



**Legacy 2030: Pioneers in Education Roundtable**

**Sofitel Hotel, Washington, DC**

**February 6, 2018**

**Participant List**

**Pioneers in Early Education:**

**W. Steven Barnett, Senior Co-Director, National Institute for Early Education Research**

Steve is an economist whose research includes early care education costs and benefits, long-term effects of preschool programs on children's learning and development, and distribution of educational opportunities. His best known works include reviews of the research on long-term effects; benefit-cost analyses of the Perry Preschool and Abecedarian programs; and the series of *State of Preschool* reports providing annual state-by-state analyses of progress in public pre-K.

**Barbara Bowman, Co-Founder and Irving B. Harris Professor, Erikson Institute**

Barbara is an early childhood education expert/advocate, professor, and author. Her areas of expertise include early childhood care/education and educational equity for minority and low-income children. She has served on several boards and was the co-founder of Erikson Institute, where she pioneered the teaching of early childhood education and administration.

**Sue Bredekamp, Early Childhood Consultant, HighScope Board Emeritus**

Sue is an early childhood education specialist from Washington, DC, who serves as a consultant on topics such as early literacy, curriculum, teaching, and professional development. From 1981–1998, she served as Director of Accreditation and Professional Development at the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). She is the primary author of NAEYC's *Developmentally Appropriate Practice in Early Childhood Programs*.

**Linda Espinosa, Professor Emeritus of Early Childhood Education at the University of Missouri, Columbia**

Linda has served as the Co-Director of the National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) at Rutgers University and Vice President at Bright Horizons Family Solutions. She was most recently Co-PI for the Getting on Track for Early School Success: Effective Teaching in Preschool Classrooms project at the University of Chicago and former Co-PI for the Center for Early Care and Education Research—Dual Language Learners (CECER-DLL) at Frank Porter Graham CDI at the U of NC. Her recent research and policy work has focused on effective curriculum and assessment practices for young children from low-income families who are dual language learners. Linda was a contributing author of the report from NASEM (2017), *Promoting the educational success of children learning English*.

**Eugene García, Professor Emeritus and Research Professor, Arizona State University**

Gene is a Professor Emeritus at Arizona State University (ASU) where he served as dean of the Mary Lou Fulton College of Education and vice president for education partnerships at ASU. He has been a recipient of a National Kellogg Leadership Fellowship and received numerous academic and



public honors. Gene served as a senior officer in the U.S. Department of Education (1993-1995). His most recent books include "Young English Language Learners" (2010), edited with E. Frede (Teachers College Press), "Bilingualism and Cognition" (2011) with Jose Nanez (American Psychological Association) and "Understanding the Language Development and Early Education of Hispanic Children" with Erminda Garcia (2012) Teachers College Press.

**Marilou Hyson, Ph.D. early childhood development consultant**

Marilou consults nationally and internationally on early childhood development, including involvement in projects with the World Bank, UNICEF, and Save the Children. Previously Professor and Chair at the University of Delaware, she was also NAEYC's associate executive director for professional development, collaborating on position statements and initiatives on critical early childhood issues. A former SRCD fellow in the US Department of Education, Marilou's research and publications have focused on social and emotional development, approaches to learning, and parents' and teachers' beliefs about early education.

**Sharon Lynn Kagan, Co-Director of the National Center for Children and Families**

Lynn is the Virginia and Leonard Marx Professor of Early Childhood and Family Policy and Co-Director of the National Center for Children and Families at Teachers College, Columbia University, and Professor Adjunct at Yale University's Child Study Center. Recognized internationally and nationally for her accomplishments related to the care and education of young children, Lynn is a prolific public speaker, author of 325 articles and 16 books, a member of over 30 national boards or panels. Lynn focuses her scholarship on the development of new knowledge that impacts governments and institutions as they craft policies for young children, according particular attention to systems theory, governance, finance, pedagogy, and transitions.

**Joan Lombardi, Early Opportunities, LLC**

Joan currently directs Early Opportunities LLC, a philanthropic advisement service focused on the development of young children, families and the communities that support them. In this role she provides overall advisement to the Buffett Early Childhood Fund and to the Pritzker Children's Initiative. Joan served in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as the first Deputy Assistant Secretary for Early Childhood Development (2009-2011) and the first Commissioner of the Child Care Bureau (1993-1998).

**Evelyn Moore, Founder and Executive Director Emeritus, National Black Child Development Institute**

Evelyn was a founding teacher in the Perry Preschool Program, nationally and internationally known for her work in early childhood education. Evelyn is the founder and Executive Director Emeritus of the National Black Child Development Institute.

**Larry Schweinhart, President Emeritus, HighScope Educational Research Foundation**

Larry served as president of the HighScope Educational Research Foundation in Ypsilanti, Michigan, since 2003. He became president emeritus in 2013. He has directed the HighScope Perry Preschool Study through age 40, the Michigan School Readiness Program Evaluation, and HighScope's Head Start Quality Research Center.



**Valora Washington, CEO, Council for Professional Recognition**

Valora is CEO of the Council for Professional Recognition, leads the largest credentialing program (CDA) for early educators in the USA. She is certified as an Association Executive and a Credentialing Specialist. Valora co-founded Voices for Michigan's Children, the Early Childhood Funders Collaborative, and the CAYL Institute, a leadership development program for practitioners.

**Other Invited Guests:**

**Abena Ocran-Jackson is the Director of Council Programs, Council for Professional Recognition.**

Abena is responsible for the effective management of all aspects of the Child Development Associate (CDA), new products and services. Ms. Ocran-Jackson has over 20 years working in early care and education in a variety of roles. In 2015, she was named one of the Exceptional Leaders in the field of early childhood by Childcare Exchange's Leadership Initiative.

**Linda Smith, Bipartisan Policy Center, Director, Early Childhood Policy**

Linda is director of BPC's Early Childhood Development Initiative. She most recently served as the deputy assistant secretary for early childhood development in the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

**Carla Thompson Payton, Vice President for Program Strategy at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation**

Carla provides leadership and management for the creative and strategic direction of Foundation programming from design through implementation, evaluation and dissemination. Prior to joining the foundation in 2012, Thompson Payton was deputy director of the Office of Child Care at the Administration for Children and Families in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in Washington, D.C. She also has served as assistant superintendent for early childhood education for the District of Columbia, where she initiated the first publicly funded pre-kindergarten program.

**Christina Samuels, Associate Editor, Education Week**

Christina's primary beats are early childhood education and special education. She writes for the Early Years and On Special Education blogs. She started working at Education Week in 2004, after stints at the Miami Herald and The Washington Post.

**Legacy 2030 National Advisory Group Members:**

**(by Zoom) Rebecca Gomez, Program Officer, Education, Heising-Simons Foundation**

Rebecca is a program officer for the Education program at the Heising-Simons Foundation, and the funder of the Legacy 2030 project. Prior to joining the Foundation in 2016, Rebecca was an assistant research professor at Rutgers University's National Institute for Early Education Research.

**Jacqueline Jones, President, CEO, Foundation for Child Development**

Jacqueline is responsible for developing and implementing the foundation's strategic vision and goals. Prior to her tenure at the Foundation for Child Development, Dr. Jones served as a Senior Advisor on Early Learning to Secretary of Education Arne Duncan and as the country's first Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Early Learning in the U.S. Department of Education.



**Laura Bornfreund, Director, Early and Elementary Education**

Laura is the director of early & elementary education policy with the Education Policy program at New America. She leads a team of writers and analysts working on new ideas for improving children's birth-through-third grade learning experiences.

**CEELO and Partners Staff**

**Lori Connors-Tadros, Senior Project Director, CEELO.** Lori leads the work of CEELO to provide technical assistance to build capacity of state education agencies to improve outcomes for children birth through third grade. She previously lead research and technical assistance on financing and sustaining effective programs, directed federally funded technical assistance for state child care administrators, and conducted research on family/community impact on children's learning.

**Ellen Frede, Senior Co-Director, NIEER; CEELO Senior Staff.** Ellen applies what she has learned throughout her varied career in early childhood education, including experience as a teacher of ages 0-8, curriculum and professional development specialist at the HighScope Foundation, teacher educator at The College of New Jersey, researcher, pre-k administrator for the New Jersey Department of Education, education lead in a large Head Start grantee and early learning lead at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

**Rolf Grafwallner, Chief Council of State School Officers, Early Childhood Program Director.** Rolf works with states to improve learning opportunities and outcomes for young children and is a partner organization with NIEER and EDC in the operation of CEELO. Prior to joining the Council, Rolf worked on early childhood policy and school reform as an Assistant State Superintendent at the Maryland State Department of Education.

**Katherine Hodges, Research Project Coordinator, National Institute for Early Education Research.** Kate works as part of the Yearbook team and is a doctoral student at Rutgers University.

**Tracy Jost, CEELO, Senior Policy Advisor.** Tracy provides consultation to CEELO and is a former Education Program Specialist at Maryland State Department of Education. Tracy is the founder of Kid's Campus Early Learning Center since 2006.

**Jana Martella, Co-Director, CEELO, Education Development Center, CEELO Partner.** Jana co-leads and supports all operations of the Center, including the development and execution of strategic and responsive technical assistance (TA), analysis and review of all products and publications, tailoring TA activities and materials for use by SEAs and RCs, and providing direct TA to multiple states. She brings more than thirty years of experience in education, including as a teacher and assistant school administrator, SEA legislative liaison and coordinator for federal programs.

**Michelle Ruess, NIEER Assistant Director for Marketing & Communications.** Michelle is a former newspaper reporter and editor who has partnered with a range of nonprofit groups in New Jersey and Pennsylvania to share messages and engage audiences. She has worked in newsrooms on Capitol Hill, in New Jersey and around the country.