

ECE Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, December 2nd, 2021

4:00 to 5:30pm

<https://cuesta-edu.zoom.us/j/3464136887>

1. Introductions

Michele Gordon Johnson - ECE Faculty Cuesta
Melina Simonds - ECE Faculty Cuesta
Elizabeth Steinberg - CAPSLO
Wendy Wendt - First Five of SLO County
Raechelle Bowlay - CAPSLO
Jamie Sanbonmatsu - Valley View Children's Center
Bobbie Sesena - community member
Brenda Matthyse - PRHS ROP
Patty Clarkson - ECE Faculty Cuesta
Amy Iscold - ECE Faculty Cuesta
Madelyn Chevalier - ECE Faculty Cuesta
Katie Mervin - ECE Faculty Cuesta
Laurinda Wagner - Cuesta College Children's Center

2. Proposed changes

We are proposing that our Department name is changed from ECE to Child Development and Family Studies, we have added a Child Development and Family Studies A.A., and *our graduates will continue to earn degrees in Early Childhood Education:*

(transfer) A.S.-T, [Early Childhood Education](#)

(local degree) A.A., [Early Childhood Education](#)

- **Department name change:** The current department name, “Early Childhood Education,” highlights teacher preparation and early learning aspects of the department’s courses. The new name, Child Development and Family Studies, recognizes the Department’s additional priorities: Students will view children in the context of family, school, community, and culture and see the value in diverse child-rearing approaches; students will gain a solid understanding of the developing child, including current brain research, and use theoretical knowledge to inform professional practices.
- **New degree - Child Development and Family Studies A.A.:** The Child Development and Family Studies Associate of Arts degree prepares students to work with children and their families, in a variety of settings, including direct services, advocacy/public policy, family support, and early intervention. Child development and family studies courses provide students with valuable knowledge and transferable skills that are applicable in their personal and family lives as well as in the workplace. Additionally, a Child Development and Family Studies Associate of Arts degree, coupled with the Child and Adolescent Development Associate in Arts for Transfer degree, will provide a

strong foundation for pursuing studies in child development, and related fields focusing on children and their families, at four-year institutions.

Advisory Committee Support, Concerns, and Considerations:

- challenges associated with promoting the new degree, will ECE "get lost?"
- recognizing the current demand and urgency for early childhood educators and our department's critical role
- bringing value and professionalism to the ECE field; need to champion "ECE"
- ideally suited to support/develop family advocates and child/family case managers

Motion made by Biz Steinberg to approve the new department name, Child Development and Family Studies, and the new Child Development and Family Studies A.A. degree. Wendy Wendt seconded the motion. Raised hands indicated that 5/5 Advisory Committee members present approved of the proposed changes (indicated in red at the top of the page).

Email:

Hunter Perry: I wholeheartedly support the Department name change as a more accurate representation of the coursework that is offered. In addition, I believe the new name provides a much more solid understanding of how Child Development and Family studies are integrated on a multitude of levels and that to understand the developing child our students must look at the child in the context of the family, society, culture and science. The new degree supports the mission of the department and supports the ever-changing needs of our society to ensure we are preparing students to meet the new and diverse challenges that our families and our institutions confront on a daily basis.