

What's Happening at SECA

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New Public Policy Resources from SECA

Available Now

Health Care Reform: Chapter 5 Health Care Reform & Early Childhood Programs: What Does It Mean for Us?

Coming soon

Kids Count 2010

Southern Issues: A Policy Statement from the SECA Board

Election Results: Nancy Cheshire Next SECA President

We are pleased to announce that the election results are in and **Nancy Cheshire of West Virginia** has been elected the next SECA President. Nancy will assume the office of President-Elect in January 2011 and will serve as SECA President for the years 2012 & 2013.

Nancy comes to the Presidency with a wealth of experience with the organization and memories of her service as the Board Representative from West Virginia.

We thought we'd share some of those memories in Nancy's words.

In 2005 I traveled to the annual SECA Conference in Dallas, Texas. As Vice-President, I was looking forward to helping President Beverly Oglesby

in anyway possible. However, a family emergency prevented Beverly from attending the conference. Suddenly, it was my responsibility to conduct Executive and scheduled Board Meetings, welcome conference attendees and introduce guest speakers. This new responsibility was an unexpected surprise and challenge. However, no one could ever have a more considerate, helpful group of individuals than the Board that supported and helped me during that challenging adventure. Since I had no gavel, the Board members gave me a "magic wand". It may have been designed for child's play, but to

me, it became a symbol of the "magic" of SECA Board cooperation and friendship.

My magic wand should be remembered in SECA history as a symbol of the power of individuals working together for the good of our organization. I will always be thankful and grateful to Glenda and the SECA Board for helping me turn a challenge into a notable part of our SECA history.



Nancy Cheshire of West Virginia

We know that Nancy's experience with the Board in 2012 and 2013 will be just as rewarding and we welcome Nancy to her new leadership position with the organization.

Thank You to Beverly Peden

SECA wishes to extend its thanks to Beverly Peden of Mississippi for her service to the organization by putting forth her name for consideration as SECA President.

Joining a race for office requires thoughtfulness and

dedication and we are always sorry that a choice has to be made.

Beverly is a committed SECA Board member, and we look forward to



continuing to work with her during her tenure on the SECA Board of Directors. SECA is fortunate to have such extraordinary leadership.

Thanks Beverly!

Updating the SECA Website

The SECA website has been updated to make it more user friendly. You'll find these new features on the site:

- **New buttons** appear at the top of the page with titles that more closely reflect the content on the pages. These buttons include a “**drop-down**” menu that will allow you to see the categories of information available on that page. You can click directly on a category in the drop down menu and go straight to that page.
- The **member login** is now located at the top of the home page in the header. We've eliminated the password requirement, so all you need is your SECA member number to get into the “members only” page. We hope this will make it quicker and easier for you to access information.
- When we send you a link to a document on the website, we've eliminated the back and forth of logging in and then having to go to the link again. When you log in now, it will take you directly to the

document that you were trying to access.

- We've created a new **Board Resources page** that is available to the SECA Board of Directors and State Affiliate Presidents. This page will contain information that the Board needs for meetings, minutes of those meetings and resource documents for state presidents. The page is available anytime and should make it easier for our volunteers. **And, SECA has gone GREEN and saved some trees!**

New Resources for State Newsletter Editors

We've been looking for ways to help you market SECA to your state's members, particularly in those dual affiliate states where the membership structure can be confusing.

To assist you with this process, we're asking you to include information about SECA in your state newsletters and we're beginning to produce the resources that will allow this to be a simple process for you.

On the Board Resources page, we'll have the following:

- **Print ready ads** for the SECA 2011 conference. This will include a full page, 1/2 page and 1/4 page ad. We've gotten several requests for this information and want to make it available to you in a more accessible format.
- Copies of **Dimensions of Early Childhood**, and you are free to excerpt from those journals if you give the appropriate credit citation. If you want an individual article to reprint, just contact the SECA office

and we can send you a PDF of the article. The complete journal is available on the “members-only” page.

- **Ads that appear in Dimensions** that highlight SECA projects will be available on the Board Resources page. You're welcome to reprint those as well.

To access the page, contact us to get the password and let us know what else you need.

SECA Forum: Preparing Early Childhood Teachers

We're busily preparing for SECA 2011 and we've added some special events to make the conference content richer and more applicable to the current issues in early childhood education.

Teacher education has changed considerably in the last few years and there is currently a national debate concerning

the effectiveness and validity of our teacher preparation programs.

At SECA 2011, we have developed a panel made up of experts who will discuss past, present and future issues in teacher preparation. Presenters include **Dr. Milly Cowles** of Alabama, **Dr. Stephen Graves** of Florida and **Dr.**

Libby Ethridge of Oklahoma.

Following the panel, we'll invite Forum participants to engage in a dialogue about the information presented by the panel.

The panel is scheduled for Friday, January 28, 2010 from 3:30-5:00. We hope you'll join us.

Are You a Trainer? SECA 2011 Has Something Special for You

The Professional Development Commission of the SECA Board of Directors has spent a great deal of time discussing and debating how best to assist our emerging and experienced trainers. The SECA conference is a perfect venue to provide that type of support and, for SECA 2011, we've developed a special Trainers' session.

The session is available for all emerging and experienced trainers and is scheduled for Thursday afternoon, January 27, 2011.

We will have two presentations during the afternoon:

Training Adults: Movement for Motivation

presented by Alexander and Aillet

An Introduction to Facilitation Skills

presented by McMurtry, Fillippino, Davis and Grymes

The afternoon will be structured to provide interactive sessions that allow sharing of ideas and strategies among the participants. There will also be a net-

working time included.

SECA is committed to ensuring that quality professional development is available to early childhood practitioners in the SECA states, and we know that the South has many excellent experienced, skilled trainers who would value a networking opportunity.

We invite you to join us on Thursday, January 27, 2011 in Savannah. Schedule available on the web.

Nominations Open for SECA Editorial Committee

The Board of Directors is seeking nominations for the SECA Editorial Committee. This Committee is responsible for:

- Serving as the final referee for articles submitted to *Dimensions of Early Childhood*
- Determining the topic of the fall theme issue of *Dimensions of Early Childhood*
- Advising the SECA Board of Directors as to the scope and direction of publications
- Recommending content area and

content reviewers, as need dictates

- Providing technical assistance to inexperienced authors when requested.

The Committee is composed of seven members that are elected by the SECA Board of Directors. These members serve 3 year terms. The chair of the Committee is appointed by the SECA President for a two-year term. For a list of current members, go to http://www.southernearlychildhood.org/seca_editorial_committee.php

An eligible applicant for the Committee must:

- **Have a SECA membership for three years prior to his/her appointment.**
- **Possess a proven record in publications or editing.**
- **Have previous experience as an editorial advisor.**

Nominations should be sent to the SECA office by November 1, 2010.

Interview with Dr. George Morrison Now Available on SECA Radio

The newest addition to SECA Radio is an interview with Dr. George Morrison.

Dr. Morrison is well known for his work in the field of early literacy and was a co-author of the SECA position statement, *Early Literacy and Beginning to Read*.

Dr. Morrison is Professor of Early Childhood Education in the Department of

Teacher Education and Administration at the University of North Texas. He served as the first Velma E. Schmidt Endowed Chair in Early Childhood Education and developed the **Success for Life Programs** designed to enhance chil-



Dr. George Morrison in the Child Development Lab at the University of North Texas

dren's literacy development. Prior to coming to North Texas, he was on the faculty of Florida International University.

A link to SECA Radio is on the SECA homepage.

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The Voice for Southern Children

We're on the web!
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

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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 & Facebook: Can It Benefit Early Childhood Professionals?

SECA is constantly exploring new ways to enhance SECA membership benefits at no additional costs to members and we're entering the world of Facebook!

On the SECA Facebook page, we're creating a place where early childhood professionals and students can go to get information, exchange advice and ideas with one another and discuss important issues facing the field.

We're trying two approaches: one designed for the field in general and one designed specifically for students.

LETTERS to SECA

The SECA office is the recipient of letters from individuals who are concerned about current issues in early

childhood education. Some of the letters are quite thought-provoking and we know that they address issues that are in the minds of many in our field.

On October 1st, we began our project to post one letter a month on the discussion board. The first letter was from Bonnie Rubin of Florida who is asking the question, "Who is making curriculum selections and are they the right selections for young children?" The letter will remain posted on the discussion board until November 1, when we'll post a new letter concerning nap and rest time.

STUDENTS and SECA

Students are our future professionals and SECA is searching for a way to con-

nect them with the organization while providing access to the expertise of our members.

On October 19th, we'll begin new live monthly discussions for students. These sessions will be hosted by an early childhood expert on a topic of interest to emerging professionals. The first live discussion is focused on social networking—the how, why and why not.

Dr. Helene Harte of Northern Kentucky University will be our first faculty mentor to lead this discussion.

We hope you'll join us in this effort, either as a participant, a letter writer or student mentor. Contact us at info@southernearlychildhood.org.