



School of **Early
Childhood**



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
OISE | ONTARIO INSTITUTE
FOR STUDIES IN EDUCATION

Children deserve
the best start in life.

Friday, June 8th, 2012

George Brown College, Centre for Hospitality and Culinary Arts, 290 Adelaide Street East

NINTH ANNUAL

Summer Institute on Early Childhood Development

From 0 - 3 Years:

Research That Informs Policy and Practice

About the Institute

The recent release of Early Years Study 3 reinforces the bridge between science, policy and practice. The earliest years of development is a sophisticated interplay between genetics and environment, a convergence that brings together parents, educators, researchers and policy leaders.

The 9th Summer Institute on Early Child Development will examine evidence based approaches to developing a comprehensive children's and family support system starting in utero. It brings together experts, practitioners and key stakeholders who are committed to innovative collaboration to ensure that best possible outcomes for young children and their families.

OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM

8:30 a.m. Registration & Refreshments

9:15 a.m. **Welcome and Introduction**
Patricia Chorney Rubin, Director, Community Services and Early Childhood, George Brown College
Georgia Quartaro, Vice-President Academic, George Brown College

9:30 a.m. **Opening Remarks**
Laurel Broten, Minister of Education, Government of Ontario

9:45 a.m. **From 0 – 3 years: Research that informs Policy and Practice**
Jenny Jenkins, Atkinson Chair of Early Childhood Development and Education
The years from birth to school entry involve the development of complex skills in emotional and behavioral regulation. What do we know about how such regulation occurs? Scientific findings suggest that we concentrate on the close relationships in children's lives (with parents, siblings and educators) as well as the biologically-based, individual vulnerabilities of children. The result of prevention and intervention trials show us that the regulatory skills of children-at-risk can be improved. What does a system of family support and early child care look like so that all children will thrive?

10:30 a.m. **Refreshment Break**

10:45 a.m. **Modernizing Child Care: The Policy Perspective**
Jim Grieve, Assistant Deputy Minister, Early Learning Division, Ontario Ministry of Education
Jim Grieve will outline how the Ministry of Education is moving forward on the government's commitment to modernize child care in Ontario.

11:30 a.m. **Child and Family Systems: The Municipal Perspective**
Dani Grenier-Ducharme, Children's Services Manager, District of Timiskaming Social Services Administration Board
Elaine Baxter Trahair, General Manager Children's Services Division, City of Toronto
Nancy Dickieson, Regional Director of Children's Services, Waterloo Region
Emerging local policy frameworks for the implementation of high quality child care and family support systems enable communities to establish effective strategies for all children and families. Municipal leaders will present their ideas from Northern, rural and urban communities across Ontario and provide their response to the provincial government's recent developments on child care.

12:30 p.m. **Lunch**

1:15 p.m. **Workshops:** (Please select a session from page 2)

3:30 p.m. **Reporting Back: What we have learned today**
Zeenat Janmohamed, Atkinson Centre, OISE and the School of Early Childhood, George Brown College

4:00 p.m. **Closing Remarks**
Jenny Jenkins, Atkinson Chair of Early Childhood Development and Education

Award Presentation
Patricia Chorney Rubin, Director, Community Services and Early Childhood, George Brown College

Jane Bertrand, ECE Award Recipient

4:30 p.m. **Reception**

Join us to recognize the exceptional contributions of Jane Bertrand, a leader amongst leaders and an accomplished early childhood educator and advocate.



WORKSHOPS

(Please select one on your registration form)

1. THE CONTINUUM OF DEVELOPMENT IN GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE LAB SCHOOLS

The continuum of Development is an ELECT tool used to guide educators' observations, documentation, reflection and planning for children's learning and development. This workshop provides opportunities for participants to be introduced to a software tool that was developed to support George Brown College Lab School Early Childhood Educators. It is an opportunity for participants to collaborate with peers in a hands-on training exercise.

SUE FELTOE Manager, Casa Loma Childcare Centre

MARGARET ISNOR Early Childhood Educator, Water Park Place Childcare Centre

VEROUSHKA CORONEL Early Childhood Educator, Casa Loma Childcare Centre

2. SOCIAL COGNITION AND DEVELOPMENT

This workshop explains how social cognition enables children to understand the views of others thereby supporting more effective interaction at home and in-group based environments. Key concepts such as cognitive maturation, children's individualized development and how to facilitate social cognitive development will be explored. Implications for policy and practice will be highlighted.

MARK WADE PhD Candidate and Atkinson Centre Intern, OISE

HEATHER PRIME MA Candidate and Atkinson Centre Intern, OISE

3. THEORETICAL AND CLINICAL PERSPECTIVES ON THE IMPORTANCE OF PLAY AND INTERACTION FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

This workshop will highlight the central role that play and interaction have in the integrated development of young children's regulatory, motor planning, social emotional, social, communication, language and thinking skills. Under the direction of Dr. Stuart Shanker, Distinguished Research Professor of Philosophy and Psychology, this theoretical approach has been the focus of clinical research at the Milton and Ethel Harris Research Initiative and York University for the past 7 years. This groundbreaking work has been published in *Autism*, a peer-reviewed international journal, in September 2011 and featured on CBC: The National earlier this spring. Using examples of young children with complex needs, presenters will provide a multi-disciplinary perspective of how to understand, scaffold and support them in the context of their environment.

AMANDA BINNS M.A., CCC-SLP, Reg. CASLPO, Milton and Ethel Harris Research Initiative

EUNICE LEE M.A., R.S.W., M M.S. ED, Milton and Ethel Harris Research Initiative

K. FAY MCGILL M.A., CCC-SLP., Reg. CASLPO, Milton and Ethel Harris Research Initiative

CHRIS ROBINSON B.S.c., OT, Reg (Ont), Milton and Ethel Harris Research Initiative

4. MODERNIZING CHILD CARE: FROM POLICY TO IMPLEMENTATION

This session will provide an opportunity for facilitated small group discussion about key areas related to the modernization of child care in Ontario.

STAFF, Early Learning Division, Ontario Ministry of Education

KERRY MCCUAIG, Atkinson Foundation Fellow, Early Childhood Policy

