

**Dr. Yolanda Garcia (Chair)**, Director of the WestEd E3 Institute, Excellence in Early Education, has worked in the field of early childhood education and family support for four decades. For 20 years she directed the Children's Services Department for the Santa Clara County (CA) Office of Education. While in that role, she served on the national Head Start Quality Committee that recommended the development of Early Head Start. Ms. Garcia recently co-led the development of the California Department of Education, Child Development Division Early Childhood Educator Competencies, a statewide evidence-based set of competencies that addresses the knowledge, skills, and dispositions that early childhood professionals need to support the development and learning of young children. In 2010, she was a discussion leader at the conference, Social Justice: An Interdisciplinary Perspective, held at Oxford University, England.

She was on the governing board of the Child Development Policy Institute (CDPI). In 2007, Garcia was elected to the Governing Board of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) in a national election and also served as the co-chair for the NAEYC workforce committee. Garcia also served on the NAEYC Quality and Compensation Committee, and on the American Academy of Sciences' Committee on the Integration of Sciences in Early Childhood Education.