

EARLY EDUCATION AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

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MESSAGE FROM EE/CD SIG CHAIR

Happy Fall!

I hope you are each doing well and thriving in your work and communities. The start of the academic year often brings new goals and aspirations. Perhaps you're starting the year with a fresh approach to teaching, a new position, or a skill you're perfecting. Whatever your professional goals, the Early Education and Child Development SIG is here to support you.

We had a wonderful time at our April meeting in Philadelphia, recognizing outstanding members and engaging in insightful discussions about early childhood education. We're excited about the upcoming AERA meeting in Denver, April 23-26. Please plan to attend our SIG business meeting and reception. And share the benefits of SIG membership with graduate students and colleagues.



Some of these benefits include our communication channels that keep us connected between conferences. Our list-serv and social media accounts are helpful resources for sharing publication information, job opportunities, and special events. If you are not already following, please subscribe using the links below:

With this new year and newsletter, we introduce you to our new board members who are already hard at work preparing for the 2025 AERA Conference in Denver. We also want to express our gratitude to the outgoing board members for their dedication and service.

Enjoy this semester and season. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Warm regards,

Jenny Baumgartner
Chair, AERA Early Education and Child Development SIG

STAY CONNECTED

Have something exciting to share with the SIG? Share job postings, publication opportunities and other news with us in our social media channels.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/earlyeducationandchilddevsig/>

X: https://x.com/AERA_EECD_SIG

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/aeraeecd/?igsh=MTV6YXR4aGFnZDNoOA%3D%3D>

“We fully embrace the diversity and inclusiveness of our society through our research, teaching, and service to the early childhood community”

EE/CD EXECUTIVE BOARD CHANGES

We want to thank the out-going EE/CD SIG Board officers and welcome our new leaders.

Special thank you to these outgoing board officers for their service to the SIG:

- Myae Han (Past Chair)
- Alison Hooper (Secretary and Treasurer)
- Ji-Young Choi (Senior Member)
- Ana Whitaker (Junior Member)
- Sophia Han (Program Co-chair)
- Cara Kelly (Graduate Student Representative)

We welcome our new board officers

- Jennifer Baumgartner (New chair)
- Alison Hooper (new Chair-elect)
- Anamarie Whitaker (new Secretary and Treasurer)
- Minsun Shin (new Senior Member)
- Gerilyn Slicker (new Junior Member)
- Sara Michael-Luna (new Program Co-chair)
- Yan Jiang (new Graduate Student Representative)

SEEKING NOMINATIONS for 2025 AERA EE/CD SIG AWARDS

EE/CD SIG 2025 Early Career Award

The EE/CD SIG is excited to announce the call for our Early Career Award nominations. We encourage all EE/CD SIG members to nominate outstanding early career scholars who have demonstrated remarkable promise and achievement in the early education and child development field.

The Early Career Award is given 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. The award recipient will be notified in February 2025 and recognized at the EE/CD SIG Business Meeting at the 2025 AERA Annual Meeting. The award includes a \$500 monetary prize and the opportunity for the recipient to present a brief summary of their research and interests at the 2025 AERA EE/CD SIG Business Meeting.

Please see the description and nomination guidelines below.

Eligibility Criteria

- Viable candidates for the EE/CD Early Career Research Award are no more than ten years out from receiving their doctorate and have not received tenure.
- Nominees must be members of the EE/CD SIG.

Note: Nominees from previous years who did not receive the award are encouraged to apply if they still meet the eligibility criteria above.

Application Materials

1. A letter of nomination from a colleague/scholar, with sufficient justification of the nominee's qualifications.
2. A copy of the nominee's most recent Curriculum Vitae, including complete bibliographic information and current employment status.
3. Two or more publications representative of the nominee's scholarly contributions to the early childhood/child development field thus far.

Submit Nominations To: Please send all required materials as one combined PDF via email to Minsun Shin (shinm@montclair.edu) with the subject "AERA EE/CD SIG Early Career Award" by December 1, 2024, 11:59 pm EST.

Timeline:

- **Nomination Deadline:** December 1, 2024
- **Award Notification:** February 2025
- **Award Presentation:** EE/CD SIG Business Meeting, 2025 AERA Annual Meeting

We look forward to recognizing and celebrating the achievements of promising early career scholars in our field. For further details and questions, please contact Minsun Shin (shinm@montclair.edu). Thank you for your continued support and participation in advancing research in the early education and child development field.

EE/CD SIG 2025 Outstanding Dissertation Award

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 EE/CD SIG is soliciting nominations for our Dissertation Award.

Eligibility Criteria

- A completed and defended dissertation accepted by the Graduate School of the nominee's university within two years of the deadline for submission (2022-2023 or 2023-2024).
- Dissertation topic 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.
- Nominees are encouraged to become a member of the EE/CD SIG if not already members. However, membership is not required. Self-nominations will be accepted.

Application Materials

1. Completed [nomination form](#) and upload the materials listed below. Please include the nominee's name in the file name for all materials.
2. **A single Word document or PDF that contains:**
 - **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 (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.
 - **1-2 page summary** (abstract) of the study to be published in the SIG newsletter should the award be given to the recipient.
 - **Scholarly summary of the dissertation**, written by the nominee. This summary should adhere to the APA manual's (7th ed.) guidelines for manuscript preparation and should be approximately 15-20 pages (double spaced). The summary should provide an overview of the dissertation study, including: 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 will be evaluated by a panel of scholars in the field and former dissertation award winners. **Please note that all nominees are required to submit a summary, regardless of dissertation format (e.g. traditional dissertation or three article dissertation).**
3. **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. **This letter can be uploaded to the google form or sent**

directly to Gerilyn Slicker (gerilyn.slicker@unlv.edu) with the subject line “EECD Dissertation Award.” All other materials *must* be uploaded to the google form.

Submit Nominations To: Submit as Word or PDF documents through the nomination form no later than December 1, 2024. Please direct any questions to Dissertation Award Committee Chair Gerilyn Slicker (gerilyn.slicker@unlv.edu).

2025 TRAVEL AWARDS for GRADUATE STUDENTS

The EE/CD SIG is pleased to once again offer a competitive funding opportunity for graduate students who are SIG members, have been selected to present in an EE/CD SIG session at the 2025 Annual Meeting, and plan to attend the conference in person.

This year, we anticipate being able to provide multiple awards ranging from \$300-\$500. To apply for a travel award, please provide the following information through this google form (<https://forms.gle/iS5ow3m8FGLgkzFb6>)

- A copy of the letter of acceptance from AERA for the 2025 Annual Meeting.
- A brief statement (maximum 200 words) of your plans to attend AERA this year as well as how a travel award will enhance your professional development.
- Please indicate if your institution does or does not provide any support for conference travel. If your institution does provide support for conference travel, please indicate the amount you anticipate receiving this year for AERA.

Deadline for submission is December 1, 2024. Please contact Katy Chapman (kathryncchapman@ufl.edu) with any questions pertaining to this award or application process.

EE/CD SIG MEMBERSHIP REPORT (OCTOBER 2024)

Membership Categories	Current	2024 Conference, Philadelphia	2023 Conference, Chicago	2022 Conference, San Diego	2021 Conference, Virtual
Current	389	336	388	342	373
New	102	70	66	68	92
Lapsed (still in AERA) *	93	76	87	86	93

*The “Lapsed/Still in AERA” row reflects people with active AERA membership but no longer part of our SIG.

EE/CD SIG BUDGET (OCTOBER 2024)

Category	Description	2024	2023	2022	2021
Beginning Balance		\$15,941.31	\$19,282.45	\$17,623.89	\$14,013.79
Income	Membership dues	\$3,855.00	\$5,430.00	\$7,350.00	\$6,030.00
	Reimbursements	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1630.00
TOTAL INCOME		\$3,855.00	\$5,430.00	\$7,350.00	\$7,660.00
Expenses	Awards	(\$1,000.00)	(\$2,000.00)	(\$1,000.00)	(\$1,500.00)
	Plaques/Certificates (+shipping)	(\$304.83)	(\$272.33)	(\$121.09)	(\$119.90)
	Graduate Student and Early Career Registration Grants	(\$2,400.00)	(\$1,000.00)	(\$2,820.00)	(\$1,630.00)
	Conference reception	(3,873.06)	(\$4,098.88)		
	Board meeting	(\$1,067.29)	(\$734.32)	(\$650.35)	
	Webinar honorarium	\$0		(\$800.00)	(\$500.00)
	AERA Management Fee	\$0	(\$300.00)	(\$300.00)	(\$300.00)
	Web hosting/management	\$0	(\$365.61)		
TOTAL EXPENSES		(\$8,645.18)	(\$8,771.14)	(\$5,691.44)	(\$4,059.90)
Ending Balance		\$11,151.13	\$15,941.31	\$19,282.45	\$17,623.89

EE/CD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2024-2025

Jennifer Baumgartner
 Chair
 (2024-2026)
 Professor,
 Louisiana State University

Melissa Sherfinski
 Past Chair
 (2024-2026)
 Professor,
 West Virginia University

Alison Hooper
 Chair Elect

(2024-2026)
 Associate Professor,
 Anamarie Whitaker
 Secretary/Treasure
 (2024-2026)
 Assistant Professor,
 University of Delaware

Sohyun Meacham
 Senior Member-at-Large
 (2023-2025)
 Associate Professor
 University of Northern Iowa

Minsun Shin
Senior Member-at-Large
(2024-2026)
Professor,

University of Alabama

Katy Chapman
Junior Member-at-Large
(2023- 2025)
Assistant Professor,
University of Florida

Gerilyn Slicker
Junior Member- at-Large
(2024 – 2026)
Assistant Professor
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Tomoko Wakabayashi
Co-Program Chair, Appointed
(2024 – 2026)
Associate Professor
Oakland University

Cindy Wiltshire
Communications Officer, Appointed
(2021 – 2024)
Assistant Professor
University of Texas, El Paso

Sara Michael-Luna

Montclair State University.

Grace Keengwe
Newsletter Editor
(2023-2026)
Associate Professor
University of North Dakota

Yang Jiang
Graduate Student Representative
(2024– 2025)
University of California, San Diego

Co-Program Chair, Appointed
(2021 – 2024) Associate Professor
University of South Florida

Julia Atilas
Co-Program Chair, Appointed
(2022 – 2025)
Associate Professor
East Tennessee State University

Christine Wang
Website Master Appointed
(2024-2026)
Professor
University of New York at Buffalo