

What's Happening at SECA

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Best Wishes for a Happy Holiday Season from the SECA Staff!

SECA Well Represented at NAEYC

It was a reunion for many of our SECA colleagues as we found each other at the annual NAEYC conference in Atlanta. **You could identify the SECA members by all the hugs that were going around!**

Your SECA Leadership Team (those of us in the photo and many more!) made the

rounds of receptions, events and workshops during our time in Atlanta. The photos were taken at the event hosted by the Florida Association for the

Education of Young Children (FLAEYC) and it was wonderful to meet and greet all our colleagues from Florida.

We also had the pleasure of attending the reception hosted by the Texas Association for the Education of Young Children (TAEYC) and received a rousing welcome from their President, Mitzi Bartlett.



Charlene Gross and Barbara Backus, FLAEYC Past and Current President

One of the wonderful things about SECA is the opportunity to make lasting friendships in our states. It's always great to catch up with



SECA Leadership Team at NAEYC

Back: Dr. Janie Humphries (Immediate Past President), Glenda Bean (Executive Director) Terry Green (Past President)

Front: Kathy Attaway (President-Elect) and Nancy Cheshire (SECA President)

Photo courtesy of FLAEYC

old friends and to make new ones. **We lost count of the SECA FOSSILS that were there!**

Our Colleagues at NAEYC

If you're in one of the dual states (STATE, SECA, NAEYC) in the SECA region, you've probably heard these names but you may not have seen the faces.

It's always helpful to put a face with a name and these are the NAEYC staff that

work in the affiliate relations office. If you work in a leadership position with your state affiliate, you've probably received e-mails and information from them. **Many thanks for their work on behalf of our state affiliates.**



Sahrah Zarei, Gwen Simmons and Matt Seiler

Photo Courtesy of FLAEYC

Goodbye and Hello: Changes to the SECA Board of Directors

As we near the end of 2012, we'll say good-bye to some SECA Board members and welcome new members.

Dr. Janie Humphries of Louisiana

(Immediate Past President of SECA) will complete her term of office this year. She's been a tireless campaigner on behalf of SECA, will return to the ranks of the FOS-SILS (from which she exited upon her election) and we know will continue to work on behalf of SECA.



Janie

Katie has two young children, a job that requires travel and she felt that she needed to focus on her family at this point.

Maureen O'Brien will replace Katie as the Kentucky representative. Maureen is a preschool teacher in the Jefferson County Kentucky Public School System.



Katie

Maureen

Joyce Jones of Virginia has served on the SECA Board of Directors since

2010 and she's truly been a pleasure to work with during her time with us. She's chaired the Leadership



Joyce

Commission and helped us to develop programs for students. Joyce is serving in 2013 as the President of the Southside AECE

and, in that capacity, will also serve on the VAECE Board of Directors.

Dr. Susan Barnes of Virginia will replace Joyce as the VA representative on the SECA Board. Susan is an Assistant Professor of Early, Elementary and Reading Education at James Madison University. She also serves as a Coordinator of the Inclusive Early Childhood Program at the University.

One of the wonderful things about the SECA Board of Directors is its constant re-invention as a Board with new members...new perspectives, new ideas.

We hate to lose Janie, Joyce and Katie but welcome Kathy, Maureen and Susan to the Board! More about Susan and Maureen in the next issue.

Kathy Attaway of Kentucky will transition onto the Board as the new President-Elect, replacing

Janie Humphries in

that Board position.

Katie Shaughnessy-Williams of Kentucky has resigned as the Kentucky board representa-



Susan

We're A Little Behind!

With the departure of 33% of our staff (There are three of us!), we've had to switch gears and shift some things.

We're catching up but experiencing a few minor delays in getting out our normal publications and newsletters.

The last 2012 issue of *Dimensions of Early Childhood* didn't get out until near the end of November (a couple of weeks late), but we hope you found your copy on-line earlier. The copies are in the mail, so should have arrived or will be arriving soon.

The *Dimensions Extra* to go with this issue is under development and should be available by December 15.

Public Policy Notes for November is now available on-line.

**Please bear with us-
we're getting there!**

Making an Editorial Transition

In the last issue of *Dimensions of Early Childhood*, you saw a farewell message from Janet Brown who has served as the SECA Editor for the past 16 years. We appreciate her service and thank her for years of contributions to the journal and SECA.

In 2013, we're turning a new page with the editorial work of the Association and have asked **Dr. Stephen Graves**, past chair of the SECA Editorial Committee to serve as interim editor while decisions are made about

the future of SECA publishing. He will work alongside **Dr. Jaesook Gilbert**, chair of the SECA Editorial Committee.

The Editorial Committee will meet on Thursday, February 28, 2013 at the annual conference in Mobile and they'll have a full agenda for the day. We've asked them to consider how the current system works and how we might make it a more robust and inclusive system in the future.

If you'd like more information on

the Editorial Committee go to http://www.southernearlychildhood.org/seca_editorial_committee.php.

It's going to be an exciting year!



Jaesook

Stephen

The NAEYC Affiliate Council: Three New Leaders from the SECA Region

We were recently informed that three persons from our region have been elected to leadership roles with the NAEYC Affiliate Council.

Susan Tabor of Oklahoma was elected as the Region 6 Representative on the Council and will serve until January 2015 in that capacity. Susan currently serves as the Dean of Social Sciences at Oklahoma Community College and holds a Ph.D. Instructional Leadership and Academic Curriculum from the University of Oklahoma. Susan is a member of the Early Childhood Association of Oklahoma (ECAO).

Charlene Gross of Florida was elected as the Region 4 Representative and will also serve a term from January 2013-January 2015. Charlene is the Immediate Past President of the Florida Association for the Education of Young Children (FLAEYC).



Susan Tabor

Gege Kresicher



Charlene Gross

Gege Kresicher is the Chair-Elect of the Affiliate Council and will serve for 3 years (Chair-Elect, Chair and Past Chair). She previously served as the

Region 4 Representative and is a Past President of the Florida Association for the Education of Young Children (FLAEYC).

The Affiliate Council was created to provide a forum for state affiliates to meet, network and give advice to the staff and Governing Board of the Association. Each affiliate has a representative on the Council.

The Council meets twice a year: at the annual conference and at the Professional Development Institute. (This year, we hosted one of the NAEYC National Dialogue meetings at the SECA conference in San Antonio as our contribution to their work.)

As a strategic partner of NAEYC and, because of our relationship with the dual affiliate states, SECA sits on the Council as an ex-officio member. Our designated representative is the SECA President.

Southern Early Childhood Association

1123 South University, Ste 255

Little Rock, AR 72204

PO Box 55930

Little Rock, AR 722215-5930

Phone: 800-305-SECA

Fax: 501-227-5297

E-mail: info@southernearlychildhood.org

A Voice for Southern Children!

We're on the web!
www.SouthernEarlyChildhood.org

Southern Early Childhood Association



2012 Executive Committee

Nancy Cheshire, President

Dr. Janie Humphries, Past President

Sister Roberta Bailey, Fiscal Officer

Mary Jamsek, Secretary

2012 SECA Board of Directors

Nancy Cheshire (WV), President

Dr. Janie Humphries (LA), Immediate Past President

Richard Hardison, AL State Representative

Dr. Joanna Grymes, AR State Representative

Sister Roberta Bailey, FL State Representative

Anita Dailey, GA State Representative

Katie Shaughnessy-Williams, KY State Representative

Cindy Ramagos, LA State Representative

Beverly Peden, MS State Representative

Marti Nicholson, OK State Representative

Crystal Campbell, SC State Representative

Lisa Maddox-Vinson, TN State Representative

Mary Jamsek, TX State Representative

Joyce P. Jones, VA State Representative

Melissa Smith, WV State Representative

Carol Montealegre (FL), Member-at-Large

Dr. Floyd Creech (SC), Member-at-Large

Go to the SECA website for e-mail addresses for the Board.

Bags Not Rags: The Idea Spreads

In the Winter 2011 issue of the SECA Reporter, we shared an article by Nancy Alexander about a program in Louisiana, *Bags Not Rags*. This program was designed to support foster children as they made transitions by ensuring that they had appropriate "bags" to carry their belongings as they moved into placement.

In the fall of 2011, the Arkansas Early Childhood Association (AECA) adopted the project and collected bags at their annual conference and through local contacts. The bags were delivered to the local agencies that deal with fos-

ter children.

The Florida Association (FLAEYC) adopted this project as their Social Services Project for 2012 and asked attendees at their annual conference this fall to donate gently used tote bags that were filled with children's books, toys, toiletries, cosmetics or other school items. Over 150 bags were donated at the annual conference and many more were gathered through the 15 local affiliates.

It's always wonderful to see an idea take root and know that SECA helped share the word. **Other state stories to tell?!**



Broward FL Affiliate with their bags



SR Roberta Bailey (right), FL Rep on the SECA Board, with donated bags