

**Ancillary Unit Annual Report**  
**Joyce M. Huggins Early Education Center**  
**July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013**

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**Purpose of Ancillary Unit**

The Joyce M. Huggins Early Education Center (Huggins Center) in the Kremen School of Education and Human Development (KSOEHD) at California State University, Fresno is a regional model for best practices in early childhood education (ECE). The Huggins Center includes the Marlene M. Fansler Infant and Toddler Program, the D. Paul Fansler Preschool and D. Paul Fansler Institute for Leadership in ECE. The Huggins Center provides training, demonstration and research opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students in education; child development; marriage, child and family therapy; and other related areas as well as for professionals in the field. It is the mission of the Huggins Center to 1) offer training consistent with local and state educational reform efforts aimed at improving early childhood education, curriculum, and services to children and families; 2) be an exemplary model for innovative programs for young children; 3) offer the highest quality of early education and care to children of low income student families and; 4) collaborate with other educational institutions, organizations, agencies and schools on educational initiatives to improve the quality of ECE in our region and state.

**Administrative Housing of Ancillary Unit.**

The Huggins Center is one of three campus early education and care facilities under the umbrella of Fresno State Programs for Children. Dr. Catherine Mathis is Program Director for Fresno State Programs for Children, and a lecturer in the KSOEHD. Dr. Mathis provides oversight and coordination for the children's program and is responsible for implementing and ensuring compliance with the conditions and technical requirements for ECE contracts from the State Department of Education, NAEYC accreditation standards, services provided by CSU Auxiliary Services, and financial requirements.

The Huggins Early Education Center is affiliated with the Early Childhood Education (ECE) Program in the Department of Literacy, Early, Bilingual, and Special Education (LEBSE) in the Kremen School of Education and Human Development. The Director of the Huggins Center is Dr. Susan Macy. As a part of her role as Huggins Center Director, Dr. Macy also serves as the Fansler Chair for Leadership in ECE. Dr. Macy is responsible for all aspects of the Huggins Center and the Fansler Institute.

**Major Accomplishments 2012-2013**

- Provided excellent education and childcare for 125 children inclusive of diverse, low-income children including children with special needs.
- Continued collaboration with Central California Autism Center, including inclusion of CCAC clients as visitors and enrolled students, plus sharing of Center space and facilities.

- Installed outdoor drinking fountains; replaced of all infant cribs; replaced carpet and repainted all Huggins Center classrooms.
- Purchased classroom furniture to expand dramatic play and art activities in preschool classrooms.
- Expanded awareness of community resources reference materials for parent use.
- Based on the needs of constituent parent groups, reduced the number of shortened days from once a week to once a month to accommodate parent schedules while allowing for formal professional development of all Huggins' teaching and administrative staff.
- Re-certified staff in first aid and CPR skills.
- Hosted an early childhood education community memorial celebration for Dr. Joyce M. Huggins, for whom the KSOEHD center is named.
- Set standards of quality for ECE programs in the Central Valley region
  - Actively participated on Fresno County Office of Education Steering Committee for First Five Fresno County's *Race to the Top*.
  - Participated as one of twelve pilot sites for Fresno County *Early Star's Quality Rating and Improvement System*.
  - Hosted a three-day Transitional Kindergarten Institute for forty Valley Transitional Kindergarten teachers in partnership with Fresno County Office, First Five Fresno County, the Packard Foundation and the D. Paul Fansler Leadership Institute.
  - Supported programs seeking NAEYC Accreditation through a partnership with the Children's Services Network's Fresno Accreditation Institute.
- Demonstrated innovative approaches and promote improvement of services to children and families in the Central Valley.
  - Continued efforts to improve practice in Reggio Emilia inspired program.
  - Initiated the development of a Dual Immersion Preschool Program.
  - Provided monthly Program for Infant Toddler Care Givers training to all six toddler and infant Master Teachers and teachers employed by Programs for Children (spring & summer, 2013).
  - Provided monthly literacy integration training to all preschool class Master Teachers and teachers employed by Programs for Children (summer & fall, 2012).
  - Provided monthly Transitional Kindergarten training to all preschool class Master Teachers and teachers employed by Programs for Children (spring, 2013).
  - Hosted approximately 233 students and professionally-related visitors who were provided opportunities for observation, field work, training, and research in ECE
    - KSOEHD ECE Credential students
    - KSOEHD ECE Master's students
    - UCSF nursing medical students
    - CSUF students from Liberal Studies, Nursing, Psychology, Communications, Special Education, Jump Start, Child Development, Way Finders, and the Office of Community Service
    - State Center Community Colleges
- Worked with the Fansler Foundation and KSOEHD Development Office for renewal of Foundation funding.

- Encouraged leadership opportunities within the Huggins’ professional community.
  - Attendance of twelve teachers and administrators at an international conference (North American Reggio Emilio Alliance), a national conference (National Association of the Education of Young Children), and a state conference (California Association of the Education of Young Children), and several local First Five Fresno County-sponsored trainings in assessment of young children and program management (fall 2012 & spring 2013).
  - Two staff presentations at NAEYC Conference in Atlanta, Georgia (fall, 2012)

### **Sources of Funding**

Sources of funding for the Huggins Early Education Center include: California State Department of Education grants (continuing), tuition fees, general fund (student referendum, contributions from KSOEHD and JCAST, Student Affairs), private foundation support and other development initiatives. Funds are expended through California State University, Fresno Foundation and Auxiliary. Expenditures for the Huggins Center are managed by the California State University, Fresno Auxiliary and independently audited annually as required by the California Department of Education. Fansler funds are managed by California State University, Fresno Foundation. Fansler financial statements including sources and amounts of support, income from service and product sales, and other revenues and expenditures are attached.

### **Space and Equipment Utilization**

The Huggins Center and Fansler Institute are located on the Atrium Level of the Education Building and also include the adjacent “Environments Playground.” The Huggins Center and Fansler Institute are responsible for the purchase of equipment for the program.

### **Goals and Objectives 2012-2013:**

Continue to effectively use the Marlene M. Fansler Infant and Toddler Program, and the D. Paul Fansler Preschool and School Age Programs to promote regional models for ECE programs.

- Renovate pond environment to encourage Reggio inspired investigations and project work.
- Host summer Transitional Kindergarten professional development institute.
- Host major Valley ECE Leadership conference.
- Provide formal professional development training to enhance Project approach as a curricular model for the Joyce M. Huggins Center.
- Improve staff skills in science education by exploring the possibility of sponsoring a visiting early childhood science scholar in spring, 2014.
- Implement Transitional Kindergarten Certificate Program in partnership with the Fansler Foundation, Fresno County Office of Education, First Five Fresno County, the Packard Foundation, and the KSOEHD’s ECE Program.
- Complete planning phase for a Preschool Dual Immersion classroom within the Huggins Early Education Center.
- Completion of West Ed/Program for Infant Toddler Care Givers (PITC) training for infant and toddler teachers (summer, 2013).

- Develop a program brochure describing the services provided by the Huggins Center's and curricular model.
- Increase enrollment
  - Create and implement a marketing plan to attract new families and to ensure that enrollment procedures and policies support currently enrolled children and families.
  - Increase enrollment of full-fee families by 10%.
  - Increase enrollment of qualified families to a level of maximum reimbursement from the California Department of Education.
- All teachers will attend at least one workshop sponsored by Early Stars or another approved organization.

#### Request for Renewal of the Unit

Given the consistent record of continuing accomplishments for the Huggins Early Education Center as a demonstration model for early education and its functions in the preparation and professional development of student, teachers and others and as an educational service to children, families and the community, renewal of the ancillary unit is requested.

#### **Appendix**

- A. The unit's financial statement prepared by the California State University, Fresno Foundation.