

# What's Happening at SECA

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## Don't Forget to Vote! Watch for Your Ballot

2010 is an election year for SECA and we've got two wonderful candidates who are vying for the office of President-Elect.

In submitting their name for consideration by the SECA Nominating Committee, each candidate was required to answer in writing these questions:

1. What do you see as the major challenges facing SECA during the next 4 years?
2. What issue/issues would you like to address if you are elected President?
3. What are SECA's strengths?
4. What are SECA's weaknesses?
5. How will your leadership help SECA to address the weaknesses and how will you build on the current strengths of the organization?



Nancy Cheshire of West Virginia



Beverly Peden of Mississippi

information about the candidates:

1. The Winter issue of *Dimensions of Early Childhood* includes information on page 19.
2. All 4 issues of the 2010 *What's Happening at SECA* include information on the candidates. You can find these on the SECA website on The SECA States page.
3. The summer issue of *Dimensions of Early Childhood* includes information about the candidates on the inside front cover.

**Ballots will be mailed August 15th with a postage paid return feature. Deadline to return the ballot is September 30, 2010.**

There are three ways to find

## New Public Policy Resources from SECA

Coming soon

*Health Care Reform: The Final Chapter –What It Means to You and Your Business*

*Kids Count 2010*

## What If You Don't Receive a Ballot?

SECA mails under a non-profit bulk mail permit and this method of mailing is sometimes slow.

**If you are an active member and don't receive a ballot by September 1, we encourage you to contact the SECA**

**office** at 1-800-305-7322 and let us know that you haven't received a ballot. We'll:

- 1) Verify that you are an active member.
- 2) Verify whether a ballot has been mailed to you.

**If we have mailed a ballot to you at the correct address, we regret that we will be unable to provide an additional ballot.** If a ballot was not mailed, we'll be happy to send one your way. For the next election, we're working toward on-line voting that will resolve any mail problems.

## Updating the SECA Website

We're in the process of updating the SECA website to make it more user friendly. We've asked our web designers to look at the following:

- Creating drop down menus from the top buttons that will give you more information about what's included on specific pages.
- Compressing some files such as the old SECA history to remove the "lists" that are all we can currently do with the pages.
- Enhancing our ability to compose material on our pages with additional design features.
- Adding a SECA Board of Directors Page so that we can eliminate much of the "paper" that we utilize now and make Board materials more accessible to them quickly.
- Moving the "site map" button to the bottom of the home page. The drop-down menus will help with navigation but we'll still have the list available.
- Add a page, **SECA en ESPAÑOL** (SECA in Spanish) that will include our new materials in Spanish.
- Simplify the member login by eliminating the password (or making it automatic). Members will still need their member number to access that portion of the site.

We're hopeful that these changes will make use of the site easier and more attractive to users.

## August 9th State Presidents Conference Call

On August 9, 2010 at 4:00 pm CST, SECA President Dr. Janie Humphries held a conference call with the state affiliate presidents.

Items discussed during the conference call included:

1. Updating state affiliate leadership lists as you change years.
2. A request that all state affiliates send a copy of their state journal and/or newsletter to the SECA office to be maintained on file.
3. A request that state affiliates send nominations to the SECA Board for persons to serve on the SECA Editorial Committee.
4. A request that links to SECA Radio and the SECA website be posted on all state affiliate websites.
5. Defining and enhancing communication between your SECA representative and the state affiliate.
6. On-line event registration opportunities.
7. A discussion of how to best utilize the stipends that SECA provides to affiliates each year.
8. New SECA Board orientation with the SECA Executive Committee.
9. Membership retention—How are your affiliates doing this?

## Did You Submit a Proposal for SECA 2011?

The deadline to submit proposals was August 1 and we have approximately 120 proposals in the SECA office.

We will send those proposals out for the peer review process conducted by the Board's Professional Development Commission and submissions will be reviewed and accepted or rejected,

based upon the consensus of the group.

**Persons submitting proposals will be notified the first week of October of the status of their proposals.**

We're delighted with the volume and content of the proposals, and we'll have many great interest sessions to share

with our conference participants.

*If you missed the deadline, we'll be happy to accept a late proposal; however, it will not be reviewed prior to the notification and will be reviewed only if we need additional sessions on a topic or track.*

## New SECA History Now Available on the Website

**The Next Twenty Years: Becoming the Southern Early Childhood Association 1990-2010** is now available on the SECA website. You'll find both the **First Forty Years** and the new history posted on the Leadership page. Once you're there, click on Leadership Resources. (We're working to get the first history in a more "user friendly" format and hope to have that completed by the end of September.)

In the new history you'll find:

- A summary of each President's term, their photo and their remembrances from their terms from 1990-2010.
- A timeline that starts with the first meeting in Nashville, TN and goes through 2010. *Did you know that original dues for SECA were \$.25 (that's twenty-five cents!)?*
- A list of past presidents, past state affiliate presidents, SECA award winners and members of the Editorial Committee.
- A list of the theme issues of *Dimensions of Early Childhood* with photos of the covers.
- A SECA photo gallery with photos ranging from the early years to present day.

We had a great time researching and compiling the information. We hope you'll enjoy it as well. As Dr. Humphries completes her term, we'll begin the next chapter in SECA's history.

## Southern Issues: What Does That Mean?

The SECA Board of Directors held its summer Board meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas on July 11-12, 2010.

We spent a good deal of time discussing the Association's mission and just what "Southern issues" really means. What we determined is that our issues reflect the issues found in other parts of the country; however, because of the scale of poverty and lack of education in the South, many of those issues are magnified in our region.

The Board determined that three general issues impacted the well-being of children and families in our region:

**Childhood obesity**  
**General health status**  
**Poverty**

We determined that our focus for the next several years should be in these areas:

1. The prevention of childhood obesity.

2. The impact of the economic decline on children and families, including the provision of state and federal programs and services.
3. Responding to natural disasters and helping children to develop resiliency.
4. Promoting the development of career ladders in the early childhood profession.

## Interview with Dr. Peter Mangione Now Available on SECA Radio

The latest addition to SECA Radio is an interview with Dr. Peter Mangione.



*Dr. Peter Mangione*

Dr. Mangione is the Co-Director of WestEd's Center for Child and Family Studies.

The Center's mission is to promote excellence, achieve equity and improve learning for children, youth and adults. West Ed is particularly known for its expertise in infant/toddler development and programming.

Dr. Mangione provides leadership in the development of comprehensive training

resources for infant/toddler caregivers and the evaluation of early childhood programs and resources.

The interview with Dr. Mangione covers self-initiated repetition and practice, a critical developmental skill for young children.

**You'll find a link to SECA Radio on the SECA homepage.**

## Southern Early Childhood Association

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The Voice for Southern Children

We're on the web!  
[www.SouthernEarlyChildhood.org](http://www.SouthernEarlyChildhood.org)

### 2010 Executive Committee

*Dr. Janie Humphries, President*

*Georgia Lamirand, Past-President*

*Susan Carrigan, Vice-President*

*Dr. Joanna Grymes, Secretary*

*Sister Roberta Bailey, Fiscal Officer*

Southern Early Childhood Association



### 2010 SECA Board of Directors

**Dr. Janie Humphries (LA), President**

**Georgia Lamirand (OK), Past-President**

**Dee Ard, AL State Representative**

**Dr. Joanna Grymes, AR State Representative & Prof Dev Chair**

**Sister Roberta Bailey, FL State Representative**

**Terrie Buckner, GA State Representative**

**Katie Shaughnessy-Williams, KY State Representative**

**Cindy Ramagos, LA State Representative**

**Beverly Peden, MS State Representative & Membership Chair**

**Susan Carrigan, OK State Representative & Leadership Chair**

**Crystal Campbell, SC State Representative**

**Lisa Maddox-Vinson, TN State Representative**

**Mary Jamsek, TX State Representative**

**Joyce P. Jones, VA State Representative**

**Melanie Clark, WV State Representative**

**Dr. Herman Knopf (SC), Member-at-Large & Public Policy Chair**

**Carol Montealegre (FL), Member-at-Large**

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

## SECA Awards: Nominations Open for 2011

Each year at annual conference, SECA presents a variety of awards. Some are dedicated to support SECA members and others are to recognize the people who have worked tirelessly on behalf of children and families.

Our major national award is the **SECA Friend of Children**.

This award recognizes someone who has worked on the national stage to promote the well-being of children and families. Former Friend of Children Award winners have included Dr. Sue Bredekamp for her work on defining "DAP." **The SECA Board of**



*Dr. Bredekamp  
2008 Friend of  
Children*

**Directors selects this recipient.**

The **SECA President's Award** was established in 2001 to recognize someone who has worked as an advocate at the state level. **States select this recipient and, in 2011, the state of Tennessee will select the recipient.**

The third major award is the **SECA Outstanding Member Award**. This is an award that is designed to honor someone who has contributed significantly to the Southern Early Childhood Association. In most cases, this is someone who has worked on behalf of the Association at both the state and SECA levels and is widely known by the leadership at the state and regional levels.



*Dr. Cecil Picard  
Louisiana  
2008 President's  
Award*

Past recipients of the award include Beverly Oglesby of Florida in 2008. Beverly has been a faithful member and leader of her state affiliate and served as President of SECA. **The SECA Board of Directors selects this recipient with nominations from the state affiliates.**

**Nominations for both the 2011 Friend of Children and 2011 Outstanding Member are open. For more information, contact the SECA office.**



*Beverly Oglesby  
Florida  
2008 Outstanding  
Member*