



## 2015 NAECTE SUMMER CONFERENCE

Look out New Orleans; here we come!



*City of New Orleans*

We have planned the Summer Conference surrounding the theme of Progress as Promised! We are in the process of collecting and reviewing conference proposals. Dr. Erin Casey has already done a nice job in her new role as Conference Proposal Chair.

THANK YOU ERIN for your important role!

We will have the conference sessions determined by March 1.

**Amy Wolf, Ph.D.**

Vice President for Conferences

NAECTE

[amy.wolf@park.edu](mailto:amy.wolf@park.edu)

Bonjour Mes Amis,

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Fall Conference. We were given a lot to think about and will continue to ponder together during our Summer Conference. Speaking of the Summer Conference, are you ready for the BIG EASY? I can hardly wait!

We have a lot of momentum going into the Summer Conference. We have received a lot of positive feedback from our past two conferences and we are encouraged to continue the dialogue.

### *In this issue...*

- **Upcoming Conference News**
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## NAECTE Board Nominations

We want YOU!

If you're eager to add your voice to the leadership of NAECTE, this is your invitation to do so. It's time to elect the board positions of President-Elect, Vice-President for Conferences, and Treasurer for our association. In addition, we'll elect representatives for the even-number regions, as well as region 9 (which was vacated).

- Region 2 New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands
- Region 4 Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina,
- Region 6 Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas
- Region 8 Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming
- Region 9 Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada
- Region 10 Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, International: Canada, Hong Kong, New Zealand,

Please note that the term for each office is 2 years, and that all members of the Governing Board must have been NAECTE members for at least 2 years. The nominating committee will choose two nominees for each position and will ask those people for a picture and a short bio for the electronic ballot. PLEASE consider taking an active role in NAECTE, by submitting your name (or the name of a colleague) for a board position. The expertise and leadership of all members will bring great strength to the mission and role of NAECTE, as we continue to move forward. You can find descriptions of job expectations at [naecte.org](http://naecte.org), under "Position Statements, By-Laws, and Policies", in the "Policies" section.

**Please send nominating information to:**

Kelly Baker, President-Elect, at [kbaker12@uco.edu](mailto:kbaker12@uco.edu)

If you would, please include "NAECTE Nomination" in the subject line.

I'd very much appreciate having all nominations by February 28, 2015.

Thank you,

**Kelly Baker**  
President-Elect, NAECTE  
Tennessee  
South Korea

## News from Our NAECTE President, Dr. Libby Ethridge

We had a dynamic and motivating conference in November 2014. Dr. Amy Wolf worked hard to put together a meaningful and engaging day. The NAECTE Board held a half-day retreat, facilitated by Stacie Goffin, the day before the conference, with the purpose of planning for the future of this Association. Since that meeting, a small committee consisting of Cindy Ryan (Chair), Kelly Baker, William Mosier, Nancy Barbour, and Emilie Kudela has worked to develop action steps for the NAECTE Board to consider. We plan to develop a needs assessment so the membership can give us direct feedback on key questions such as:

- Who does NAECTE represent?
- How does membership define early childhood?
- Who is a teacher educator?
- Why do members come and go?
- What is the motivation for joining?
- What is the motivation for continuing membership?
- How does membership feel we are meeting our purpose statements?

We are also looking at how we can become a player at the table of decision makers regarding early childhood teacher education. The board is dedicating a meeting to these topics every other month and you will hear about our progress at the summer conference in New Orleans.

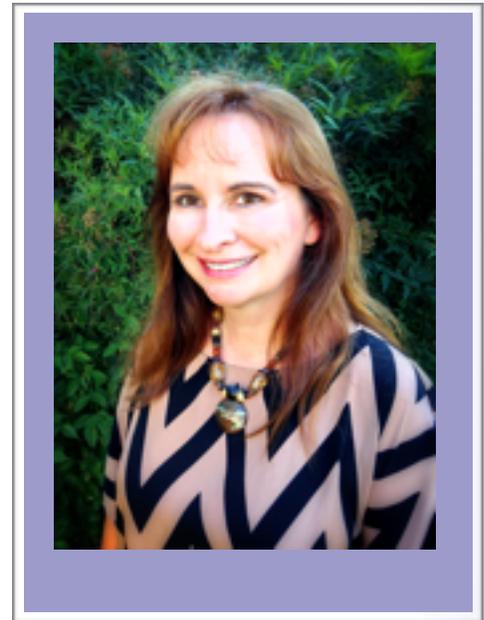
Kelly Baker, President-Elect, Amy Wolf, VP for Conferences, and I met with the officers of ACCESS while we were at the conference in Dallas. We are continuing to talk about and plan for collaborations between our members. The Alliance of Early Childhood Teacher Educators is a collaboration that we want to continue to grow.

As you know, Rebecca Huss-Keeler and Will Parnell have served as our Awards Co-chairs for the last year. At their suggestion, and with the support of the NAECTE Board, I have appointed Julia Atilas to also serve as an Awards Co-Chair so the position will be staggered over a two-year term. This change will assure there will always be someone with experience serving on the committee.

So much is going on with our Association, I am sure I have left something out. I am fortunate to work with such a wonderful group of people who I respect and admire.

Sincerely,

Libby Ethridge  
NAECTE President



## NAECTE 2014 Award Recipients:

We are pleased to congratulate the winners of the NAECTE and NAECTE Foundation awards presented at the fall 2014 Conference in Dallas, Texas.

NAECTE/Pearson Outstanding Early Childhood Teacher Educator:  
**Dr. Christopher P. Brown**, University of Texas at Austin

NAECTE/Taylor & Francis Outstanding Early Childhood Teacher Educator:  
**Dr. Julia Atilas**, University of Missouri-Kansas City

NAECTE/Pearson Outstanding Dissertation:  
**Dr. Megan Gibson**, Queensland University of Technology--*"Producing and Maintaining Professional Identities in Early Childhood"*

NAECTE Outstanding Practitioner:  
**Nichole Jones**, Tulsa Public Schools

NAECTE Outstanding JECTE Journal Article Award:  
**Drs. Diane Horm, Marilou Hyson, and Pamela Winton**,  
*"Research on Early Childhood Teacher Education: Evidence from Three Domains and Recommendations for Moving Forward"*

NAECTE Foundation Early Career Research:  
**Dr. Jill Lynn Jacobi-Vessels**, University of Louisville--*"Enhancing Pre-Service Efficacy in Teaching Early Childhood Science"*

NAECTE Foundation Early Career Research:  
**Dr. Jennifer L. Gilliard**, University of Montana-Western--*"A Qualitative Investigation of Academic Resiliency in American Indian Early Childhood and Elementary Education College Students"*

NAECTE Travel Grants were awarded to **Afshan Amjad**, University of Alberta Canada; and **Maryam Sharifian**, State University of New York at Buffalo



*Dr. Jill Lynn Jacobi-Vessels receives NAECTE Foundation Early Career Research Award in Louisville, KY. Present also were Ann Larson, Dean of College of Education and Human Development of the University of Louisville. (left) and Diane Kyle, Chair of the Department of Early Childhood and Elementary Education (right).*

Please consider submitting nominations for the following 2015 NAECTE Awards:

Outstanding Early Childhood Teacher Educator, Outstanding Early Childhood Practitioner, Outstanding Dissertation

See [www.NAECTE.org](http://www.NAECTE.org) for award criteria and nominating instructions. Send inquiries and submissions to Will Parnell, Rebecca Huss-Keeler and Julia Atilas at [awards@naecte.org](mailto:awards@naecte.org).

## Updates from the Journal of Early Childhood Teacher Education

### Patsy Cooper & Abby Jewkes, Co-Editors

As the official journal of NAECTE and a benefit to all NAECTE members, we want to provide you an update on the Journal of Early Childhood Teacher Education (JECTE). Most significant is that Abigail M. Jewkes, Department of Curriculum and Instruction in the School of Education at St. John's University, has joined the editorial team as Co-Editor. Abby's work has been published in early childhood and teacher education journals and volumes, including an article (with Laura Baecher) in JECTE and "Early Childhood Education in the Context of Education Reform: Possibilities and a Cause for Concern" (with Ruth A. Piker) in the newly released book, *The Obama Administration and Educational Reform: Toward New 21st Century Schools for the Global Knowledge Economy* (Emerald). She previously served as the Region 9 Representative for NAECTE and is currently the Program Co-Chair of AERA's Early Education & Child Development SIG.

The selection of a co-editor for JECTE reflects growing demands in the editorial office. Abby's presence will help increase rigor and selectivity in the review process, as well as the inclusion of articles that reflect diverse methodologies, from qualitative to quantitative to critical. These characteristics are the hallmark of all great education journals. We would also like to see book reviews in every issue, as well as an increased number of focused commentaries. In addition, readers can anticipate an increase in the number of call for papers around a pre-determined theme. This in part reflects the terrific response to the upcoming Special Issue, "The Future of Early Childhood Teacher Education in a Time of Changing Policy Standards, and Programming," with Beth Graue of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Sharon Ryan of Rutgers University as Guest Editors. Further, we invite interested authors and reviewers to contact us via email ([patricia.cooper@qc.cuny.edu](mailto:patricia.cooper@qc.cuny.edu) or [jewkesa@stjohns.edu](mailto:jewkesa@stjohns.edu)) with ideas to assist us in our goals for the journal.

With the start of a new year we say thank you to editorial board member Marianna Souto-Manning of Teachers College, who is cycling off, and welcome the following new editorial board members: Angela Baum of the University of South Carolina; Christopher Brown of the University of Texas-Austin; Sara Michael-Luna of Queens College, CUNY; and Catherine Scott-Little of the University of North Carolina, Greensboro. We are extremely pleased to be working with each of them.

We also want to acknowledge that national news and policies regarding the value of young children's care and education continue to magnify the importance of high quality research in early childhood teacher education, JECTE's founding mission. Yet we must insist on a broad and diverse path in our research, if we are to serve the field of teacher preparation responsibly. We look forward to working with future authors, reviewers, and readers to help JECTE serve and reflect the times, the field, and, of course, the children.

For more information about the journal, please visit the link on the NAECTE web site: [http://www.naecte.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=20&Itemid=33](http://www.naecte.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=20&Itemid=33)

You can also browse the journal using the Taylor & Francis web site: <http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/ujec20>

## Renew Your Membership!

**SPREAD THE WORD: INVITE YOUR COLLEAGUES AND GRADUATE STUDENTS TO JOIN NAECTE TODAY!**

**GOOD NEWS:** NAECTE has a new membership module that allows for revolving memberships, so your membership will run from the date you pay your dues to the next year on the same date. For example, if you join or renew on January 30, 2015, then your membership year will be unique to you and be current from January 30, 2015 until January 30, 2016.

To join, go to [NAECTE.org](http://NAECTE.org), then scroll to the bottom of the website (left side) and click on the link that says "Member Login." From there you should be able to create an account and join.

Questions? Contact Paula McMurray-Schwarz ([mcmurray@ohio.edu](mailto:mcmurray@ohio.edu)), NAECTE VP for Membership or Lori Kelly ([naectemembership@gmail.com](mailto:naectemembership@gmail.com)), NAECTE Database Administrator.

## NAECTE Foundation

The **NAECTE Foundation Board** continues to work to meet the generous \$1,000 Challenge Grant that Harlan and Ruth Hansen are offering to NAECTEF each year for 10 years. This Challenge Grant helps us reach our goal of raising \$5,500 each year that we need to fund the work of the Foundation.

The NAECTE Foundation Board has created several ways to help fund our work and fund-raising efforts. Some of these are listed below. We'll be happy to provide additional information should you have an interest in participating in our funding raising efforts.

**Legacy Giving, Major Gifts, and Named Funds:** The Foundation has a new category for Enhanced Legacy Gifts—a Named Fund category at the \$5,000 and \$10,000 levels of giving. Harlan and Ruth Hansen became the first donors to establish such an award. This particular Named Fund will support additional doctoral scholarships. If you haven't yet done so, please keep the NAECTE Foundation in mind, if you would like to contribute a major gift or set up an estate plan that includes a legacy gift directed to the Foundation at a future date. If you have questions about establishing a Named Fund, please contact our treasurer, Frances Rust ([francesrust49@gmail.com](mailto:francesrust49@gmail.com)) or check out the additional information available on our website.

**Circles of Giving:** We continue to expand the NAECTE Foundation Circles of Giving. To date, we have over 55 contributors who have become members of the NAECTEF Circles of Giving. Some of the members have moved from the Supporters Level of Giving to the Founders Level. If you haven't become a member of the Circles of Giving, would you consider doing so this year by increasing your cumulative contributions to NAECTEF to \$100? We annually update the Friends of the Circles of Giving page, linked to the NAECTE Foundation page of the NAECTE website. You can view the membership there.

**Memorials and Honorariums:** Many of the NAECTE members make gifts to the NAECTE Foundation as memorials and honorariums. The Foundation Secretary sends a note to both the giver and receiver of these gifts.

**NAECTE Pins:** To encourage donors to give at the \$20 level or above, we will continue to offer the lovely pins with the NAECTE logo. Sara Davis spearheaded this highly successful effort. The pins will be offered again at the New Orleans Conference.

**Scholarships, Grants and Awards:** The NAECTE Foundation offers doctoral scholarships for collecting dissertation data. We also offer research awards and advocacy awards. The Foundation Early Career Research Award is for \$2,000 as is the Foundation Established Career Research Award. More information about the guidelines for these scholarships, grants and awards can be found on the NAECTE website. We strongly encourage you and your students to apply.

To make an online donation through PayPal, [click here](#).

Or, send a check to: NAECTE Foundation  
c/o Dr. Frances Rust, Treasurer  
University of Pennsylvania,  
3700 Walnut Street, Room 439  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

## News from Our Regions

### Region I Report Eun Kyeong Cho

#### Massachusetts

Strategies for Children, an advocacy organization that has supported Massachusetts' Early Education for All campaign has won 2014 "Excellence in Advocacy" award from Massachusetts Nonprofit Network

#### New Hampshire

NHAEYC sponsored a shared viewing event of the NAEYC webinar on its new strategic plan, facilitated by NAEYC's Executive Director, Rhian Evans Allvin on Tuesday, December 16, 2014 at Plymouth State University. NHAEYC also successfully offered a 5-part Infant/Toddler Training Series, "Building Strong Foundations: Using Findings from Brain Research to Support Infant/Toddler Development and Learning," in 2014 and will offer another Infant/Toddler Training Series in 2015. The 5 part series provided full series participants with 18 hours of infant/toddler content which focused on the impacts of brain development on the whole child.

College Roundtable (a group of IHE faculty in NH) has been formed to discuss ways to improve the quality of teacher preparation programs in NH. Discussed at this winter's College Roundtable meeting (January 22) was the issue of professional development in response to the CCDF (Child Care Development Fund) reauthorization pre-service requirements for health and safety training. A subcommittee of the College Roundtable will be formed to collaborate with NH Child Development Bureau to develop a training resource guide and training recommendations (e.g., Medication administration, and free online trainings through the Centers for Disease Control and the American Academy of Pediatrics).

#### Vermont

VAEYC has listed its 2015 legislative priorities as the following:

- Child Care Financial Assistance Program (CCFAP) Market Rate and Eligibility Increases
- Dedicated Workforce Education and Training Fund (WET Fund) Support
- The Let's Grow Kids Campaign's proposal for the establishment of a Blue Ribbon Commission on Sustainable Funding for child care.

#### Conferences and Events

Connecticut AEYC had its annual conference in October 17 & 18, 2014 at Crowne Plaza Hotel, Cromwell, CT.

MassAEYC Spring Conference will be held on March 27 & 28, Westford Regency Inn and Conference Center, Westford, MA.

NHAEYC Spring Conference will be held on April 18 & 19 at Plymouth State University, Concord, NH.

Rhode Island AEYC hosted the "RI Early Childhood Conference and Leadership Day" event on December 5, 2014 at Bryant University, Smithfield, RI.

Vermont AEYC will hold "Early Childhood Day at the Legislature" on March 11, 2015 at Statehouse in Montpelier, VT.

## **Region 2 News**

**Emilie Kudela, Region 2 Representative**

### **New Jersey**

Congratulations to S. Mankiw and J. Strasser for the EXCEL 2014 Silver Award for a feature article in a journal. Mankiw, S. & Strasser, J. (2013). "Tender Topics: Exploring Sensitive Issues with Young Children through Read Alouds." *Teaching Young Children*, 6(5) pp. 8-11.

### **New York**

The NYSAECTE submitted two position statements to the Deputy Commissioner for Higher Education in New York State in 2014, one requesting the individuals certified in Childhood Education be required to earn at least 12 credits dedicated to early childhood theory, practice and classroom experience, and a second, recommending that content related to early childhood education be included in the academic preparation of school administrators.

NYSAECTE in collaboration with NYS ACCESS and the Higher Education Committee of NYSAEYC held their annual conference on April 10, 2014 in Verona, New York. The focus of the Conference was on the Common Core and Emilie Kudela and Meg McNiff were the keynote speakers. A NYSAECTE meeting was also held as part of the conference. Next year's conference will be on April 9, 2015 in Verona, New York

NYSAECTE is working to increase its membership and expand the use of its website to connect to its members. The website is <http://www.nysaecte.org/>

## **Region 3 News**

**Nancy Barbour**

Hello from Region 3! I am Nancy Barbour, your new Regional Representative. I am a professor and department head at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. I am looking forward to getting to know all of my constituents in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia, and Puerto Rico.

Please send me information that you would like to share with the NAECTE membership - news about Early Childhood teacher preparation in your state, special recognition of early childhood faculty in your area, publications, or any other noteworthy events. Please send any information to me at [barboune@jmu.edu](mailto:barboune@jmu.edu).

## Region 6 News

**Sara McCormick Davis, Professor, Elementary Education at the University of Arkansas**

Fort Smith has been asked to attend a meeting in Little Rock to discuss the future of Arkansas education. The Arkansas State Board of Education, the Walton Family Foundation and the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation joined efforts in 2014 to form the ForwARd partnership, and are working with leaders involved in Arkansas education (teachers, principals, superintendents, legislators, etc.) to develop a strategic plan to shape education in Arkansas. Considering the state has dropped early childhood teacher certification Sara is not sure the exact focus of this group, but she remains ever hopeful!

## Region 6 News

**Libby Ethridge**

The Oklahoma Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators is an active organization that meets twice a year. For the last few years, we have focused on advocacy efforts in our state. We often invite legislators and State Superintendent candidates to speak with us at our meetings. We have even held a meeting at the state capitol in order to meet with our legislators and form professional relationships.

## Region 7 News

**Julie A. Ray, PhD**

The Missouri Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators (MAECTE) met on Sept. 26, 2014 in Jefferson City, MO at the Governor's Office Building. There were 22 teacher educators present. Stacey Preis, Assistant Commissioner of Early and Extended Learning, Missouri Dept. of Elementary and Secondary Education, was a guest and presented information about recent state legislation impacting early childhood.

President Joy Voss led a discussion about a state dept. proposal to revise the testing requirements for early childhood certification. The new Missouri Content Exams in Early Childhood (064) and Elementary Education Multi-content (007-010) were adopted for use in Sept. 2014. Members have expressed concern to the state dept. about early childhood majors being required to take a test in elementary education, when the certification does not cover that age range. The state dept. has convened a work group to address this issue. MAECTE proposed two options to send to the state dept: revise the current 064 test to include more academic content or create an early childhood academic multi-content exam to be taken with the current early childhood exam. A position statement was written on this issue to include the importance of aligning any licensure exams with Missouri Early Learning Goals and NAEYC's Developmentally Appropriate Practice guidelines.

Mary Beth Huxel reported on the state's AAT Redesign workgroup, which is working on benchmarks for aspiring teacher candidates. The group is also working on revising articulation agreements between 2 and 4-year institutions, given the changes in state certification requirements. MAECTE members decided the next task for MAECTE would be to look at the AAT courses for early childhood majors and make recommendations on what courses should be in articulation agreements.

The meeting ended with members sharing course projects, assessments, and apps in these areas: Foundations/Curriculum, Assessment, Individual Needs, Program Management, and Family and Community Engagement.

The Spring 2016 meeting will be May 18<sup>th</sup> in the St. Charles, MO area. Topics for this meeting include: recommended textbooks and supplemental reading materials for early childhood courses, a demonstration of e-text libraries, and suggested early childhood courses for the AAT program.