

IN MEMORIAM



Patrice L. Engle, 1944-2012

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Pia Britto, Yale Child Study Center
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Patrice L. Engle was a pioneer and leader in global early child development. After receiving her Ph.D. in psychology at Stanford University, she launched a highly productive career that included positions in academia and international agencies. She served as a professor at California Polytechnic University in San Luis Obispo, CA and as the chief of early child development for the United Nations Children's Educational Fund (UNICEF), with posts at the India office in New Delhi and at the UNICEF central office in New York City. Throughout her career,

Pat worked to ensure that children in developing countries received the health care, nutrition, nurturance, and early learning opportunities they needed to be successful and that families received the support they needed to take care of their children. Recognizing that disparities early in life (even before birth) often interfere with children's ability to reach their developmental potential, she sought to evaluate and identify effective intervention programs that could be integrated with other systems and scaled up. Dr. Engle's contributions included hands-on programmatic work with field staff in multiple countries, scholarly analyses with interdisciplinary colleagues, and advocacy with country-level policy makers. Over the course of her career, she enriched research in child development by stimulating an interest in early child development scholarship in a range of disciplines around the world.

Above all, Pat was a mentor and a relentless proponent of early child development. She was outgoing and inclusive; she embraced every endeavor with substantive contributions and infectious enthusiasm and instilled confidence that anything related to promoting early child development was possible. By gathering evidence on how early child development related to poverty, malnutrition, academic achievement, HIV and AIDS, women's empowerment and women's work, she showed that countries could not afford the cost of *not* investing in early child development. By gathering evidence that successful human capital begins with strong early child development, she was a primary force in ensuring that indicators related to family life and early child development were included in UNICEF's Multicountry Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS). Her goals were to ensure that child development programs were based on scientific evidence, were evaluated rigorously, and were a central component of international efforts to ensure the health, development and well-being of young children. Her work in global early child development was guided by her belief in the science-to-policy model.

Dr. Engle spearheaded two prestigious series of papers on early child development published in *The Lancet* in 2007 and 2011. She was the recipient of the 2011 Distinguished International Contributions to Child Development Award from the Society for Research in Child Development; she was an editor of the *Handbook of Early Childhood Development Research and Its Impact on Global Policy* to be published in 2013; and she was an honorary professor at the University of Hong Kong.

She is survived by her son, Sawyer Fuller, of Cambridge, MA; her husband, Henry Hammer, of Los Osos, CA; her twin sister, Prof. Sally Engle Merry of Wellesley, MA and New York City; and her brother, Robert Fry Engle III of New York City and La Jolla, CA.

As a legacy to Pat, her friends and colleagues have established the Patrice L. Engle Dissertation Grant for Global Early Child Development. This award will provide opportunities for junior scholars who are either from or are working in developing countries to conduct dissertation research in global early child development. The grant includes US \$5,000 to support dissertation research and a 2-year student membership to SRCD. Applicants may be from any field of study that links to global early child development. They must attend a recognized university in the United States or a recognized non-U.S. university that is able to receive and process grant awards from the United States, must be enrolled and in good standing in a doctoral program, have advanced to candidacy, and have a dissertation in global early child development that has been approved by a dissertation committee. The 2013 Deadline for the Application is April 30th. Applicants will be notified of decisions by June 30th, 2013.

For more information about the grant, please check the SRCD website or request information from Patrice.Engle.grant@srcd.org. To contribute to the Patrice L. Engle Dissertation Grant for Global Early Child Development, please make out the check to SRCD and indicate in the memo line that it is for the Engle Grant. Send it to: SRCD, 2950 S. State Street, Suite 40, Ann Arbor, MI, 48104. For electronic/wire transfers or credit card contributions, contact rburd@srcd.org.