

Special Interest Group

Early Education and Child Development

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

This Year:
AERA 2015
April 16 - April 20
Chicago, Illinois

Next Year:
AERA 2016
April 8 - April 12
Washington, DC

Please Submit:
Proposals for the 2016 conference will probably be due in the middle of July. The more proposals submitted to the SIG, the more conference slots we are allotted.

As you attend your sessions, please think about what you could submit this year, and urge colleagues to consider submitting to the SIG.

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Message from the Chair

Christopher P. Brown, University of Texas-Austin

Dear Members,

It’s hard to believe that the Annual Meeting in Chicago is just a few weeks away. As spring begins, I hope that each of you is planning to attend the meeting, which looks to be full of another round of invigorating sessions for our SIG as well as the entire meeting.

As we approach the annual meeting, I am completing my first year as chair. In having this moment to step back and reflect on all the amazing things that I’ve witnessed our SIG members both on and off the board do over the past 12 months, I must tell you that I’ve never felt so lucky to be part of such a wonderful ‘group’ of people who are sincerely committed to the fields of early childhood education and child development. I say this because I, like many of you, live in a state where policymakers are currently debating what to fund within their budgets in regards to both early childhood and higher education, which in Texas really means cutting/reducing funding. So within these highly contested times, I’ve found it’s easy to fall back on the defensive and worry about my immediate environment rather than focus on the bigger picture. Thus, being given this opportunity to lead this SIG, it’s not only reassuring to learn in more detail about how so many people across the globe are still willing to dedicate themselves to the care, education, and service of children, but I also just want to say thank you for everything each of you is doing to support the children, undergraduates, pre-service teachers, graduate students, junior faculty, and colleagues you work with on a daily basis. I don’t think it’s said enough to you, our colleagues, or other members of our respective fields.

So in the spirit of collegiality, support, and giving thanks, I am excited to announce that we are continuing the co-sponsorship of the reception that follows our Business Meeting, which will be held on Saturday, April 18 from 6:30 to 8:30pm in the Hyatt, West Tower - Bronze Level, Buckingham, with multiple research institutions in the Chicago area. This year, our co-hosts include: the Early Math Collaborative at the Erikson Institute, the Early Childhood Education Program at Indiana University, *continued on page 3*

AERA Annual Meeting April 2015

We are looking forward to seeing you at the
Early Childhood and Child Development SIG sessions
The online, searchable conference program is available at
<http://convention2.allacademic.com/one/aera/aera15/>

Click “Browse of Unit” (left hand button)

Click “SIG”

Click “SIG-Early Education and Child Development”



AERA Annual Meeting Website

<http://www.aera.net/EventsMeetings/AnnualMeeting/tabid/10208/Default.aspx>

Message from the Chair

Continued from page 1

the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and the Early Childhood Education Program at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Thank you to each of these institutions in supporting our SIG. It allows us to continue to pursue efforts to support our members in other ways. For example, at the business meeting this year, we will announce the inaugural winner of our Junior Faculty Research Enhancement Grant, which was designed to offer up \$1,000 in financial support to a junior EE/CD SIG faculty member so that s/he can pursue scholarly activities in other research locations, outside of her/his home institution. We will also announce winners of our Early Research Career Award, the Outstanding Dissertation Award, and Student Travel Awards.

Additionally, at our business meeting this year, we will have session titled: **Pre-K in Practice: A Conversation About Pre-Kindergarten Systems**, Teacher Development, and Teaching Pre-Kindergarteners. Our participants include:

Patsy Cooper, Queens College, City University of New York
Christine Maxwell, Buffett Early Childhood Institute at the University of Nebraska
Bethany Wilinski, Michigan State University

The goal of this session is to foster a conversation among our members around the practical realities of developing, implementing, and existing within current pre-k programs at the systems level (Christine Maxwell), within teacher education/development (Patsy Cooper), and in the process of teaching young children (Bethany Wilinski). I think this will be a fascinating conversation for our SIG that will touch on many of the issues members of SIG are committed to as researchers, teacher educators, and practitioners.

Finally, at the Business Meeting, I will also be introducing our **newest board members: Dr. Debra Ackerman**, senior member at-large and **Dr. Lucinda Heimer**, junior member at-large.

Again, thank you for being a part of our SIG and for the hard work you do in early education and child development, and I hope to see you in Chicago.

-Chris



Of interest on

Thursday, April 16 and Friday, April 17

The online, searchable conference program is available at
<http://convention2.allacademic.com/one/aera/aera15/>

**Critical Perspectives in Early Education
SIG Business Meeting and Reception**

Friday, April 17

6:15 – 8:15 pm

**Swissotel, Event Centre First Level, Zurich G
Chicago, Illinois**

AERA
Special Interest Group

EARLY EDUCATION
AND CHILD
DEVELOPMENT

Join us on
Saturday, April 18

The online, searchable conference program is available at
<http://convention2.allacademic.com/one/aera/aera15/>

Please join us for the
Early Education and Child Development
SIG Business Meeting and Reception
Don't miss the panel presentation

Pre-K in Practice:
**A Conversation about Pre-Kindergarten Systems, Teacher
Development, and Teaching Pre-Kindergarteners**

Participants:

Patsy Cooper, Queens College, City University of New York
Christine Maxwell, Buffett Early Childhood Institute
at the University of Nebraska
Bethany Wilinski, Michigan State University

Saturday, April 18
6:30-8:30 pm
Hyatt, West Tower - Bronze Level, Buckingham
Chicago, Illinois

*Thank you to our EECD SIG Reception sponsors from Chicago's tri-state
area of Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin.*

- Erikson Institute, Early Math Collaborative
- Indiana University, Early Childhood Education Program
- University of Wisconsin-Madison, Dept. of Curriculum & Instruction
- University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Early Childhood Education Program



2015 CONFERENCE REPORT

Julia T. Atilas, Program Co-Chair

Abigail M. Jewkes, Program Co-Chair

Submissions to present in the Early Education & Child Development SIG continue to be strong! Remember that the number of submissions determines the number of slots we are allocated by AERA, so please continue to submit your proposals. We received 140 paper submissions (44% acceptance rate) and 23 session submissions, resulting in 9 symposia, 3 paper sessions, 7 roundtables, and 1 poster session that cover a diverse array of topics and methodologies. We are also happy to report that our SIG sessions are spread out over each day of the Annual Meeting, with only 2 time slots having 2 sessions running concurrently.

Thank you to everyone who reviewed proposals last summer and we hope you will consider doing so again. Please encourage your colleagues to volunteer as well to help minimize the number of reviews we have to assign to each individual.

Enjoy participating in our SIG sessions—whether you are presenting or attending—and be sure to check your email and AERA web site for the proposal information and deadlines.



NAECTE Foundation Awards for Research on Early Childhood Teacher Education

Early Career Researcher Award

Established Researcher Award

One of the goals of the NAECTE Foundation is to promote and support research projects related to early childhood teacher education. Many NAECTE members have developed their capacities as researchers by presenting at NAECTE conferences and writing for its journal. As an extra incentive and added recognition, the NAECTE Foundation offers two \$2000 awards to encourage early childhood teacher educators to conduct research that will have relevance for practice, policy, or advocacy in the area of early childhood teacher education. The Early Career Research Award is designated for non-tenured, full-time faculty with up to and including 6 years of experience in a full-time faculty position. The Established Career Research Award is designated for a member who is tenured or has more than 6 years of experience in a full-time faculty position.

For additional information visit

http://www.naecte.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=22&Itemid=35

**EE/CD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND
COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2014-2015**
Website <http://www.aera-eecd-sig.org/>

ELECTED MEMBERS:

**Christopher P. Brown, Chair
(2014-2016)**

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**Peggy Apple, Newsletter
(2014—2016)**

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APPOINTED MEMBERS:

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Congratulations to our newly elected board members!

Dr. Debra Ackerman

Senior Member-at-Large
Early Childhood Researcher
Early Childhood Research & Assessment Center
Educational Testing Services



Dr. Lucinda Heimer

Junior Member-at-Large
Assistant Professor
University of Wisconsin - Whitewater

