

Newsletter

April 2024



Mission

The mission of the SRCD Latinx Caucus 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,

It is my honor to serve as your Caucus Chair for this two-year term. Our Steering Committee has had several meetings, and all of our subcommittees are up and running. Across our Steering Committee and subcommittees, we have a truly amazing group of scholars at all career levels representing different career paths who are passionate about serving our membership. If you attended our Business Meeting at the 2023 Biennial Meeting – or watched the video recording that recapped the meeting – you may recall me saying that I wanted to “lift up and leverage” our members during this term.

To do this well means ensuring that our caucus infrastructure is strong. This is the “behind the scenes” work of the Steering Committee and subcommittees that makes the

caucus run and allows us to accomplish our goals across terms. It also means that we do more to engage our members outside of events at the Biennial. While we love all the connections that our caucus programming and the Biennial Meeting itself bring, we want to do more to engage and support members year-round.

You’ve seen some of these efforts in action. We will continue to showcase our members via our Member Spotlights, which are organized by our Publications & Communications subcommittee.

Six of our members were featured in SRCD’s recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month last fall: [Dr. Esther J. Calzada](#), [Dr. Rosalie Corona](#), [Dr. Melissa Y. Delgado](#), [Dr. Gigliana Melzi](#), [Dr. Koralý Pérez-Edgar](#), and [Dr. Adriana J. Umaña-Taylor](#).

Our terrific early career and student representatives, [Dr. Stefanie Martínez-Fuentes](#) and [Dominique La Barrie](#), facilitated a virtual Valentine’s Day Meet-and-Greet for students. We’ve also been asking the membership for recommendations related to upcoming SRCD meetings.

This spring, [look out for:](#)

- An event series that provides engagement opportunities around specific topics or career needs
- An opportunity to get together at the SRCD Anti-Racism Development Science Summit in Panamá
- Mini-programs of member presentations for conferences, such as the Summit, the Society for Research on Adolescence (SRA), and the National Research Conference on Early Childhood (NRCEC)
- Release of a brief on changes to U.S. child labor laws
- Call for additional members to join our Biennial Meeting Planning subcommittee to support plans for celebrating our 20th anniversary
- Improvement to our online presence, including website updates and social media activity

I thank each of you for being a member of the Latinx Caucus. Please feel free to contact me directly for any ideas, questions, or thoughts you’d like to share about how the caucus can support our members.

[Adelante,](#)

[Dr. Doré R. LaForett](#), SRCD Latinx Caucus Chair (2023–2025)

SRCD Anti-Racist Developmental Science Summit

We look forward to seeing members at the meeting! Our gratitude is extended to members who served as reviewers.

[Planning committee members](#) included [Dr. Doré R. LaForett](#) & [Dominique La Barrie](#).



Our 2023–2024 Steering Committee:

Dr. Doré R. LaForett (Chair); Dr. Alan Meca (Chair-Elect); Dr. Perla B. Gámez (Secretary); Dr. Andrea Negrete (Treasurer); Dr. Fernando Salinas-Quiroz (Social Media Manager); Dr. Andres Sebastian Bustamante and Dr. Gabriela Chavira (Members-at-Large); Dominique La Barrie and Dr. Stefanie Martínez-Fuentes (Student and Early Career Representatives); Dr. Melissa Delgado (Past-Chair); Dr. Cynthia García Coll (Honorary Member).

Subcommittee Updates

Publications and Communications

Our monthly Spotlights have featured many of our current Latinx Caucus members, from early to later career stages. Spotlights have showcased scholars' career development and research with Latinx children, youth, and families. Be on the lookout for a fall 2024 newsletter with more updates!

Members: Dr. Perla B. Gámez (Chair); Dr. Gladys Aguilar, Karina Cahill, Dr. Sarah Pedonti, Dr. Fernando Salinas-Quiroz, Dr. Gianna Rea-Sandin, Dr. Mike Sladek, and Dr. Sarah Surrain

Social Media

We used our official Instagram and Facebook platforms to share the work of our amazing members as well as SRCD events. We also shared job postings, professional development opportunities, and other resources on our listserv. We are currently exploring the possibility of creating a LinkedIn page. Stay tuned!

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

Mentorship

We have been busy planning mentorship activities for the Biennial and sooner. We plan to repeat the mentorship ice cream social from the 2023 SRCD Biennial Meeting. We are working toward creating spaces for early career scholars to share their work and communication platforms for caucus members to connect.

Members: Dr. Andres Sebastian Bustamante (Chair); Dominique La Barrie, Dr. Stefanie Martinez-Fuentes, Dr. Gianna Rea-Sandin, Dr. Joscelin Rocha-Hidalgo, Dr. Margarita Azmitia, Dr. Maria A. Ramos-Olazagasti, 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 January, we have 183 members! We also would love to add folks to our subcommittee.

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

Finance and Fundraising

Call for Latinx Caucus 20th Anniversary T-shirt Design



Calling for volunteers with design passion to design the Latinx Caucus 20th anniversary T-shirt!



If you are interested in submitting a design, please contact Andrea Negrete: anegrete@wesleyan.edu

Members: Dr. Andrea Negrete (Chair) and Dr. Erika Hernandez Acton

Biennial Meeting and Awards

We are already gearing up for the 2025 SRCD Biennial in Minneapolis! In addition to our typical programming, we are beginning to plan how we will celebrate our 20th anniversary. We need additional help from Latinx Caucus members to further develop and carry out these events. Watch the listserv for an announcement asking for volunteers!

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

Social Policy

As a newer subcommittee, we are developing systems and procedures to support the Latinx Caucus's capacity to create policy-related products and build relationships with key partners and audiences. A brief related to changes in U.S. child labor laws, being written by some subcommittee members and additional caucus members, will be released in 2024.

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

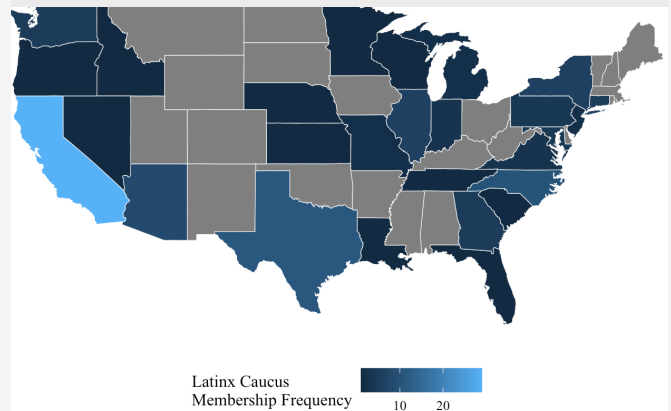
Nominations

We nominated members to be featured in SRCD's recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month and identified prospective candidates for editorial board positions in *Child Development* and *Monographs*. Also, we spearheaded a special election for the open LC Member-at-Large position. We are also recruiting more members to join our subcommittee - Contact us if interested!

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

2024 Latinx Caucus Membership by State

Membership represents 28 states and 10 countries!



Note. Grey indicates no membership data; Countries: Brazil $n = 6$, Canada $n = 2$, Chile $n = 1$, Colombia $n = 4$, Cuba $n = 1$, Costa Rica $n = 2$, India $n = 1$, Mexico $n = 2$, Turkey $n = 3$, United States $n = 155$ ($n = 135$ represented in the figure because of missing data; Puerto Rico $n = 1$)
Don't see yourself represented here? Join today!

Stay Connected

@SRCDLatinx

f Instagram

Did you know? All Latinx Caucus members can directly post to our listserv

srcd-latino-caucus@googlegroups.com