Recipients of the following SRCD Awards were recognized Thursday evening, March 31, 2011, for their outstanding contributions to developmental science across the award categories listed below.

The 2011 SRCD Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award. Selections are based on a set of criteria, including the quality of the dissertation, publications emerging from the project, as well as the nominee’s current position and engagement in the field of child development research. In addition to a plaque and award certificate, recipients also receive a $500 honorarium. Dr. Melanie Killen presented the following awards on behalf of the selection committee that she chaired.

Krista Byers-Heinlein, University of British Columbia
Rachel G. Lucas-Thompson, University of California-Irvine
Carrie L. Masten, University of California-Los Angeles
Kasey C. Soska, New York University
Amrisha Vaish, MPI for Evolutionary Anthropology-Leipzig and Freie Universität Berlin

The 2011 Early Career Research Contributions Award. This award is presented to selected recipients who exceptionally strongly distinguished themselves as researchers and scholars, as evidenced through research, publications, and scholarly activities. In addition to a plaque and award certificate, each recipient receives an honorarium of $1,000. Dr. Elizabeth J. Susman and Dr. Tom Weisner presented these awards on behalf of the selection committee that they chaired.

Catherine P. Bradshaw, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
Brian M. D’Onofrio, Indiana University
Tobias Grossmann, Birkbeck College, University of London
Candice L. Odgers, University of California-Irvine
Laura E. Schulz, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

The 2011 SRCD Senior Distinguished Contributions Awards. These awards recognize the continuous lifetime contributions of SRCD members in the domain of the award. Each recipient receives a plaque and certificate of commendation. Dr. Nancy E. Hill and Dr. Oscar Barbarin presented the awards listed below on behalf of the selection committee that they chaired.

Distinguished Contributions to Cultural and Contextual Factors in Child Development
Michael Cole
Margaret Beale Spencer

Distinguished Contributions to Education in Child Development
Deborah Phillips

Distinguished Contributions to Public Policy for Children
P. Lindsay Chase-Lansdale

Distinguished International Contributions to Child Development
Patrice L. Engle
Stella Vosniadou

Distinguished Scientific Contributions to Child Development
Dante Cicchetti
Sandra Graham

Distinguished Contributions to the Society for Research in Child Development
J. Steven Reznick
The Victoria S. Levin Award for Early Career Success in Young Children’s Mental Health Research will be formally announced, with remarks by The Honorable Sander A. Levin.

In 30 years of distinguished service at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Victoria S. Levin’s career centered on fostering scientific research that addressed children’s mental health. Upon her retirement there was an exceptional outpouring of tributes from the many distinguished scientists with whom Vicki worked over these years. The tributes vividly highlighted two hallmarks of Vicki’s life work. First, they acknowledged Vicki’s passion for scientific research examining development in the very first years of life, years that form a critical foundation for the development of lifelong mental health and well-being, and which play an important role in the prevention of mental disorders. Second, they praised her unique capability for encouraging new scientists, instilling them with confidence that they could achieve the high standards required to secure their first major funding from the NIH. The Victoria S. Levin Award for Early Career Success in Young Children’s Mental Health Research is established to continue Vicki’s legacy in these two areas. Its aim is to foster early success in achieving federal funding for research that is informed by developmental science to address concerns affecting the early foundations of children’s mental health and well-being. Broadly defined, this area of research addresses all aspects of the development of competence and risk for children from all types of backgrounds.

The award serves the promising pre-tenured, junior investigator by:

1. Supporting **release time** from duties during which time the awardee writes and submits an application in the area of early childhood mental health to the NIH. This support compensates the awardee’s unit/department for the work from which the awardee is released. Having adequate time to develop and submit a grant application is essential for early career success.
2. Providing **travel funds** for a trip to NIH to meet program staff. This support helps the awardee develop meaningful contacts with NIH program staff who can guide the application preparation and revision (funding usually requires two application submissions).
3. Providing a **pre-review** of the candidate’s NIH application. This support allows the mentor and awardee to benefit from an external critique of the NIH application prior to its submission. In our experience, this pre-review heightens the chances of early success in the first round of review and the mentor is able to guide the awardee in responding to reviews.

Please visit [www.srcd.org](http://www.srcd.org) for more details about the award and applicant eligibility. Applications will be available on the SRCD website on July 1, 2011. The deadline for applications is September 1, 2011; the inaugural award of up to $25,000 will be announced on November 1, 2011.