

**NAEYC/NAECTE 2008 Research
Symposium: New Orleans**

Research on Teacher Inquiry and Reflection:
Implications for Professional Development
Saturday June 7, 2008, 8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.



See you in June in New Orleans!

A full-day Pre-Institute Research Symposium, planned by NAEYC's Office of Applied Research and NAECTE, features current research on teacher inquiry and reflection and the critical implications for teacher educators and in-service trainers. The speakers are noted researchers and experts in early childhood education. The Research Symposium includes workgroup discussions and a dialogue between presenters and participants on the applicability of research findings.

***Registration for the Pre-Conference
Workshop is filling quickly. To reserve your
spot, register as soon as possible.
Registration Details Below!***

If you have questions about NAECTE conferences, please contact Sara Davis, the Vice President for Conference Programs at sdavis@uafortsmith.edu

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NAECTE Fall Conference

The Fall Conference will take place Wednesday, November 5, 2008 in Dallas, Texas. Our theme is *Teaching and Learning: A World of Possibilities*. Dr. Lillian Katz has agreed to be the keynote speaker. More information on Dr. Katz can be found on the NAECTE website this summer. ***The submission deadline for proposals is June 15, 2008.*** Proposals will **only be accepted in electronic format.** For submission requirements visit <http://www.naecte.org/content/view/21/34/>



Plan Now for Fall: Submit Proposals!

Speakers for June Research Symposium

- Ron Lally, Center for Child and Family Studies; WestEd: Studying the impact of Program for Infant Toddler Care (PITC) training on quality of care and child outcomes
- Bob Pianta and Jason Downer, Center for Advanced Study of Teaching and Learning; University of Virginia: Improving the quality of teacher-child interactions through focused observation and consultation
- Aisha Ray, Erikson Institute: The critical challenge in teacher preparation: Developing early childhood practitioners who can effectively educate diverse children
- Frances Rust, Erikson Institute: Teacher research: Building the bridge between research and practice in preservice teacher education.

To view a schedule of events for the day visit <http://www.naecte.org/content/view/21/34/>

Looking forward to seeing you in June,
Sara Davis, NAECTE Vice President for
Conference Programs

NAEYC/NAECTE Research Symposium Two Options for Registration:

To register for the June 7 NAEYC Professional Development Institute and the NAEYC/NAECTE Research Symposium go to the NAEYC Institute registration page <http://www.naeyc.org/conferences/institute/attendinstructions.asp>

To register for the NAEYC/NAECTE Research Symposium ONLY, you must register by fax or mail.

FAX:

<http://www.naeyc.org/conferences/institute/attendinstructions.asp> download the registration form and fax to NAEYC Institute Registration--c/o CompuSystems, Inc, 703-344-4444.

MAIL:

<http://www.naeyc.org/conferences/institute/attendinstructions.asp> download the registration form and mail to NAEYC Institute Registration--c/o CompuSystems, Inc., P.O. BOX 506 Brookfield, IL 60513-0506

Message from the President

We hope you find these periodic e-letters a helpful way to stay in touch with NAECTE. Edyth Wheeler has made a major contribution to the organization by editing them for us.

In addition, the web site naecte.org offers regularly updated information and we urge you to check there to get the latest about such things as conferences, awards, position statements, job announcements and the journal editor search. You will see that notices in this e-letter refer you to the web site for more detail. Our new publications chair, Nancy Perry, has worked with the web provider to make our web site more friendly and useful to you.

The NAECTE calendar for spring includes finalizing the year's membership, election of new officers, and final planning for the June meeting. Therefore, if you haven't yet renewed for 08, now is the time to do so. Also watch your US mail for the elections ballot, it is coming sooner than in the past so that we can notify new board members in a more timely manner. In addition, it's now time to make your reservations for the June 7 meeting in New Orleans if you haven't already made them. Late registrants may not be able to attend. See the conference information in this e-letter for more information. I hope to see you in New Orleans.

Marjorie Fields

Award Nominations, as previously announced, are due April 21- Submission requirements for teacher educator, practitioner, and dissertation awards is available on the NAECTE website: <http://www.naecte.org/content/view/17/32/>

Please contact with questions:

Stuart Reifel
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512.232.2289
512.471.8460 (fax)

Ballots for Election of Officers are going out soon. If you do not receive your ballot by May 1 please contact Nancy Freeman, President-Elect, at nfreeman@sc.edu.

Member Directories

Contact information for NAECTE colleagues has always been considered a valuable membership benefit. Accessing the directory on the web site involves these steps: select "Members Only" from the list on the left, log in, and select "Search for Members" from the options presented. You will be provided the prompts to complete your search. If you want a directory of members in a specific state or the entire membership, you can select "Create a Directory" and ask for what you want.

If you find computers unfriendly, you can request a hard copy of all current members. To do so, send a check for \$10 to Nancy Freeman

Nancy Freeman
USC-CDRC Rm 225
1530 Wheat Street
Columbia, SC 29201
nfreeman@sc.edu

Member News

Zero to Three Press recently released Early Development and the Brain: Resources for Educators by Linda Gilkerson and Rebecca Klein

The materials contain lectures and PowerPoint's for use in teaching child development courses. ISBN: 978-0-943657-89-9 Item No.: 332-OLB \$359.99. To order the materials visit:
https://secure2.convio.net/zttcfm/site/Ecommerce?VIEW_PRODUCT=true&product_id=3041&store_id=1121

ResearchNet on Teacher Research

Teacher research is done by teachers at all levels to inquire into teaching and learning and for the improvement of teaching. Teacher research is a form of professional development. At the November 2007 NAECTE conference, nine members met in a Roundtable discussion on forming a ResearchNet on Teacher Research. Those involved in the discussion either were currently doing teacher research, helping teachers in schools conduct teacher research, or were interested in doing teacher research. This group plans to meet again at future NAECTE conferences to share experiences, ideas for teacher research, and results from teacher research. If you also have an interest in this important topic, please email Kathryn Castle at kathryn.castle@okstate.edu

NAECTE Foundation Update

The NAECTE Foundation met in November 2006 and in June 2007. Joan Isenberg was elected for a second three-year term as secretary and Mary Jensen was elected for a second two-year term as member-at-large.

Foundation members appreciate the annual contribution NAECTE makes to the Foundation so that we can continue our work. Our goals are to support NAECTE by giving awards to individual members or researchnets of NAECTE in order to:

1. Be an advocate of the NAECTE goals.
2. Promote and support research projects related to Early Childhood Teacher Education.
3. Provide scholarships for early childhood teacher education students.

To submit contributions download the Foundation brochure at:

<http://www.naecte.org/content/view/22/35/>

Anne G. Dorsey, President
NAECTE Foundation

Member News

Judith Lynne McConnell Professor of Education,
Washburn University

International Activities of the Past Year and
Forthcoming: Coordinator of *Oxford Round
Tables* on Child and Adolescent Psychology and
Counseling, Reading First, and Principles and
Superintendents during 2007 and on Early
Childhood, Leadership, and Literacy in 2008;
Director and Developer of the *Transformational
Experience in Jamaica Program*, with four study
abroad courses in 2007-2008.

Region Reports

Reports submitted in fall and spring from
several regions are included in this issue.

Region 1: Submitted by Leslie J. Couse,
Ph.D. November 2007

Connecticut: The Connecticut affiliate
continues to have an active group of 20 who
represent two and four year programs across
the state and meet every two months.
Representatives from the State Department of
Education and the Department of Higher
Education attend all meetings to serve as
liaisons between the groups, share pertinent
information about what is happening at the
state level and facilitate meetings between the
state and higher education. A sub-group,
formed to respond to an RFP for an Alternate
Route to Certification in ECE, received grant
funding, designed the new program, and
gained preliminary approval from the SDE in
November. A paper was presented at the
NAECTE Day at the NAEYC Annual
Conference about this exciting collegial
effort. The affiliate continues to discuss issues
such as Articulation with two year schools,
Praxis I requirements, a new Birth to Five
Credential, Associate Degree Accreditation,
and Workforce Development. Several smaller
focus groups and sub-committees have
formed to work on these issues. *Dawn
Levasseur, Affiliate Chair*

New Hampshire: Much of the focus in New
Hampshire is on the coming primary election.
The organization, *Every Child Matters*, is
pressing candidates for their views on
children, families and education to keep these
issues at the forefront of the discussion. At the
state level, New Hampshire is wrestling with
the legal definition of an “adequate
education” which relates to district funding.
Early Childhood advocates are very excited
that the new definition includes Kindergarten
as part of an “adequate education” since New
Hampshire is one of two states in the nation
that does not fund kindergarten as part of a
public education. *Leslie Couse, UNH*

Rhode Island: The Rhode Island Early
Learning Standards (RIELS) project is
continuing to offer high quality professional
development training to early childhood
teachers, care providers and administrators of
programs. Negotiations are underway to offer
college credits for 4 separate professional
development workshops. A grassroots
universal pre-k campaign has been initiated in
hopes of offering care and early education to
all 3 and 4 year olds in Rhode Island. *Laura
Harper, URI*

Region 2: Submitted by Holly Seplocha
April 2008

New York: NYSAECTE main activity has
been continued advocacy for Early Childhood
certification. As New York State makes
changes to Special Education certification,
they anticipate parallel changes to Early
Childhood. New York State Early Childhood
Education higher education sister groups
(NYSAECTE, ACCESS, Higher Education
Committee of NYSAEYC) met with
Associate Commissioner Joseph Frey on
February 8, 2008. A proposed change for
Early Childhood Special Education
certification is to move the age range to Birth-
Grade 3. We voiced our support for this as
the age range for Early Childhood
certification, too. (Currently New York Early
Childhood certification is Birth-Grade 2.) At

this meeting, they voiced concerns about alternative routes to Early Childhood certification, happening at alarming rates. Upstate school districts are more interested in teacher candidates with multiple certifications, without attention to how these certifications were received. Frey has given them a charge of designing model programs for dual certification, Early Childhood and Childhood - Birth - Grade 6. Frey took the opportunity at the meeting to introduce the chair of a major initiative to rewrite the New York State Learning Standards. We felt that our input was valued and that Early Childhood advocates will be included in this important undertaking.

NYSAECTE will hold its annual meeting on May 1st in Buffalo with their sister groups where they expect to continue their plans for continued advocacy for high quality, genuine Early Childhood certification.

New Jersey: On February 29, 2008, the NJAECTE spring meeting was held with a luncheon and affiliate business meeting at Kean University. Members were well informed by a comprehensive presentation about the early childhood Praxis requirements for students in New Jersey State completing P-3 certification. NJ is also in the midst of a new Pre-k expansion initiative by the governor's office. This new funding will expand pre-k across the state over the next six years to make Pre-k universal through a combination of district and private center delivery. As teachers will all need to be certified, this has obvious ramifications for our students and the demand for P-3 certification programs.

Region 6: Submitted by Kathryn Castle
April 2008

Arkansas: Arkansas requires all education colleges to be NCATE approved and at the University of Arkansas Fort Smith there's much effort to meet NAEYC standards. Arkansas early childhood education programs

also use assessment of teacher dispositions in systematic ways. All of this requires much conversation, time and effort focused on paperwork and program assessment. I believe this scenario is true for many if not most of the early childhood teacher education programs in the US. Does this focus create better educational opportunities for our students? Is it the student's perception that all of that focus translates into challenging and worthwhile classroom experiences? These may be a few of the questions facing Arkansas educators. *Sara Davis*

Louisiana: The early childhood teachers in the state universities of Louisiana have been very busy working on new state certification guidelines adopted by the legislature. There is much more intense guidance provided by the university faculty members for students in training to be teachers. Certification now covers pre-kindergarten (4's) through third grade. Each university has decided how this new program will be implemented. Some of the faculty from Louisiana State University will report on their student projects at the NAEYC Institute in New Orleans. *Joan Benedict, LAECTE*

New Mexico: There are many teacher education changes coming to New Mexico. Please stay tuned for the next newsletter!
Betsy Cahill, New Mexico

Oklahoma: The state is currently involved in legislative changes proposed in early childhood teacher certification. OAECTE has been asked to collaborate with Riverfield Day School on sponsoring the Hundred Languages of Children (Reggio Emilia) project to Tulsa, December 2008 through early 2009. *Jan Wetsel, OAECTE President.*

Kathryn Castle, Region 6 Representative, has sent an email membership recruitment letter to members in the 5 state region. If you are in Region 6 and have additional news items or regional concerns, please contact kathryn.castle@okstate.edu

Web Site Updates

- If you have not renewed your membership for 2008 you can download a membership application on the NAECTE Web site at: <http://www.naecte.org/content/view/16/31/>
- The NAECTE Position Statement on Early Childhood Teacher Certification has been finalized and is ready to be used by those working on early childhood teacher certification in their states. To access the position statement visit: <http://www.naecte.org/content/view/30/43/>
The "tool kit" of research and advocacy guidelines to accompany the position statement will be finalized and available online in June.
- Electronic manuscript submission for JECTE is now available. To view the submission requirements and contact information for the Editor visit: <http://www.naecte.org/content/view/20/33/>