

### What's New at SSEC



In August of 2018, Jim Davis stepped down as Executive Director after 18 years of dedicated service. The SSEC Board approved the appointment of Charlie White to succeed Jim, with an overlapping year to smooth the transition.

Long-time SSEC members may remember that Charlie served on the board in the late 1990s, and as president in 2000. He hosted the Woods Hole conference that year, hosted the annual conference at Salem, MA, in 2017, and edited 2017's conference book, [\*Democracy's Discontent and Civic Learning\*](#).



### SSEC 2019 Conference



SSEC's 2019 conference is in the US, and we have been delighted to work with Tina Heafner, Laura Handler, and the terrific team at the University of North Carolina – Charlotte to offer this year's annual conference.

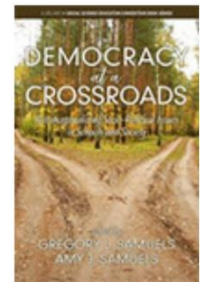
UNCC and SSEC supported 12 Young Scholars this year – a record. Participants were treated to guided walks in Charlotte and a day-long excursion to the amazing Biltmore estate in Asheville. Tina will be editing the book based on the conference theme *The Divide Within: Intersections of Realities, Facts, Theories & Practices*, to be published by Information Age Publishing.



### IAP Becomes SSEC Official Publisher



In the spring of 2019, the SSEC board of directors entered into an agreement with Information Age Publishing to become our official publisher. As part of the partnership, IAP has established the **Social Science Education Consortium Book Series**. The first of the series is the 2018 conference book from the Florence conference, edited by Greg and Amy Samuels, [\*Democracy at the Crossroads\*](#). The Samuels' have also agreed to serve as the first series co-editors, and they have assembled an outstanding editorial board. Members will enjoy new benefits from the SSEC/IAP partnership. The annual conference publication will be available for a significant discount. Also, **SSEC members can purchase other IAP publications at a 25% discount**. IAP has also agreed to provide a **\$250 award** for the outstanding Young Scholar paper presentation at the annual conference, as well as a second award in the form of any four IAP publications. Overall, our partnership with IAP promises to open new opportunities for SSEC members to publish their scholarship.



### New SSEC Website Domain Name

We have purchased a new domain name for the SSEC website that we think will be easier to remember and find: [SSEC-inc.org](http://SSEC-inc.org). That is all that is needed to be redirected to the current site and to the future, upgraded website. The old domain name is still active.



## SSEC Joins the CivXNow Coalition

CivXNow is based on the active participation of a coalition of leading civic learning providers, philanthropic organizations, academic and research institutions, and other supporters representing perspectives from across the political spectrum. To demonstrate cross-sector, non-partisan support for civic learning, the member organizations of the coalition have committed to improving civic knowledge and education through their individual and collective missions.



## Change in SSEC Dues and Benefits

Member dues have remained at \$40 per year nearly 20 years, but in order to provide the kind of benefits members ought to expect and to expand its membership and outreach, the SSEC board has decided to raise the **annual dues to \$75 per year** beginning on August 1. **Retired member dues will remain at \$40 annually.** How will that dues increase be used?

- Though the administration of the organization will remain a volunteer effort, we will invest in a major upgrade of the SSEC website. Visitors to the site will likely recognize the need to do so. With our webmaster, Julie Hale, we have appointed working team of SSEC members to recommend changes and expansions to the website. Work on the new site will begin in the summer and continue during FY 2020. The timeframe will depend on the budget and may be rolled out in phases.
- Beginning in July, all SSEC members who are current with their dues will receive a **free copy of the annual conference book** published by IAP. This will be an ongoing annual member benefit.
- **Our IAP partnership also provides a 25% on all IAP publications.** To manage this member-only benefits, all current dues-paid members will a **code** to use when ordering from IAP and future opportunities (**look for this in your email or in this mailing**).

- Beginning with the 2020 annual conference, SSEC members will pay a **reduced conference registration** fee compared to non-members.
- We will take advantage of our **expanded social media presence** to post and share materials relevant to members, including recent reports and notices of upcoming conferences and webcasts.
- **Outreach** to social science professional organizations are a top priority in order to promote membership among social scientists who have an interest in collaboration with social science education scholars.
- **Support for Young Scholars** has yielded positive results, and we hope to expand that support and encourage long-term commitment to SSEC as one of their key professional affiliations.

We hope you will recognize the investment in SSEC as a chance to increase its visibility and utility to the field.



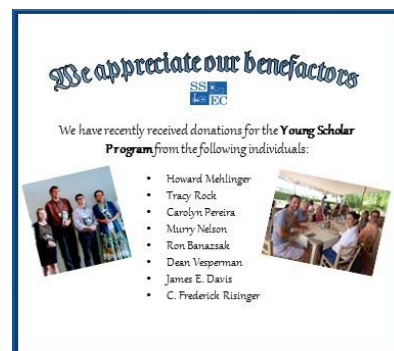
## Implementing Electronic Payments

SSEC has a new PayPal account that has allowed us to invoice members for membership dues and conference registrations. If you check out the SSEC website

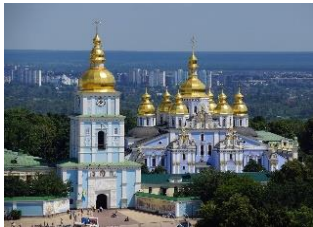
([www.ssec-inc.org](http://www.ssec-inc.org)), you will also see a new tab at the top of the page, next to “Home,” labeled “Supporting SSEC.” On that page, Julie Hale, our

webmaster, has added a **DONATION** button that is fully automated. **Our**

**FY 2020 goal is \$2,000.** We hope that we can supplement member dues to expand SSEC activities. In the updated website, we plan to fully automate membership renewals and conference payments and prepare for processing online orders of current and future SSEC resources, like the digital version of *Teaching the Social Sciences and History in Secondary Schools: A Methods Book*.



Donate through PayPal



## Announcing the Site of SSEC 2020: Kiev, Ukraine (June 16-21, 2020)

The SSEC Board of Directors is pleased to announce plans to convene the 2020 SSEC annual conference in Kiev, Ukraine. With the help of our German colleague Karlheinz Dürr, SSEC will be hosted by the «KROK» University and Dr. Lyudmila Parashchenko, Director of the Kyiv Lyceum of Business.

**Maidan Nezalezhnosti**, a large square in the center of Kiev, saw pro-independence protests of the 1990s and the Orange Revolution in 2004, and the larger Euromaidan Revolution in 2013-14. Kiev is the seat of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church,



which recently gained its independent from the Russian Orthodox Church. The Old City is replete with onion-domed cathedrals and quaint walkways. Rich in Jewish history, Kiev was also the site of the 1941 massacre of **Babi Yar** by the Nazis.



A day-long excursion to Chernobyl provides a sobering view of the ongoing effects of the 1986 nuclear disaster, now a popular tourist attraction subject to strict safeguards.

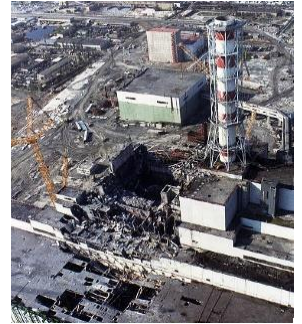
### Tentative Conference Schedule

Current plans call for arrival on Tuesday, June 16, with an evening reception at the hotel, located in the center of Kiev (TBD). Wednesday morning would begin with brief presentations on Kiev and Ukraine history and current situation, followed by a pre-lunch walk to Maidan Nezalezhnosti. We'll grab some lunch and continue our walk to Lavra, the **Motherland Monument**, and the WWII Memorial. Public transportation will take us



back to the hotel, and you'll be free to choose dinner in small groups at nearby restaurants.

Thursday we'll break the group in two: half will be able to enjoy a day-long **Chernobyl** excursion, including lunch, returning to the hotel at 7 PM. The other half will enjoy two half-day excursions: first to Bari Yar and, after lunch, a walking tour of **Old Town Kiev**.



Friday will begin with the first session of conference papers at the hotel, where we will also have lunch. For the afternoon, we are working on a session presented by **Nova Doba** (the All-Ukrainian Association of Teachers of History and Social Studies) and meeting with teachers. Friday dinner will be at the hotel with the whole group.



Saturday will feature paper sessions at the hotel in the morning and afternoon, with lunch in between. The afternoon will end with the SSEC Corporation Meeting, followed by a group dinner arranged at a restaurant of note (such as «**Spotykach**», among others).



Departures on Sunday. Stay tuned as we firm up hotel and excursion plans.



## Congratulations to Ilene R. Berson, SSEC Member

Dr. Ilene R. Berson, Professor of Early Childhood Education, University of South Florida served as lead author for the first [Position Statement of the National Council for the Social Studies on Early Childhood Education](#)! This position statement, approved by the NCSS Board of Directors, comes at an important time in the field as more states are rewriting their standards and elevating the social studies

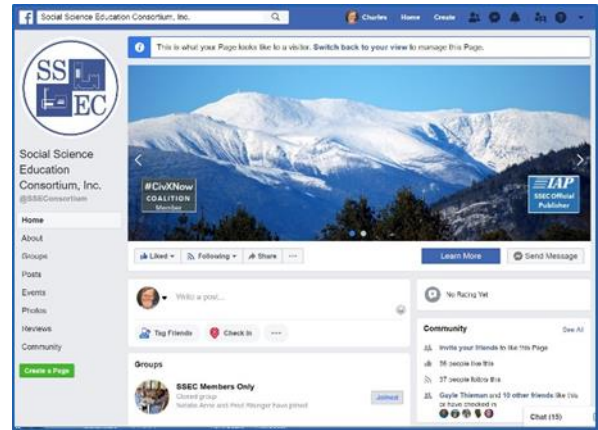
as an essential part of the curriculum. Quoting from the position paper's recommendations -

- “Young children have the capacity to use the skills of reasoning and inquiry to investigate social studies concepts as they explore how people interact in the world.
- “Early childhood is a time when the foundations of social studies are established, and curricular standards should explicitly attend to engaging and developing young children’s capacity for citizenship, democratic or civic activity, and participation in decision-making, as well as critical disciplinary literacies
- “As teachers set the tone for children’s social studies learning, it is critical that curricular and instructional decisions embrace diversity and social justice while intentionally contesting bias and inequity.
- “Young children need multiple and varied opportunities to engage in social studies inquiry.
- “Early childhood educators should receive social studies-specific professional development that includes guidance on how to teach social studies to young learners to cultivate bias-free and discrimination-free communities
- “There is a need for the social studies community to engage in further research on early childhood social studies curriculum and instruction.” (<https://www.socialstudies.org/early-childhood-social-studies-context>).



## SSEC’s Social Media Presence

Check out the new [SSEC Facebook](#) page! On the Facebook page, SSEC members will have access to a “Members-Only Group” to engage in conversation and discussion. Find [@SSECconsortium](#) on [Twitter](#), too.



SSEC FACEBOOK PAGE  
(@SSECConsortium)



SSEC Twitter Page  
(@SSECconsortium)

## Addresses to remember:

**SSEC WEBSITE:** [ssec-inc.org](http://ssec-inc.org)

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