

Fall Newsletter

December 2024



Mission

The SRCD Latinx Caucus mission is to promote conceptually and methodologically rigorous research conducted with Latinx children, youth, and families that represents their 1) diversity, 2) normative development, and 3) inherent strengths (cultural, linguistic, etc.).

Letter from the Chair

Dear Comunidad,

This newsletter comes at the dawn of new chapters as the year 2025 arrives. Some transitions bring excitement, hope, and/or mark accomplishments. Other transitions bring uncertainty, anxiety, or fear. Some may still bring all of these – along with hope, perseverance, and resilience.

Celebrations are one way we recognize transitions. We are so excited to mark the **20th anniversary of the SRCD Latinx Caucus at the 2025 Biennial Meeting in Minneapolis!** We have been working over the last year to offer our regular programming as well as special events to celebrate our 20 years as a Caucus. We are looking forward to seeing you at our regular and 20th anniversary programming events (see below!).

I am so grateful to the many wonderful Latinx Caucus members who have shown up and worked hard to bring you these wonderful events – and make our Biennial programming and 20th anniversary a success. These events will celebrate our accomplishments, and allow us to reflect on the Latinx Caucus's future and reaffirm our commitment to our mission. Registration for the Biennial Meeting is now open. Our pre-conference and pachanga are ticketed events with a separate registration. **Get your tickets early – slots will be limited!**

As you will read in this newsletter, our Steering Committee and subcommittee members have been showing up and working hard to carry out activities related to our mission as well as do the “behind the scenes” work, so that we have a strong infrastructure for the Caucus's next 20 years. To remain strong and fulfill our mission as we transition into our next chapter, we are going to need our members to continue to show up and work hard – two things that help us during transitions.

I have no doubt that everyone reading this newsletter is someone who shows up and works hard; you

wouldn't be where you are today otherwise. Asking ourselves and each other to do more – show up more, take on more – can be a big ask; many of us know the realities of the data and our own experiences of showing up and taking on more in our professional and personal lives.

We also are entering a prescient era in history that may make the work of the Caucus even more necessary. Whether you show up as a leader or in a support role, we are going to need each other and to work together to support ourselves, each other, and our communities as we move forward. Organizing ourselves and demonstrating our commitment to **advancing change and justice is hard work. But when we work together, our burdens become lighter.**

So, let's ready ourselves for our 2025 transitions – for our celebrations, and for the work we have ahead.

Adelante,
Dr. Doré R. LaForett,
SRCD Latinx Caucus
Chair (2023–2025)

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Regular Programming

- 2025 SRCD Latinx Caucus Business Meeting
- Mentoring event with the National Research Center on Hispanic Children & Families
- Cafecito

20th Anniversary Programming

- Celebrating 20 Years of the SRCD Latinx Caucus: Past, present, and future (pre-conference)
- Righting the wrongs of developmental science: The case of minoritized populations (invited talk celebrating the contributions of Dr. Cynthia García Coll)
- ¡Vamos a celebrar! SRCD Latinx Caucus 20th Anniversary Pachanga

Subcommittee Updates

Publications and Communications

Our team continues to connect with current Latinx Caucus members. In monthly Spotlights, we feature our members' career development and work with Latinx children, youth, and families. We are currently looking to expand our subcommittee! If interested in joining our team, please email: pgamez@luc.edu.

Members: Dr. Perla B. Gámez (Chair), Dr. Gladys Aguilar, Dr. Karina Cahill, Dr. Sarah Pedonti, Dr. Fernando Salinas-Quiroz, and Dr. Sarah Surrain

Social Media

Our social media channels are buzzing with your success stories! We're showcasing member achievements and SRCD content on Instagram and Facebook, while keeping you updated on career opportunities via LinkedIn and our listserv. PS: Our website makeover is coming along beautifully—stay tuned!

Members: Dr. Fernando Salinas-Quiroz (Chair), Dr. Sarah A. Rendón García, and Dr. Julissa O. Muñiz

Mentorship

We have exciting plans for the 2025 Biennial Meeting. We will host a mentorship ice cream social and are working on additional mentorship programming to connect scholars at different career stages in the Caucus. We are excited for members of our Caucus to grow in their careers through strong mentorship.

Members: Dr. Andres Sebastian Bustamante (Chair), Dominique La Barrie, Dr. Stefanie Martinez-Fuentes, Dr. Gianna Rea-Sandin, Dr. Joscelyn Rocha-Hidalgo, Dr. Margarita Azmitia, Dr. Maria A. Ramos-Olagastgi, Dr. Carola Suarez-Orozco, and Dr. Michelle Pasco

Membership

We continue making sure our members are added to the listserv. As of the end of November, we have 183 members! Membership is ready and excited to prepare our Mini-Program for SRCD's upcoming Biennial Meeting!

Members: Dr. Alan Meca (Chair), Betsy Centeno, Dr. Melissa Lucas, and Dr. Randi Bates

Finance and Fundraising

The sale of our Latinx Caucus special edition 20th anniversary t-shirt was a success! We sold 55 t-shirts and raised \$623. We are soliciting donations from corporate and university sponsors – let us know if you have a recommendation! Stay tuned for more ways to support our Biennial programming in 2025.

Members: Dr. Doré R. LaForett (Co-Chair), Dr. Andrea Negrete (Co-Chair), Dr. Violeta Rodríguez Palacios, Danieli Mercado Ramos, and Paola Pinzon-Henao

Biennial Meeting

We have many wonderful events planned for the 2025 SRCD Biennial! These include our regular and 20th anniversary programming (see first page). Don't sleep on registering for our ticketed events, including the 20th Anniversary Pachanga and Pre-Conference – we expect to sell out.

Members: Dr. Doré R. LaForett (Chair), Dr. Gabriela Chavira, Dr. Stefanie Martinez-Fuentes, Dr. Alan Meca, Dr. Andrea Negrete, and Dominique La Barrie

Awards

We reviewed such wonderful materials from our members who applied for our Dissertation, Early Career, and Mid-Career awards! We have notified the award winners, and will announce the awards at the Biennial Meeting during our Latinx Caucus Business Meeting.

Members: Dr. Doré R. LaForett (Chair), Dr. R. Gabriela Barajas-Gonzalez, Dr. Linda Halgunseth, and Dr. Natalia Palacios

Nominations

We nominated members to be featured in SRCD's Hispanic Heritage Month spotlights; for SRCD's Biennial Awards; for SRCD's committees; and for SRCD's leadership positions. Elections for our Latinx Caucus Steering Committee are underway and close on December 22nd.

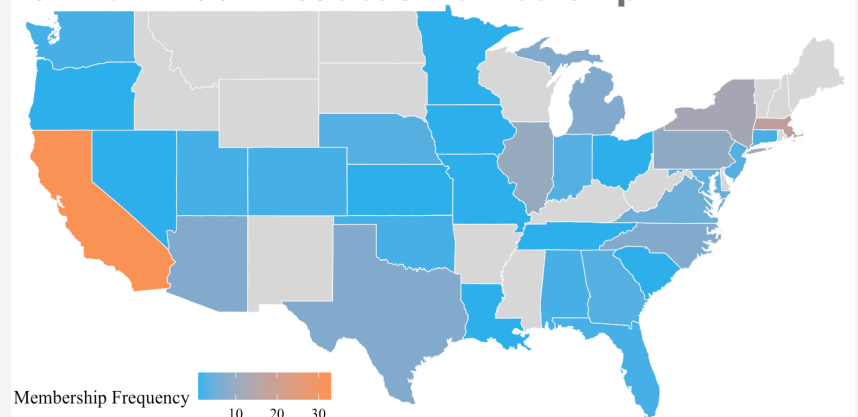
Members: Dr. Alan Meca (Chair), Dr. Doré LaForett, and Dr. Fernanda Cross

Social Policy

Are you one of the 200 people who read our [brief](#) on changes in U.S. child labor laws? If not, be sure to check it out! Our other activities include preparing for how the Latinx Caucus can begin creating other kinds of products – in addition to briefs – to communicate about important policy issues.

Members: Dr. Doré R. LaForett (Chair), Dr. Irma Arteaga, Dr. Guadalupe Díaz-Lara, Paola Montúfar Soria, Olivia Martín-Piñón, and Alejandra Reinoso

Fall 2024 Latinx Caucus Membership



Note. $N = 183$ Latinx Caucus members, $n = 142$ represented in the figure due to missing data; Membership frequency by country: Bolivia $n = 1$, Canada $n = 1$, Chile $n = 1$, Costa Rica $n = 1$, India $n = 1$, United States $n = 166$.