

# CDEA Newsletter ~ Fall 2009

## Letter from the President

Greetings CDEA Members,  
Welcome back from your summer vacations! I believe serving as your President is a blessing. Your continued support is always felt and greatly appreciated. On July 7, 2009, the planning retreat was held by conference call. Thank you so much to everyone that participated in the conference call. It was a great meeting! For our members who could not attend, you were missed. The conference call was recorded. You are invited to listen to members present great ideas, pose questions, and prepare for the upcoming business of CDEA.

To play back:

Call Playback Number: 712-432-1590  
Access Code: 11924#

Dr. Debbie Simpson-Smith and I have participated in conference call meetings about the statewide *TEACH* initiative. Dr. Simpson-Smith will provide information at our upcoming meeting at Texas Association for the Education of Young Children in Galveston, Texas. Please mark your calendars to attend the first CDEA business meeting, and activities to be held at the conference on September 25-27, 2009.

Lastly, congratulations to all state exemplary programs and NAEYC Associate Degree Accredited programs! Programs preparing for these accomplishments, I wish you all much success.

I look forward to an exciting year. Have a great academic year and be well!

Sincerely,

**Pamela E. Ray**  
**CDEA President**

Assistant Professor/Chairperson  
Early Childhood and Family Studies Department  
Alamo Colleges - St. Philip's College  
San Antonio, Texas



## MEMBER NEWS

**Amarillo College** has welcomed Dr Paul Matney as our new President. He has been with the college many years and loves our Education/Child Development program. Our Child Development Lab School had the NAEYC accreditation site visit in June. We hope to hear the best news in September. Our EDUC classes are filling up quickly but the CDEC are not as full.

**Temple College** is enjoying record enrollment. Texas A & M at Central Texas (Killeen) has agreed to continue to take TECA 1311 & 1303 along with the EDUC courses for students transferring to their program. That has boosted enrollment and we are teaching many FULL classes.

**Houston Community College** is working with several local universities who will accept more courses from the AAS. UHCL has developed a BAS which should begin in the fall. SFA has an online bachelors designed for Head Start Teachers. Springfield University is also working with students to complete their bachelors in 2 years by only attending classes 2 weekends a month. These are new exciting opportunities for students especially those participating in our Head Start Grant. HCC is scheduled for NAEYC accreditation site visit Oct 4-7. Plans are being made for the visit.

**Del Mar College** is pleased to introduce our newest Child Development faculty member, Dr. Amy Roetzel. Amy started with us in January and is a refreshing "spark" of energy and enthusiasm! This Fall, we are celebrating good enrollment numbers and our step into the NAEYC accreditation self-study process.

**For more information,  
visit us at  
[www.cdeatexas.org](http://www.cdeatexas.org)**

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**Building a New Beginning**  
**September 24-26, 2009**  
**Moody Gardens Hotel**  
**Galveston, Texas**

**CDEA Meeting:**  
**Friday, September 25, 2009**  
**Moody Gardens**  
**Viewfinder Room (9<sup>th</sup> Floor)**  
**9:00 am to 4:00 pm**  
**9-10:30am – Business Meeting**  
**10:45-4pm – Special Topics**

**Blinn College** is once again on track to have record enrollment for the 2009-2010 academic year! The Child Development Program is looking forward to another productive year as we look at expanding our technical dual credit program and adding more online and blended courses to meet the needs of students in our 10-county service area. We have recently welcomed our new Vice President of Applied Science and Workforce Education, Dr. Bob Brick, and look forward to working with him! The Child Development Program is also excited to be working with the University of Houston-Clear Lake BAS degree program now offered and we continue to have a strong partnership with Sam Houston State University BAAS program. It is so exciting to see our students continuing to broaden their horizons and seeking bachelor's degrees! Enrollment is holding steady for both CDEC and TECA courses as Texas A&M University continues to incorporate some courses into its degree plans.

**South Plains College** in Lubbock is embarking on NAEYC Self-Study for NAEYC Accreditation. This is quite a job for our 2 full time faculty members, Johanne Reynolds and Stephanie Deering. We will be looking to you all for support ☺  
Stephanie has just been notified that she has received the TAEYC 2009 Teacher Educator of the Year Award. Presentation will be made at the President's Reception at TAEYC Conference in Galveston.

## MEMBER NEWS

**Tarrant County College** is preparing to join the Virtual Reach Project, a pilot program in partnership with Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches and Angelina College in Lufkin, aimed at helping Region VI Head Start employees obtain their baccalaureate degrees.

A recently approved \$330,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for Virtual Reach will provide each institution with funds for computer equipment and student-faculty arrangements required to help Head Start employees begin distance learning. By 2013, all Head Start employees nationwide will be required to hold a baccalaureate degree.

Head Start employees enrolled in TCC's Northeast Campus child development program and preparing to teach young children will be provided access to a full range of distance-learning resources, said Pati Cates, assistant professor and chair of the Child Development and Education Department at Northeast. Cates said that Webcams and 30 laptops located at Head Start centers where the students work "will provide a virtual way of going to school" when their schedules permit. "Our goal is to get (the Head Start employees) through their Associate of Applied Science Degree so they have ability to transfer to Stephen F. Austin's distance-learning program" through which they can obtain their bachelor's degree.

### **Alamo Colleges- St. Philip's College**

\*SPC-ECFS Department is also excited about a new Distance Education articulation agreement with Stephen F. Austin University, School of Human Services – Child and Family Development Program

\*Congratulations to Jessica Shaw, Instructor/Program Director for being selected in the 2009-2010 Alamo Colleges Leadership Academy for Success.

\*Congratulation to Sharon Evans, Coordinator of Child Development Center who attended courses and has received the National Playground Certification.

\*Congratulations to Pam Ray, Department Chair for earning rank of Tenure and promotion to Assistant Professor.

**Brookhaven College** and Eastfield College are working jointly with a sister campus (Cedar Valley College) in the Dallas Metroplex area to secure Worksource for Dallas County funds for local child care programs. The grant proposal is in its final stage of approval and is now in the negotiation process to receive the funding. The funding will provide both courses in child care and child care training.

**Hope to see you all in Galveston!!**

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From **Central Texas College:**

\*Dr. Laura Daniels-Simmonds, ECP adjunct faculty, received her PhD in Child Development from Texas Woman's University, Denton, TX.

\*Mrs. Garza and Mr. Bacon had over twenty lab students help celebrate "Week of the Young Child" in conjunction with the opening of the new Harker Heights Library. Over 400 children passed through make-n-take tables.

\*CTC Early Childhood Professions and Central Texas Association for the Education of Young Children (CTAEYC) sponsored their annual spring workshop. Over two-hundred child care providers attended these six break-out sessions. Each participant received a 4-hour certificate of training. Mrs. Lewis, Ms. Holmes and Mr. Bacon were among the presenters. Dr. Deborah Crowder, TSU, was the keynote speaker and presented on "Educating with Dignity." We were able to make enough money to fund our four endowed scholarships for \$200 each.

\*One of our former students wrote a book entitled "Daniel Goes to Preschool" and it was published. The book helps parents and teachers prepare children for the unexpected first-day-of-school events. The book incorporates Spanish words so the bilingual children can relate to the story.

**Midland College** Child Development Program is ready for the Fall Semester. The Helen L. Greathouse Children's Center/Laboratory School is in a new 8,000 sq. ft. building located on the main campus.

The Midland College Children's Center at Manor Park, our inter-generational children's lab, is celebrating its 10 year anniversary, located in a retirement/nursing home facility. Congratulations!

**Collin College** has a NAEYC 2-year program accreditation visit in October! Wish us luck. Collin received Exemplary Program status from THECB.

Sharon Hirschy and Elaine Wilkinson published "Protecting Our Children" with Wadsworth this past year. Hopefully, many of the colleges will use it with the Abuse and Neglect course!

Elaine Wilkinson will be sending out a letter to everyone regarding her dissertation study! Please read the email carefully and have your students participate in the survey!!!!

**Alvin Community College** Child Development/ Education Department reports:

\*We have finally completed Hurricane Ike/tornado damage repairs and remodel, which allowed the lab school to expand with a new indoor playroom and the department a new "smart" classroom for adult instruction.

\*We have a slight increase our CDEC courses.

\*ACC has articulated with UHCL for the AAS degree to transfer into a BAS degree in Early Childhood Education.

**Eastfield College** is excitedly awaiting our move into our new building, the Center for Child and Family Studies. The building is beautiful and houses the lab school which has doubled in size, four faculty offices, 2 administrator's offices, 2 support staff offices, joint reception area, an adjunct office, a library, a conference room, break room and college class room.

In addition, the college is also remodeling our old classroom and storage space in the N building during this fall and we will move back into that room in the spring or summer.

We have just heard that two grant proposals were funded: a million dollar stimulus money grant from our Workforce Board that we submitted in partnership with our sister colleges Brookhaven and Cedar Valley and our third four year Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) grant which will start at the end of this final year in our current grant. All this and lots of students is keeping us busy!

**Tyler Junior College's** Laboratory School, The Family Learning Center of Tyler, is a partnership between The Literacy Council of Tyler, Tyler ISD and TJC. The partnership provides adult education and training for ESL students, as well as providing care for 50 young children birth - 5 years old. Sixteen of the children's parents are participating in the ESL classes. Both programs are located in one building, hence the "Family Learning Center." The center will be adding a new infant class beginning August 17th. The TJC-CDEC Program continues to be a strong program for child care providers, as well as those transferring into Child and Family Development programs.



The Department of Early Childhood Studies at **San Antonio College** was awarded a CCAMPIS grant from the Department of Education for 2009-2013. The total award is approximately \$889,000. This award will subsidize many SAC students who are parents so that they can receive quality care and education for their children as they pursue their academics. Linda Lowman was elected Secretary for the college's Faculty Senate – a body that represents approximately 425 full-time faculty members.

