

Policy Committee

Committee Charge

The Policy Committee, originally established in 1977 and renamed in 2024, is responsible for ongoing consultation to SRCD regarding its activities in the following areas:

1. Supporting implementation of SRCD's strategic plan,
2. Linking research with global, national, and state/local policies that affect children and families,
3. Keeping membership apprised on policy to inform science,
4. Informing governmental decision-making regarding research on child development,
5. Encouraging the development of leaders in the translation of research to policy and practice, and
6. Enhancing the effective dissemination of developmental science.

The committee works through direct participation in activities and through close consultation with the SRCD Policy Director. In order to carry out this responsibility, the committee is organized in the following subcommittees:

- **Fellowship:** Assist with the annual selection of the SRCD U.S. Policy Fellowship program.
- **Science Policy:** Inform decision making on funding levels for research on child development, how science is conducted (e.g., human subjects and clinical trial regulations), and opportunities for future research. Ensure that developmental researchers are kept informed of science policy issues that are relevant to their ability to conduct research. For example, this work may include attending advocacy days on Capitol Hill, nominating SRCD members to distinguished federal positions and committees, and joining with other scientific societies on joint actions.
- **Social Policy:** Increase the visibility and impact of developmental research for example, by providing brief summaries of key research for policymakers through the [Child Policy Briefs](#) program. Provide

support and input on the [Child Policy Connect](#) program, to facilitate greater networking and relationship building between scholars and policymakers. Keep members apprised of relevant policy knowledge and training to improve partnerships between scholars and policymakers.

- **Conference:** Facilitate relationship-building connections between SRCD members, policymakers, and practitioners at SRCD meetings, and build the discipline’s policy capacity through regular trainings.

Committee Roster

Guadalupe Diaz-Lara, Co-Chair	2023- 2027	California State University, Fullerton
Dalal Katsiaficas, Co-Chair	2022- 2027	University of Illinois at Chicago
Steven John Holochwost	2023- 2027	Lehman College City University of New York
Morgan Crossman	2024- 2027	Building Bright Futures of Vermont
Matt Stagner	2024- 2027	NORC at University of Chicago
Alaina Flannigan	2024- 2027	Child Trends
Ana Whitaker	2025- 2027	University of Delaware
R. Gabriela Barajas-Gonzalez	2025- 2027	NYU Grossman School of Medicine
Nneka Ibekwe-Okafor	2025 - 2029	University of Texas
Kevin Ferreira van Leer	2025 - 2029	University of Connecticut
Caroline Ebanks	2025 - 2029	Columbia
Lara Markovitz	2025 - 2029	

Cara Kelly, SECC Representative	2025- 2029	University of Oklahoma
Emilie Smith, Governing Council Representative, Ex-Officio	2021- 2027	Michigan State University
Lisa Berlin, Ex Officio	2023- 2026	University of Maryland School of Social Work
Jennifer L. Brooks, Ex-Officio	2025-	Jennifer L. Brooks, LLC
Kent Mitchell, Ex-Officio	2026	Society for Research in Child Development
Taylor Ryan (Savage), Staff Liaison	2025-	Society for Research in Child Development