \$6,780.00 |
| | Sponsorships | \$0.00 | \$400.00 | \$0.00 |
| | TOTAL INCOME | | \$7,590.00 | \$6,780.00 |
| Expenses | Awards | (\$1,394.39) | (\$2,000.00) | (\$2,500.00) |
| | Plaques | (\$135.00) | (\$135.00) | (\$135.00) |
| | Conference reception | | (\$2,441.00) | (\$4,988.36) |
| | Board meeting | | (\$511.40) | (\$928.45) |
| | Meeting expenses | | | |
| | AERA Management Fee | (\$300.00) | (\$300.00) | (\$300.00) |
| | Web hosting / management | (\$291.49) | | |
| | Reimbursements | | | |
| | TOTAL EXPENSES | (\$2,120.88) | (\$5,387.40) | (\$8,851.81) |
| Estimated remaining balance | | \$13,895.64 | | |
| Ending balance (December) | | | \$10,016.52 | \$7,713.92 |

A Note from our Graduate Representative

Mary E. Lyons

Graduate Student Writing Groups

Ten of our graduate student members signed up for writing groups! That is a start! I hope this initiative continues to grow. I established the platform in Google Drive and provided access to all. This method was meant to be an open invitation format: we all have access to the platform and can make contact and reach out to other graduate students in the membership. Please keep this resource in mind as we move into the writing-intensive summer months! Below is the link to the doc where you can post your contact info. Please remember to check in periodically to continue building a network of support: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1CK5XDdxPayhgFNgxgWUr0O5jMEKU3shisd44BpsUIyI/edit?usp=sharing>

(If the link does not work after you copy/paste it into your browser, double-check for a space in the hyperlink after pasting.)

Try-Try Again

Something that I have experienced as a budding scholar is the process of rejection! I hope this goes without saying: rejection is part of the process. Remain optimistic, apply feedback, *and* consider reaching out to a peer reviewer throughout the writing process (see section above!). Sometimes it is useful to send just a few written pages and a few targeted questions to guide the peer review process. Prior to submission for the 2021 AERA conference, consider reaching out to a critical friend for support.

Network

Whether or not you are successful with your proposal, consider attending the AERA conference in 2021. Conference attendance (and membership in general) is an avenue for learning about universities and programs beyond what you have experienced. Just looking through the bios of our EE/CD board membership, there is such a variety! As you are on the verge of entering the field of higher education and/or educational research, it is important that you will be able to determine fit with your future institutional home.

Job Search

Something that I found to be useful while on the job search was paying attention to where my potential colleagues earned their doctoral degrees, where they have published, and the conferences they have presented at. Perhaps, surprisingly (due to the size and institution type), at the small liberal arts college that I hope to find a home at, all of my potential colleagues are very active in their scholarship and attend AERA regularly. This is a perfect fit for me. I look forward to seeing you all at AERA annual meetings for many years to come!

It has been an honor to be the graduate student representative for the EE/CD SIG!

Best wishes to all,
Mary E. Lyons, Ph.D. Candidate
Graduate Student Representative, 2019-2020

EE/CD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2020 – 2021

Visit us at: <http://www.aera-eecd-sig.org/>

ELECTED MEMBERS



Marty Lash
Past Chair
(2020-2022)

Professor, Kent State University
Education, Health & Human Services



Myae Han
Chair
(2020-2022)

Professor, University of Delaware
Human Development and Family Sciences



Melissa Sherfinski
Chair Elect
(2020-2022)

Associate Professor,
West Virginia University
Early Childhood and Elementary Education



Jennifer Baumgartner
Secretary / Treasurer
(2020-2022)

Associate Professor,
Louisiana State University
School of Education



Stephanie Curenton
Senior Member-at-Large
(2019-2021)

Associate Professor,
Boston University
School of Education



Tomoko Wakabayashi
Senior Member-at-Large
(2020-2022)

Associate Professor,
Oakland University
Education and Human Services



Daniel Castner
Junior Member-at-Large
(2019-2021)

Assistant Professor,
Indiana University
Early Childhood Education



Alison Hooper
Junior Member-at-Large
(2020-2022)

Assistant Professor,
University of Alabama
Early Childhood Education



Jill Claxton
Graduate Student Representative

Oakland University



Sohyun Meacham
Newsletter Editor
(2020-2023)

Associate Professor,
University of Northern Iowa
Literacy Education

EE/CD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

2020 – 2021

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APPOINTED MEMBERS



Michelle Bauml
Program Co-Chair
(2018-2020)
Associate Professor,
Texas Christian University
College of Education



Kate Delaney
Program Co-Chair
(2020-2022)
Associate Professor,
University of Toledo
Early Childhood and Elementary Education



Kate McCormick
Program Co-Chair
(2019-2021)
Assistant Professor,
SUNY at Cortland
Early Childhood Education



Bethany Wilinski
Listserv Manager
(2019-2021)
Assistant Professor,
Michigan State University
Teacher Education

Thank you!!!

To the following members who are completing terms and/or moving into new positions

Nancy File, Professor, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, six years of leadership!

Melissa Sherfinski, Associate Professor, West Virginia University, for two years as Secretary/Treasurer and moving into Chair Elect

Kate Delaney, Associate Professor, University of Toledo, as Acting Newsletter Editor and moving onto Program Committee

Debi Ackerman, ETS Early Childhood Research & Assessment Center. Program Committee

Mary Jane Moran, Professor University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Sr. Member-at-Large

Stephanie Sanders-Smith, Assistant Professor, University of Illinois, Jr. Member-at-Large

Mary Lyons, Doctoral student, University of Illinois, Graduate Student Representative



X. Christine Wang
Website

Professor,
SUNY Buffalo
Learning and Instruction

CO-EDITORS' NOTE: Kate Delaney (the former editor) and Sohyun Meacham (the incoming editor) collaborated on this issue seeking to make a smooth transition. The co-editors would like to express heartfelt gratitude to all board members who contributed to this issue. They generously provided their messages and reports with much more detail than previous issues, in order to inform the EE/CD SIG members of our business despite the canceled conference.