

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

(2025-2027)

Duke University

[About Dr. Lansford](#) [E-mail Dr. Lansford](#)



Past President: Vonnie C. McLoyd

(2025-2027)

University of Michigan

[About Dr. McLoyd](#) [E-mail Dr. McLoyd](#)



President-Elect: Deborah Rivas-Drake

(2025-2027)

University of Michigan

[About Dr. Rivas-Drake](#) [E-mail Dr. Rivas-Drake](#)



Secretary: Christia Spears Brown

(2025-2029)

University of Kentucky

[About Dr. Brown](#) [Email Dr. Brown](#)



Treasurer: Lisa M. López

(2023-2029)

University of South Florida

[About Dr. López](#) [E-mail Dr. López](#)



Lucia Alcalá

(2023-2029)

California State University, Fullerton

[About Dr. Alcalá](#) [Email Dr. Alcalá](#)



Lorena Aceves

(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 Education's Education Research Institute of Education Sciences, and she currently serves on SRCD's Governing Council, SECC, and Latinx Caucus.



Stephen Asatsa

(2023-2029)

Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Kenya

[About Dr. Asatsa](#) [Email Dr. Asatsa](#)



Esther J. Calzada

(2023-2029)

University of Texas at Austin

[About Dr. Calzada](#) [Email Dr. Calzada](#)



Ximena Franco-Jenkins

(2025-2031)

University of North Carolina

[About Dr. Franco-Jenkins](#) [Email Dr. Franco-Jenkins](#)



Jeffrey Liew

(2023-2029)

Texas A&M University

[About Dr. Liew](#) [Email Dr. Liew](#)



Natalia Palacios

(2025-2031)

University of Virginia

[About Dr. Palacios](#) [Email Dr. Palacios](#)



Paul Poteat

(2025-2031)
Boston College

[About Dr. Poteat](#) [Email Dr. Poteat](#)



Eleanor K. Seaton

(2021-2027)

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

[About Dr. Seaton](#) [E-mail Dr. Seaton](#)



Emilie P. Smith

(2021-2027)

Michigan State University

[About Dr. Smith](#) [E-mail Dr. Smith](#)



Laura K. Taylor

(2023-2029)

University College Dublin, Ireland

[About Dr. Taylor](#) [Email Dr. Taylor](#)



Ex Officio: Suzanne Le Menestrel

(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 \(1933-present\)](#)