

Special Interest Group

Early Education and Child Development

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

AERA 2018
April 13 – April 17
New York, NY

**2018 Award & Board
Position Due Dates:**

- Dissertation Award**
Due: February 1, 2018
- Early Career Award**
Due: February 1, 2018
- Graduate Student Travel Grants**
Due: January 31, 2018

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Message from the Chair
Nancy File, Univ. of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Dear EE/CD SIG Members,

It seems that the conference is almost upon us – or at least it is time to choose a hotel in New York City.

The 2018 conference will be one to look forward to. The Program committee received a record number of proposals. That means we are a vibrant group of active scholars! It also means that there are many people who were not accepted to the program. I know that these sorts of decisions are part of academic life, but they are both hard to make and hard to receive. We hope that everyone will continue to pursue presenting their work to this group, as this level of participation is part of what makes us a special SIG.

While the Program committee has been hard at work this fall, also the nominations process was going full-tilt, led by Patsy Cooper. We have formed a full slate for several positions, something else to be proud of and another signifier of our spirit as a SIG. Last year AERA representatives talked with me about reducing the number of executive board officers in our SIG. In the end they decided against asking this of our SIG, in large part because we have traditionally presented a full slate for elections. In other words, we demonstrated that people are active in our leadership, and so our leadership structure was preserved. Be sure to vote in this year’s election, and of course, we are always ready to hear from someone who wants to be involved!

Finally, in this newsletter you will find several nominations for awards. All of these carry monetary benefits! This is one way that we use your dues – they allow some funding for grad students to travel and they serve as a wonderful little reward for colleagues who have excelled in their work in their dissertation or as an early career professional. That said, please, please, nominate people and tell your friends to nominate people. Last year I received notice that overall AERA was having difficulty attracting nominations for awards. As I noted above, we have a large group of really vibrant scholars in the EE/CD SIG – let’s make sure that those who deserve some recognition are being put forward! Thanks for help in nominations! Can I say it again, please nominate – you’ll be happy you did this for someone!

2017 BUSINESS MEETING

At the business meeting we were happy to give two awards – to Douglas Powell for the Distinguished Career Award (a real treat for me as the one presiding at the meeting since Doug has been a mentor to me since graduate school!), and to Christopher Wagner for the Dissertation Award. In addition, we awarded travel funds to several graduate students who were presenting within the SIG!

Our business meeting discussion was led by Amos Hatch, one of his last ‘acts’ before retirement. The theme was ‘reclaiming our profession.’ While Amos’s remarks were enough to provoke thought, a question from Becky New has stuck with me. She asked, what are we reclaiming? While we have much to think about in regard to assaults on education from without, we also have much to consider about who we are as a profession. I believe one thing strongly – who the EE/CD SIG is, is diverse, which creates a vibrancy in the field. It is clear from our program that EE/CD members are doing research from a range of paradigms and with myriad methods. Our program co-chairs are challenged to ensure that they have enough reviewers versed in both complex statistical analyses and deep ethnographies. I hope we continue to feel as a SIG that all forms of research are welcome and help to shed a light on the most important thing – the children at the heart of our work and the adults who educate and care for them.

We hope to see you at the 2018 Business Meeting and Reception in New York City!



2017 BUSINESS MEETING Reception



2017 Distinguished Career Award

As Past-chair, it was my honor to present Dr. Douglas Powell to receive 2017 SIG's Distinguished Career Award.

Doug holds the title of Distinguished Professor in the department of Human Development and Family Studies at Purdue University, and he was recently honored there 2016 Morrill Award for outstanding career achievements in teaching, research, and engagement. Doug completed his PhD at Northwestern University, and his research focuses on how early childhood programs and families contribute to children's learning and development.

The range of accomplishments Doug has achieved is quite impressive. He has published across a range of peer-reviewed journals that span the fields of early education and child development, secured numerous federal and privately endowed grants, served as editor for *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*, and is a former chair of this SIG.

In her nominating letter, Dr. Sherri Oden, an associate professor in the department of Human Development and Child Studies at Oakland University, noted, "Dr. Powell has made highly valued contributions as a scholar and educator in the fields of child development and early education for over thirty years."

Furthermore, in his nominating letter, Dr. Brent McBride, a professor of human development at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign stated, Doug "has a long and rich history of filling leadership roles within the EE/CD SIG of AERA, and is a very visible leader within our field. A hallmark of a strong leader is someone that focuses on "the good of the cause" as opposed to seeking opportunities to further their own agendas. This description describes Doug's contributions to the field of early childhood education over the years, and epitomizes why he makes a strong candidate for this award."

Combined, it is clear as to why Dr. Powell was selected to receive the EE/CD SIG's 2017 Distinguished Career Award.

I also want to thank the past-chairs of our SIG who served with me on the nomination and selection committee for this award, including: Mary McMullen, Andrew Stremmel, Nancy Barbour, and Beth Graue. In addition, thank you to Sherri Oden and Brent McBride for their wonderful nomination letters, and thank you to Andy Stremmel, who studied with Doug at Purdue, for presenting him with the award at the SIG business meeting.

*Submitted by Chris Brown
Past President*

2017 Outstanding Dissertation Award

Dr. Christopher J. Wagner
Queens College-CUNY

The Dissertation Award recognizes outstanding original research by scholars in early childhood education and child development. The 2017 EE/CD SIG Dissertation Award was awarded to Christopher J. Wagner for his dissertation entitled, “The Reading Identities of Prekindergarten Dual Language Learners,” under the direction of C. Patrick Proctor, Associate Professor, Boston College, Lynch School of Education. Dr. Wagner’s abstract reads:

This study explores the interplay between early reading, identity, and bilingualism. Reading identities, or understandings about what reading is and who one is as a reader, have been linked to reading achievement and the development of reading skills. Only a small portion of the overall research on early reading identities has included dual language learners (DLLs). This study explores the reading identities of ten DLLs in prekindergarten. Data include child interviews, child and classroom observations, teacher interviews, and a family questionnaire. Methods centered the use of child oriented data collection protocols, and the inclusion of children in the interpretation of their own work and language. Through case portraits of the children and a cross case analysis of all ten participants, this study documents the ways that reading identities were constructed, taken up, and expressed by the participants. This study provides evidence that DLLs are actively constructing ideas about reading, bilingualism/biliteracy, and who they are as readers as they learn to read. These findings show that framing early reading in an identity perspective presents opportunities to look more holistically at the language and reading practices of DLLs as they learn to read and navigate two or more languages at home and school.

In his nominating letter, Dr. Proctor wrote, “The notion that we can tap such constructs among 4-year-old children is radical in concept, and indicates Chris’ deep respect for children’s aptitudes.”

Dr. Wagner graduated in 2016 from Boston College and is currently as Assistant Professor in Early Childhood at Queens College – The City University of New York.

*Submitted by Sara Michael Luna, Ph.D.
(Senior-Member-At-Large)*



2017 Travel Award Winners

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. Last year the executive board increased the number of awards and resulted in supporting six students.

Congratulations to the recipients pictured L to R: Emily Hoffman, University of Illinois – Chicago; Alison Hooper, University of Delaware; Rebecca Roji John, Old Dominion University ; Colleen Whittingham, University of Illinois-Chicago; Kaitlin Northey, Rutgers; Not pictured- Yixin Kelly Cui, Boston University



2018 Outstanding Dissertation Award Seeking Applications

The EE/CD SIG is soliciting nominations for our Dissertation Award. All nominations and required materials should be submitted to Katherine Delaney (katherine.delaney@utoledo.edu) by February 1, 2018.

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.

Eligibility criteria listed on the next page!

2018 Outstanding Dissertation Award Seeking Applications (continued)

Eligibility Criteria: 1) Dissertation topic should be congruent with the award purposes as described above. 2) The dissertation must have been completed within the past two academic years (2015-2016 or 2016-2017). 3) The nominee does not have to be a member of the EE/CD SIG 4) Self-nominations will be accepted.

The award recipient will be notified in March 2018 and recognized at the EECD SIG Business Meeting at the 2018 AERA meeting.

Our Dissertation Award is a wonderful way to highlight research and honor the future of our profession. The Dissertation Award recognizes outstanding original research by scholars in early childhood education and child development. Dissertations in all fields related to early childhood and child development are eligible for consideration.

Submit all required materials electronically (Word or PDF documents) to the Dissertation Award Committee Chair [Katherine Delaney](#) with subject heading "EE/CD SIG Dissertation Award Submission" no later than February 1, 2018.

2018 Early Career Award Seeking Applications

The EE/CD SIG is soliciting nominations for our *Early Career Award*. All nominations and required materials should be submitted to **Jennifer Baumgartner** (jbaum@lsu.edu) by **February 1, 2018**.

The committee urges all EE/CD SIG members to consider nominating a deserving early career scholar.

The award recipient will be notified in March 2018 and recognized at the EECD SIG Business Meeting at the 2018 AERA meeting. Please see description and nomination guidelines below.

Early Career Award is made annually to an individual with an early and 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.

Eligibility Criteria

1. 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.
2. Nominators must be members of the EE/CD SIG.
3. 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.
4. Additional information on the scholar's activity will also be considered in the second round.

Application Materials

A letter of nomination from a member of the EE/CD SIG, with sufficient justification of nominee's qualifications.

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 EE/CD SIG.

A copy of the nominee's most recent Curriculum Vitae, including complete bibliographic information and present employment status.

Copies of 2 or more publications representative of the nominee's scholarly contributions to the early childhood/child development field thus far.

Submit all required materials electronically (Word or PDF documents) to the *Early Career Award Committee Chair Jennifer Baumgartner* (jbaum@lsu.edu) with subject heading "EE/CD SIG Early Career Award Submission" no later than **February 1, 2018**.

2018 Travel Awards Call for Nominations

EE/CD SIG Graduate Student Travel Grant

Deadline for submission is **January 31, 2018**.

The EE/CD SIG has had the good fortune of a large membership that has allowed us to amass a strong financial foundation for our work. Recognizing that the money belongs to the members and that the future of the SIG lies in the work of young scholars, we are pleased to announce a funding opportunity for graduate student members of the SIG. We will award 2 grants of \$500 each to help fund student travel to AERA annually. Grants will be awarded to students that are presenting at the conference with preference given to first time AERA presenters. To qualify for the grant, students should provide the following information in a single email with attachments:

- Proof of membership in the EE/CD SIG
- A statement of your plans to attend AERA this year as well as how the grant will enhance your professional development. Please include a copy of the letter of acceptance from AERA.
- A one page letter of nomination from a faculty member of the EE/CD SIG who knows your work.

All inquiries and nominations should be submitted to:

Sara Michael Luna, Ph.D.
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**EE/CD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND
COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2017-2018**
Website <http://www.aera-eecd-sig.org/>

ELECTED MEMBERS:

**Nancy File, Chair
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**Monica Yudron, Newsletter
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2018 AERA Annual Meeting
The Dreams, Possibilities,
and Necessity of Public Education

New York City, NY • Friday, April 13 - Tuesday, April 17