Governing Council

The Governing Council is comprised of a President, President-Elect, Past President, Secretary, Treasurer, and At-Large members. The President, Secretary, and a subset of At-Large Members are elected by the members. The remainder of At-Large members are appointed by the Governing Council to ensure maximal diversity of representation. All Governing Council Members serve 6-year terms.



President: Jennifer Lansford, Ph.D.

(2025-2027)
Duke University

About Dr. Lansford E-mail Dr. Lansford



Past President: Vonnie C. McLoyd, Ph.D.

(2025-2027)
University of Michigan

About Dr. McLoyd E-mail Dr. McLoyd



President-Elect: Deborah Rivas-Drake, Ph.D.

(2025-2027)
University of Michigan

About Dr. Rivas-Drake E-mail Dr. Rivas-Drake



Secretary: Christia Spears Brown, Ph.D.

(2025-2029)
University of Maryland, Baltimore County

About Dr. Brown Email Dr. Brown



Treasurer: Lisa M. López, Ph.D.

(2023-2029)
University of South Florida

About Dr. López E-mail Dr. López



Lucia Alcalá, Ph.D.

(2023-2029)
California State University, Fullerton

About Dr. Alcalá Email Dr. Alcalá



Lorena Aceves, Ph.D.

(2025-2027)

Dr. Lorena Aceves was most recently a Research Scientist at Child Trends in their Education Program Area. Her research and teaching experiences have broadly focused on understanding how children and youth's cultural, educational, familial, and individual-level factors contribute to their academic achievement and educational attainment. Dr. Aceves has experience working with communities, school districts, and leaders in diverse spaces. As a U.S. Policy Fellow (2020-2022) she worked at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Head Start and the U.S. Department of Educations' Education Research Institute of Education Sciences, and she currently serves on SRCD's Governing Council, SECC, and Latinx Caucus.



Stephen Asatsa, Ph.D.

(2023-2029)
Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Kenya

About Dr. Asatsa Email Dr. Asatsa



Esther J. Calzada, Ph.D.

(2023-2029)
University of Texas at Austin

About Dr. Calzada Email Dr. Calzada



Ximena Franco-Jenkins, Ph.D.

(2025-2031)
University of North Carolina

About Dr. Franco-Jenkins Email Dr. Franco-Jenkins



Jeffrey Liew, Ph.D.

(2023-2029)
Texas A&M University

About Dr. Liew Email Dr. Liew



Natalia Palacios, Ph.D.

(2025-2031)
University of Virgina

About Dr. Palacios Email Dr. Palacios



Paul Poteat, Ph.D.

(2025-2031)
Boston College

About Dr. Poteat Email Dr. Poteat



Eleanor K. Seaton, Ph.D.

(2021-2027)
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

About Dr. Seaton E-mail Dr. Seaton



Emilie P. Smith, Ph.D.

(2021-2027)
Michigan State University

About Dr. Smith E-mail Dr. Smith



Laura K. Taylor, Ph.D.

(2023-2029)
University College Dublin, Ireland

About Dr. Taylor Email Dr. Taylor



Ex Officio: Suzanne Le Menestrel, Ph.D., CAE

(2024-)
Society for Research in Child Development

About Dr. Le Menestrel E-mail Dr. Le Menestrel

SRCD Governance Historical Data:

- Governing Council Officers and Members (1959-present)
- SRCD Presidents (1933-present)