

Student & Early Career Council

The Student and Early Career Council (SECC) represents student and early career interests on SRCD committees and foster the development of student and early career scholars who are the future of interdisciplinary research on infant, child and adolescent development in diverse contexts and across life-long trajectories.

The Student and Early Career Council (SECC) was established in 1999 by the SRCD Governing Council to facilitate increased involvement in SRCD for students and young professionals who are within five years of receiving their graduate degree. This involvement includes representing student and early career interests on SRCD committees and working to identify and implement organizational changes that might benefit the student and early professional membership. SECC's overarching goal is to foster the development of student and early career scholars who are the future of interdisciplinary research on infant, child and adolescent development in diverse contexts and across life-long trajectories.

To facilitate this, SECC provides resources and opportunities to student and early career members of SRCD relevant to their professional development through:

1. A Dissertation Funding Award for graduate students who are in the dissertation proposal stage
2. Expanded programming related to student and early career interests at the SRCD biennial meetings
3. Representatives who serve on SRCD committees and SECC co-chairs who serve on the Governing Council to highlight and advocate for student and early career needs and interests. By service on committees and the Governing Council, SECC also serves as an internal information-sharing venue to coordinate activities across the different committees.

> [Get to Know Your SECC Representatives](#)

> [Read the SECC Spotlight - January 28, 2018](#)

SECC Representatives

Michelle Brown, Co-Chair	2023-2027	University of South Carolina
Sarah DeMartini, Co-Chair	2017-2025	California State University, Chico
Lorena Aceves	2021-2025	Administration for Children and Families, Office of Head Start
Josefina Bañales	2021-2025	University of Pittsburgh
Shanting Chen	2021-2025	University of Texas at Austin
Alexandra Golden	2021-2025	Cleveland State University
Sabrina Mendez-Escobar	2021-2025	Truman College, City Colleges of Chicago
Qian Miao	2021-2025	Harvard University
Amber Sansbury	2021-2025	George Mason University
Meltem Yucel	2021-2025	University of Virginia
Nazlı Akay	2023-2027	Middle East Technical University
Ashleigh Aviles	2023-2027	New York University
Vanessa Bermudez	2023-2027	University of California, Irvine
M. Bishop	2023-2027	University of Maryland, College Park
Claudia Kruzik	2023-2027	Boston College
Qingyang Liu	2023-2027	Syracuse University
Dalhia Lloyd	2023-2027	University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Melissa Lucas	2023-2027	Boston University
Ekjyot Saini	2023-2027	The Pennsylvania State University
Michelle Brown, Governing Council Representative, Ex-Officio	2023-2025	University of South Carolina

Gustavo Carlo, Governing Council Representative, Ex-Officio	2019-2025	University of California, Irvine
Ravenel Davis , Staff Liaison	2022-	Society for Research in Child Development

Information on SECC Elections

[Read the 2023 call for Nominations](#)

Elected Student and Early Career Council Representatives will simultaneously serve as a representative to a specific SRCD committee for a 2-year term and to the Student and Early Career Council (SECC) for a 4-year term. Any SRCD member can submit a nomination, but only SRCD’s Student and Early Career members will elect the representatives. For a full roster of current SECC Members, [visit the Get to Know Your Current SECC Representatives page](#). Please contact the current committee representative for information regarding the goals and requirements of a specific committee. To learn more about SECC, contact SECC co-chairs.

Eligibility:

Nominees for Student and Early Career Representatives are open to students and early career individuals who are in their second year of doctoral studies and beyond, but no more than **one (1)** year post-doctoral degree (or equivalent). Membership is not required to be nominated although those elected and appointed must agree to join SRCD for the duration of their term. Preference will be given to nominees who have been an SRCD member for at least a year.

In keeping with the Society's commitment to diversity and inclusion in all its forms, we encourage nominees from groups that have been historically under-represented in SRCD governance including members of under-represented racial/ethnic groups, those from outside the United States, those from disciplines other than psychology, and those from outside research-intensive academic institutions.

Contact Early Career Representatives at secc@srcd.org

Past Student and Early Career Council (SECC) Poster Competition Winners

- [2021 Poster Competition Winners](#)
- [2019 Inaugural SECC Student Poster Competition winners](#)