

**DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SCIENCES  
DISSERTATION DEFENSE**

**Elaine Wilkinson, B.S., M.Ed.  
Ph.D. Candidate, Child Development**

**All About Me: Community College Child Development and Early Childhood  
Education Students**

Lin Moore, Ph.D., Chair  
Joyce Armstrong, Ph.D.  
Glen Jennings, Ed.D.

**Human Development Building  
Room 204  
Tuesday, November 10 @ 1:00pm**

All TWU faculty, staff, and students are invited to attend

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**ABSTRACT**

The purpose of this study was to describe the community college Child Development/Early Childhood Educator population across the state of Texas. The sample consisted of 1047 respondents currently enrolled in child development and early childhood education classes in community colleges in Texas. The students were asked to complete an internet survey that investigates background information on the students, preparedness and concerns for the workforce or academia, importance of college goals and outcomes, student work schedules, importance of reasons a student works while in college, selections about courses, the frequency and importance of college support services, transitions to another college and contributions to the success of the student at the college and, demographics. The results of this descriptive study will inform chairpersons and faculty in programs concerning student needs, goals, and motivations which in turn will allow them to better serve students by assisting them in successfully meeting their goals whether it is obtaining a degree or certificate from the community college, transitioning on to the workforce, or transferring to another university.

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**Biographical Information**

Elaine Wilkinson received a Bachelor of Science degree in special education, elementary education, and early childhood education from Bradley University in 1974. In 1993, she received a Masters of Education degree in Educational Leadership from Texas Woman's University. Currently, she is working at Collin College as the Academic Chair of Child Development and Education and full-time faculty.