PICCOLO Meeting Draws International Visitors

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A recent three-day research meeting brought together 18 people from five countries to learn about and discuss Parenting Interactions with Children: Checklist of Observations Linked to Outcomes (PICCOLO™). The gathering was hosted by researchers at Utah State University’s Center for Persons with Disabilities.

“It went great,” said Mark Innocenti, director of the CPD’s research and evaluation division and one of the developers of the tool. “People are interested in PICCOLO™. The Chinese participants are working on two different projects—one research study and one possible foundation funded grant.”

Local attendees included Innocenti, Roggman, CPD researcher Vonda Jump Norman, former CPD researcher Gina Cook, CPD researcher Eduardo Ortiz, and director of the Emma Eccles Jones Early Childhood Center and CPD Faculty Fellow Lisa Boyce.

View more information about PICCOLO™.

PICCOLO was designed to assess and monitor the quality of parent–child interactions, provides home visiting, parent education, and early childhood programs with valuable information for strengthening parenting practices. Developed for use with parents of children 10–47 months, PICCOLO™ measures 29 developmentally supportive parenting behaviors proven to promote school readiness in four domains—Affection, Responsiveness, Encouragement, and Teaching. The tool was developed after extensive research with more than 2,000 diverse families. Results from the PICCOLO™ will help programs provide positive feedback to parents, plan individualized family interventions, and measure program effectiveness.