

Special Interest Group

Early Education and Child Development

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

**AERA 2019**  
April 5 – April 9  
Toronto, Canada

**2019 Award & Board  
Position Nominations**

**Dissertation Award**  
Due: February 1, 2019

**Early Career Award**  
Due: February 1, 2019

**Graduate Student Travel  
Grants**  
Due: January 31, 2019

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**Message from the Chair**

**Martha Lash, Kent State University**

Dear Early Education/Child Development SIG Members,

Our summer days of AERA proposal writing and submitting are behind us as we wait to hear about our proposals for the 2019 AERA Annual Meeting. Once again, our EE/CD SIG had a solid number of submissions reflecting a robust membership. While those outside of academia may think we have relaxed summers, we know the academic world never stops. Sometimes, we slow down, but choosing this profession means, we are always in motion. As a colleague once shared, “faculty have flexible schedules—we can choose whatever 12 hours of the day we want to work!” I hope you had or made an opportunity to relax and regenerate this summer. I am sure your days are now overflowing with teaching, research, mentoring, service and more. Given the multifaceted demands of our profession, it is good to have the EE/CD SIG as a professional organization and connection regardless of where we are in our careers.

Collaboration and mentoring are two ideal ways to further our scholarship from a variety of perspectives. Both of these approaches can reinvigorate, stimulate and increase our productivity. The energy of the AERA annual meeting in New York City, our EE/CD SIG business meeting, and our reception/social time emphasized how important collaboration and particularly mentoring are to our profession. After the business part of the meeting, I had informal conversations with many of you, as a direct result of items discussed in the business meeting and by the panel. Topics of academic lineage, mentoring, and outreach/collaboration filled my conversations. Particularly inspiring was the Distinguished Contributions Award, posthumously awarded to Dr. Deborah Cassidy. Deb Cassidy was an early childhood mentor in all senses of the word, as so eloquently noted by one of Deb’s former doctoral students, Martha Buell, professor at the University of Delaware. The presentation of the early career award to Angela Pyle from the University of Toronto by her mentor was another touching and inspirational experience. These two awards showed the power of mentoring across our careers and provided provocations for many of us.

In this newsletter, you will see evidence of that topic repeatedly. As an early childhood leader and/or mentor, you have the opportunity to start considering mentees for nomination who might fit the awards specifically designed and offered by the SIG to support one another.

## Chair's Message Continued...

In addition, for those just getting started in the profession, please reach out to others and ask if they would consider nominating you for some of the awards or EE/CD SIG Board positions:

- Dissertation Award
- Early Career Award
- Graduate Student Travel Grant
- EE/CD SIG Board: Senior Member-at-Large, Junior Member-at-Large and Graduate Student Representative

Please read the newsletter for specifics on nomination requirements and procedures. Deadlines occur over the next few months up until February 1. The first deadline will be for board member nominations (November 1) so the slate can be put together to meet the AERA deadline.

I look forward to these next two years as we work together to benefit the care and education of young children,

Marty Lash, Ph. D, Kent State University

## 2018 BUSINESS MEETING

At this year's business meeting, held on Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, we were thrilled to give two awards—Angela Pyle of the University of Toronto received the Early Research Career Award and Alison Hooper of the University of Alabama received the dissertation award. In addition, we awarded travel funds to two graduate students who were presenting within the SIG—Ann Pradzynski of the University of Illinois Chicago and Sondra Stegenga of the University of Oregon.

The Distinguished Career Award was given in honor of Deb Cassidy's career contributions to the field. For those of you who might never have met her, Deb had a long career at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro while also making many contributions in the field to professional development. She had just retired but also had taken on the role of President of the National Association for the Education of Young Children when she passed away after a very brief illness. SIG member Martha Buell, who was Deb's first doctoral student at UNCG, was on hand to help us pay tribute.

In addition, we engaged in a great dialogue with a group of panel members. The panel represented professionals who are working with complex and large research networks. These networks include researchers, funders, program personnel and policy-makers. My goal in inviting them was for us to be able to think about the promises and challenges of this work, in consideration of the value being given to multi-site, ECE program-based research. Joining us were: Sherry Cleary, representing the New York City Early Childhood Research Network; Noreen Yazejian and Diane Horm, representing the Educare Learning Network; and Brent McBride, representing the perspective of Child Development Laboratory Schools.

We finished these professional pieces with great food and camaraderie. Thank you to everyone who attended the business meeting in April.

*Nancy File*

## 2018 Membership and Budget Report

### MEMBERSHIP

Membership Categories	April 2015 (Chicago)	April 2016 (DC)	April 2017 (San Antonio)	April 2018 (New York)
Current	428	434	408	<b>413</b>
New	94	94	87	<b>89</b>
Lapsed (All)*	334	331	358	<b>340</b>
Lapsed/still in AERA <sup>+</sup>	70	63	76	<b>58</b>

\*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 2018 year, those who let their SIG membership expire 12/31/2016 and 12/31/2017). This includes people who are no longer in AERA.

<sup>+</sup>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	2018 (estimated)	2017	2016
	Starting balance (January)	\$9,785.84	\$9,155.51	\$6,184.02
Income	Membership dues	\$6,195.00	\$7,245.00	\$7,080.00
	Sponsorships	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$6,195.00</b>	<b>\$7,245.00</b>	<b>\$7,080.00</b>
Expenses	Awards	(\$2,500.00)	(\$2,000.00)	(\$840.00)
	Plaques	(\$135.00)	(\$90.00)	
	Conference reception	(\$4,119.76)	(\$2,867.26)	(\$2,968.51)
	Board meeting	(\$928.45)	(\$961.77)	
	Meeting expenses			
	AERA Management Fee	(\$300.00)	(\$300.00)	(\$300.00)
	Web hosting/management		(\$395.64)	
	Reimbursements			
	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>(\$7,983.21)</b>	<b>(\$6,614.67)</b>	<b>(\$4,108.51)</b>
	<b>Estimated remaining balance</b>	<b>\$7,997.63</b>		
	<b>Ending balance (December)</b>		<b>\$9,785.84</b>	<b>\$9,155.51</b>

## 2018 Business Meeting Photos



## 2018 Early Career Award

Congratulations to Dr. Angela Pyle who was awarded the 2018 Early Research Career Award at the EE/CD SIG business meeting! The Early Research Career Award recognizes a promising early-career scholar in the early childhood field. Dr. Pyle is currently an assistant professor at the University of Toronto and her research addresses play based learning and assessment.

## 2018 Student Travel Awards

Congratulations to Ann Pradzynski of the University of Illinois at Chicago and Sondra Stegenga of the University of Oregon who were both awarded the AERA EE/CD SIG travel awards! Way to go!

## 2018 Dissertation Award

Alison Hooper of the University of Alabama received the 2018 AERA EE/CD SIG Dissertation Award.

## 2018 SIG Board Election Results

Congratulations to the winners of the 2019 SIG Board Election! First, a word of thanks to all who agreed to stand for election. AERA leadership has offered their recognition that we have competitive elections, rather than single candidates, which is what they want. This fact allowed us to keep our board membership larger than AERA recommended. But with competitive elections, we have people who received fewer votes – we hope that all of you in that position will continue your interest in the SIG.

*This year's election results are as follows:*

Chair Elect: Myae Han, University of Delaware

Secretary/Treasurer: Melissa Sherfinski, West Virginia University

Senior Member-at-Large: Mary Jane Moran, University of Tennessee at Knoxville

Junior Member-at-Large: Stephanie Sanders-Smith, University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign

Graduate Student Representative: Joanna Englehardt, University of Texas at Austin

**2019 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](mailto:katherine.delaney@utoledo.edu)) by February 1, 2019.

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!*

### 2019 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 (2016-2017 or 2017-2018). 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 2019 and recognized at the EECD SIG Business Meeting at the 2019 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 Stephanie Sanders-Smith with subject heading "EE/CD SIG Dissertation Award Submission" no later than February 1, 2019.

### 2019 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 *Mary Jane Moran* by **February 1, 2019**.

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

The award recipient will be notified in March 2019 and recognized at the EECD SIG Business Meeting at the 2019 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 Mary Jane Moran* with subject heading "EE/CD SIG Early Career Award Submission" no later than **February 1, 2019**.

**EE/CD SIG Graduate Student Travel Grant**

Deadline for submission is **January 31, 2019**.

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 *Katherine Delaney*.

**EE/CD SIG Executive Board Nominations**

The EE/CD SIG Executive Board will have several openings next spring:

- Senior Member-at-Large,
- Junior Member-at-Large, and
- Graduate Student Representative.

If you have questions, are interested in running, or would like to nominate someone for one of these positions, please complete the [nomination form](#) by November 1, 2018.

You can contact Jennifer Baumgartner at [jbaum@lsu.edu](mailto:jbaum@lsu.edu) with questions.



**EE/CD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND  
COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2018-2020**  
Website <http://www.aera-eecd-sig.org/>

**ELECTED MEMBERS:**

**Marty J. Lash, Chair  
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**Myae Han, Chair Elect  
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**Mary Jane Moran, Sr. Member-at-Large  
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**Nancy File, Past Chair  
(2016-2018)**

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**Katherine Delaney, Jr Member-at-Large  
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**Stephanie Sanders-Smith, Jr Member-at-  
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Yew Chung – Bernard Spodek Scholar  
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**Joanna Englehardt,  
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(2018-2019)**

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**Monica Yudron, Newsletter  
(2017—2020)**

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**APPOINTED MEMBERS:**

**X. Christine Wang, Website**

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2019 Annual Meeting Theme

*Leveraging Education Research in a "Post-Truth" Era:  
Multimodal Narratives to Democratize Evidence*

Toronto, Canada • Friday, April 5 - Tuesday, April 9