Special Interest Groups

CIES currently has 18 special interest groups (SIGs) that allow CIES members who share common research interests to connect and collaborate. SIGs focus on a geographic region or on a specialized topic. SIG membership is $10. SIG dues can be paid at https://subfill.uchicago.edu/JournalPUBS/Donation.aspx?webpub=cer, or at the time of online conference registration.

Geographic region-based SIGs:

- The **Africa** SIG aims to foster a sense of community among our members, inform the membership of best practices and current research in the field, and provide a valuable space for networking and dialoguing on Africa education.
  - Chairperson: N’Dri Therese Assie-Lumumba

- The **Eurasia** SIG will bring together educational researchers and practitioners working on or in Eurasia.
  - Co-chairperson: Erin Weeks-Earp
  - Co-chairperson: Iiveta Silova

- The **Japan** SIG aims to formalize and strengthen communication among scholars of Japan, and to help the larger CIES membership become better acquainted with Japanese education and society.
  - Chairperson: Akiko Hayashi

- The **Latin America** SIG includes Latin American educators, leaders and scholars who offer through their research and experiences the opportunity to celebrate the accomplishment of goals and the launching of projects in
the region, open the dialogue regarding the region’s educational experiences, achievements and challenges.
  
  o Co-chairperson: Alicia Lopez  
  o Co-chairperson: Daniel Friedrich  

- The **Middle East** SIG is a network of researchers (students and faculty) who share research and collaborate on academic projects. The SIG also facilitates forums and panel discussions about issues pertaining to education in the Middle East.
  
  o Chairperson: Zeena Zakharia  

- The **South Asia** SIG provides a systematic forum to bring together those of us working on and interested in educational issues related to South Asia and the South Asian Diaspora.
  
  o Chairperson: Nita Kumar  
  o Presenter: Romilla Karnati  

**Theme-based SIGs:**

- **NEW**: The Teaching Comparative Education SIG brings together scholars and instructors of comparative and international education from around the world. It is dedicated to understanding and enhancing the contours of course work in the field and promoting comparative and international education in higher education.
  
  o Chairperson: Allison Blosser  
  o Co-chair: Yao Chen  

- The **Citizenship and Democratic Education** SIG seeks to create an active community of educators and researchers, to share their views and encourage productive debate on various aspects of citizenship and democratic education, in the United States and around the world.
  
  o Co-chairperson: Greg Fairbrother
o Co-chairperson: Anatoli Rapoport

- The **Cultural Contexts of Education and Human Potential SIG** aims to make the case for the necessity of including the voices of individuals often unheard and to promote better understanding and learning between and about different groups. Moreover, it is also intended to demonstrate how the underutilization of the voices of different cultures has led to the underutilization of their potential.
  - Chairperson: Kassie Freeman

- **The Early Childhood Development SIG** seeks to foster exchange & strengthen linkages between ECD research and practice; help keep members abreast of new developments in the field; build linkages among various ECD networks nationally and internationally; prepare ECD thematic sessions at the next CIES conference.
  - Chairperson: Rhiannon Williams
  - Program Chairperson: Nawsheen Elaheebocus

- The **Global Literacy SIG** is organized around key issues in reading and writing instruction and assessment and larger issues and implications of literacy use throughout the world.
  - Co-chairperson: Elizabeth Adelman
  - Co-chairperson: Amber Gove

- The **Globalization and Education** SIG seeks to provide a forum where researchers and practitioners involved in global study of comparative and international education have meaningful conversations and exchanges of ideas related to globalization and education.
  - Chairperson: Stephen Carney

- The **Higher Education** SIG serves as a networking hub for promoting scholarship opportunities, critical dialogue, and linking professionals and academics to the international aspects of higher education.
  - Contact: James Jacob Williams
  - Contact: Val Rust
  - Contact: Jorge Enrique Delgado
ICT4D (ICT for Development) is an outlet for members of the Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) to collaborate with, learn from, and create bonds that will heighten interest and research in this ever growing area.

- Co-chairperson: Jayson Richardson
- Co-chairperson: Jeffrey Lee

The Inclusive Education SIG seeks to elicit the participation of scholars interested in educational issues specific to the multiple meanings of IE and, Accordingly, to learners who are marginalized due to special educational needs. These might include: disabilities, second language acquisition, poverty, racial and ethnic discrimination, social exclusion, etc.

- Chairperson: Florian Kiuppis

The Indigenous Knowledge and the Academy SIG consists of CIES members, members of indigenous communities, and practitioners who want to dialogue about ways to develop alternative knowledges and how these knowledges interact with and transform the academy.

- Chairperson: Ladislaus Semali

The Language Issues SIG is a network of researchers and practitioners working to understand the role of language(s) in education, as well as the role of the languages of instruction in differing, and often contentious, political and cultural contexts.

- Chairperson: Alison Pflepsen
- Treasurer: Kara Brown
- Communications Chair: Rebecca Paulson

The Peace Education SIG brings together members of the Comparative and International Education Society with common interests in the study of peace and conflict, human rights, and social justice in education.

- Chairperson: Karen Ross

The Education for Sustainable Development SIG aims to facilitate communication and partnerships among academia, community, industry, and policy makers, who are aware of and engaged in the concept of sustainability.

- Chairperson: Ligia Toutant