

What's Happening at SECA

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SECA Proposes By-Laws Changes

At the annual SECA business meeting that will be held in San Antonio, Texas on Saturday, February 4, 2012, members will be asked to vote on proposed changes to the SECA by-laws.

The first proposed change is related to the finances of the Association. **Proposal #1 will be that the SECA fiscal year be changed to July 1-June 30th so that all conference revenue and expenses for each conference will appear within the same fiscal year.**

Currently, revenue for each conference is reported across fiscal years. For example, revenue for the 2012 conference is now being received and the end of the fiscal year will be December 31, 2011. That

means that we will receive revenue for the 2012 conference in both the 2011 and 2012 fiscal years. By changing the by-laws, all future conference revenue will be received in the year in which the conference is held.

Proposal #2 concerns the composition of the SECA Executive Committee and proposes to eliminate the position of Vice-President.

The Vice-President is an appointed position and a member of the Executive Committee. Prior to a recent change of the by-laws, the Vice-President was the person who would assume the position of President if the President was unable to fulfill those duties.

That provision was eliminated in the by-laws to change the succession to a person elected by the membership, either the President-Elect or the Immediate Past-President.

The duties of the Vice-President will be distributed among the various Board Commissions and the person currently holding this position will rotate from the SECA Board in January, so no future appointment will be made.

For a complete copy of the revised language, go to the SECA website. You'll find a copy of the by-laws with strike-outs and additions on the home page at

southernearlychildhood.org.

2012 Leadership Lists Due in the SECA Office

If you haven't forwarded your new Board roster to the SECA office, please make sure that it arrives. The rosters are used to update our e-mail and contact lists and we want to make sure that everyone stays informed.

SECA Executive Committee Met in November

The SECA Executive Committee met in Little Rock, Arkansas on November 16-17, 2011. Members in attendance were:

Dr. Janie Humphries
President

Dee Ard
Fiscal Officer

Sister Roberta Bailey
Secretary

Susan Carrigan
Vice President

Nancy Cheshire was unable to attend due to the illness of her husband.

Minutes of the meeting may be found on the SECA web-

site. Click on the *Leadership* button at the top of the home page and a drop down menu will appear. Click on Board Resources.

You will need the password to gain entry. Contact the SECA office if you have forgotten that password.

Welcome to Our Incoming SECA Board Member: Richard Hardison



Richard Hardison is the incoming Alabama representative on the SECA Board of Directors. Richard will assume his position on the SECA Board of Directors on January 1, 2012.

Richard is Past-President of the Alabama Association for Young Children and founded Childcare Education Resources (CER) in 2000, where he serves as the Executive Director.

He holds a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Education from the University

of North Alabama (UNA) and has experience teaching second and sixth grade elementary, operating a child care facility and 16 years in the field of early education.

Richard serves on the Governor's Early Childhood Advisory Council and the Alabama Quality Rating and Improvement Steering Committee.

He is dedicated to improving the quality and profession of early childcare programs.

Welcome to Our Incoming SECA Board Member: Marti Nicholson

Marti Nicholson is the incoming Oklahoma representative on the SECA Board of Directors. Marti will assume her position on the SECA Board of Directors on January 1, 2012.

She is currently the Parent Services Manager for the Oklahoma Child Care Resource and Referral Association. Her career also includes six years as a referral counselor and eight years as Executive Director of the CCR&R agency in Oklahoma City.

During her tenure at the Oklahoma City CCR&R, she served on a team that was instrumental in the creation of Oklahoma's early childhood professional development system.

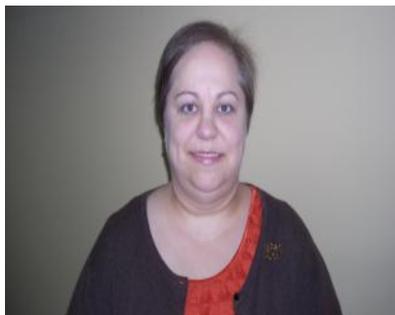
Her professional focus for the last several years has been on customer service and the professional development of referral specialists. She is the author of multimedia and online training courses that are used across the nation by CCR&R's.



Welcome to Our Newest Board Member: Melissa Smith

Melissa "Missy" Smith joined the SECA Board of Directors this fall with the resignation of the West Virginia representative, Melanie Clark.

Missy is a native of West Virginia and graduated from Fairmont State College with a BA and from Marshall University with a master's degree in family and consumer science.



She worked as a child care resource and referral specialist for 6 years and joined the Division of Early Care and Education in the WV Department of Human Services in 2004. Her most current projects include WV Pre-K, the statewide TRAILS system and technical assistance to CCR&R professional development teams. **Welcome Missy!**

Our SECA Editorial Committee! Thanks to Stephen and Cynthia



**Dr. Stephen
Graves**



**Dr. Cynthia
Simpson**

With the beginning of a new year, we'll say good-bye to two of our SECA Editorial Committee members. Dr. Stephen Graves of Florida and Dr. Cynthia Simpson of Texas will complete their terms at the end of 2011.

We thank them for their contributions to the quality of SECA publications and their support of making our resources useful and valuable to our field.

Dr. Jaesook Gilbert of Kentucky will succeed Dr. Graves as Chair of the Committee. The Committee will meet at the annual conference in San Antonio.



**Dr. Jaesook Gilbert
2012 SECA Editorial
Committee Chair**

In the SECA Office: Finishing 2011 With a Bang!

We wanted to let you know about some things that are happening in the SECA office as we finish up 2011. It's been a year of restructuring and identifying new ways to serve our members.

Megan Sullins has been named Assistant for Communications and Marketing and she's taking on the jobs of:

- **Managing the SECA website**, keeping it updated, and making it more user friendly.
- **Developing and producing the monthly SECA member e-mails.** If you haven't checked out the parent materials that she's developing, we hope you'll do so now. We've already had requests to put the materials on other websites with other organizations.
- **Producing *Dimensions Extra***, our new publication that is tied to our

journal, *Dimensions of Early Childhood*.

- **Producing our annual *What's New In Children's Books?*** The 2011 edition will be posted shortly on the members-only section of the website.

Maurena Farr is our Administrative Assistant who does a little of everything! She:

- **Serves as the SECA staff responsible for assisting the Arkansas Early Childhood Association** with administration of the affiliate. That includes conference logistics, financial management, member contact and response and production of the newsletter/ballot, etc.
- Is the **primary contact for SECA members and customers** who contact the SECA office.

- Takes care of **order fulfillment, invoicing and collections.**
- **Manages the membership system** and ensures that member cards are mailed each month.

This is only a short list. We manage a 19,000+ association with 3 staff and technology. **Megan and Maurena** make a great team!



Megan— 1/2 of the SECA IT Department, installing new computers while the boss is away! Better them than me!

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A Voice for Southern Children!

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

Southern Early Childhood Association



2011 Executive Committee

- Dr. Janie Humphries, President*
- Nancy Cheshire, President-Elect*
- Susan Carrigan, Vice-President*
- Dee Ard, Fiscal Officer*
- Sister Roberta Bailey, Secretary*

2011 SECA Board of Directors

Dr. Janie Humphries (LA), President

Nancy Cheshire (WV), President-Elect

Dee Ard, AL State Representative

Dr. Joanna Grymes, AR State Representative

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

Susan Carrigan, 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.

Thank You Susan, Dee, and Melanie!

It's always hard to say good-bye and we're going to miss three such dedicated and supportive Board members.

Dee Ard has represented Alabama on the SECA Board for 4 years and served as Fiscal Officer in 2011. Although she is leaving the SECA Board in January, she will continue to serve the profession as President of the Alabama Association for Young Children.

Susan Carrigan has represented Oklahoma on the SECA Board for 6 years, served as SECA Vice-

President and was instrumental in developing our e-newsletter, *The Leadership Letter*.

Melanie Clark served as the West Virginia representative on the SECA Board and resigned in 2011 due to increasing professional responsibilities in her state. She served on the SECA Membership Commission of the SECA Board and brought her real world experience in state government to our Board discussions. Melissa Smith is completing her term. (See page 2 for information on Missy.)

Thanks to all!



Susan



Dee



Melanie