

**PACIFIC EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION RESEARCH
ASSOCIATION
(PECERA)**

CONSTITUTION

1. Name:

The name of the organization shall be the *Pacific Early Childhood Education Research Association*. Its acronym shall be *PECERA*.

2. Aims:

2.1 The principle aims of PECERA shall be to:

2.1.1 Provide an academic forum in the Pacific region for the development and dissemination of high quality research in early childhood education.

2.1.2 Facilitate cooperation and collaboration among researchers in the Pacific area working in the field.

2.1.3 Promote links between research and practice in early childhood education.

2.1.4 Raise the visibility and status of research in early childhood education in the Pacific region.

2.2 These aims are to be accomplished through:

2.2.1 Holding an annual conference and other meetings.

2.2.2 Sponsoring a research journal, either published by the association or in concert with other associations.

2.2.3 Establishing a Pacific network of researchers and scholars in order to facilitate communication, cooperation, and collaboration among them.

2.2.4 Providing a database of member 's research interests, areas of expertise, and current research activity.

2.2.5 Engaging in such other activities that might facilitate the development of research, policy and practice in early childhood education.

3. Membership:

- 3.1 Membership in PECERA is open to any one who is actively engaged in or who has a special interest in research into early childhood education. Membership dues may be established by the Steering Committee and approved by those attending a regular business meeting.
- 3.2 An annual business meeting of the membership will be held as part of the Annual PECERA conference. A report of the annual activities of the organization and the most current Steering Committee meeting will be given at that meeting. In addition, any issues or decisions that need to be voted on by the membership will be presented at that meeting for action.

4. Governance:

PECERA will be governed by a set of Officers and a Steering Committee.

4.1 *PECERA' s Officers*

PECERA shall have the following Executive Officers: President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The duties of these officers are those usually associated with such officers in other organizations. In addition, the President shall chair the association' s Steering Committee and the Secretary will be a co-webmaster. The officers shall be appointed by the Steering Committee and will serve for a term of three years. They may be reappointed for an additional term. PECERA' s officers are *ex-officio* members of the Steering Committee.

4.2 *PECERA' s Steering Committee*

The Steering Committee will consist of members who come from the principal countries or units of government from which the bulk of the members come. In addition to those assigned to them from time to time, this Constitution authorizes them to exercise the following powers in furtherance of the Association' s aims:

- 4.2.1 The authority to raise funds and to invite and receive contributions, providing that in raising funds they do not undertake any permanent trading activities.
- 4.2.2 The authority to buy or lease any property and to maintain and equip it for use.
- 4.2.3 The authority to sell, lease or otherwise dispose of the association' s property.
- 4.2.4 The authority to provide indemnity insurance for themselves out of the association' s income.

- 4.2.5 The authority to approve the sites for PECERA ' s Annual Conferences.
 - 4.2.6 The authority to recommend annual dues for membership in the Association, to be approved by a majority of votes of members in a forthcoming membership meeting.
 - 4.2.7 The authority to do all such other things that are lawful as are necessary for the achievement of PECERA ' s aims.
- 4.3 The Steering Committee ' s first members shall be appointed by the President of the Association. These will be scholars in early childhood education who are committed to the aims of the association and who come from those countries from which the majority of the members come. They will also include the current and former chairs of the PECERA Conference Planning Committees. Members of the Steering Committee will serve for a term of three years by resolution of the membership. They may serve for an additional term. A member of the steering committee may be removed at any time from his or her position on that committee if good cause is shown.
- 4.4 The Steering Committee shall meet once a year just prior to the Annual Conference. The president will fix the exact time and date of each meeting and will circulate an agenda prior to the meeting. Because of distances involved, the Steering Committee will maintain its business between meetings by mail, fax and email. Emergency or special meetings may, however, be called by agreement of 2/3 of the members of the Steering Committee. Minutes will be kept of each meeting which will be circulate to the members of the Steering Committee and will be presented to the members at the annual membership meeting.

5. Amendments:

This Constitution may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the Steering Committee followed by a majority vote of those attending the Annual Business Meeting that follows.

6. Dissolution:

If the members of the Steering Committee decide that it necessary to dissolve the Association, any assets remaining after dealing with proper debts and liabilities shall be given to an organization having objectives similar to PECERA.

Approved, 14 July, 2001