Equipping and Empowering Teachers:
How Colleges are Using the Environment Rating Scales as Part of Online and Traditional Courses in Teacher Training Programs

2014 NACCTEP Annual Conference
March 1, 2014
Session Topics

- How do you use the Environment Rating Scales?
- Why the Scales?
- Recent updates to the Environment Rating Scales
- How Trident Technical College uses the Scales
- Features of the Online Training Courses
About the Presenters

- Richard Latham, Trident Technical College
- Cody Carlton, Branagh Information Group
How do you use the Environment Rating Scales?
Why the Environment Rating Scales?
Use of the Environment Rating Scales Around the World

- **Limited Use**
- **Published Translations/Widespread Use**
Recent News in the Environment Rating Scales Family
Children thrive when their health and safety needs are met and healthful habits are established for a lifetime.
Scale Updates

- SACERS Updated
- Virtual Subscales
- ECERS-3
ERS 101

Introductory Course on the Environment Rating Scales
Survey of Teacher Preparation Programs in Higher Education
How are the Environment Rating Scales Currently Being Used?

- Electronic survey distributed to four different groups
  - ACCESS: Associate Degree Early Childhood Teacher Educators
  - NACCTEP: National Association of Community College Teacher Education Programs
  - South Carolina Technical Colleges
  - North Carolina Community Colleges
In what part of the United States is your institution located?
Is your institution a two-year or four-year program?
What credentials/degrees do you offer in early care and education?
Approximately how many students are enrolled in your program?

- Less than 100: 0
- 100-199: 25
- 200-299: 15
- 300-399: 10
- 400+: 0
- Unsure: 0
Which Environment Rating Scales do you currently use in your early childhood courses?

- ECERS-R
- ITERS-R
- FCCERS-R
- SACERS
- We don't use the Scales
If you use one or more of the Environment Rating Scales, do you use the entire Scale or just parts of the Scale?

- We use the entire Scale
- We use parts of the Scale
Which parts of the Scales do you use in your courses?
Are the Scales required texts or recommended texts for your course(s)?
Why do you use the Scales in your course(s)?

- To expose students to instruments used to assess quality of programs in our area
- For students to get an overall picture of what components of quality programs should include
- To have students observe and rate programs
How do you currently use the Scales in your course(s)?

- We use the online introductory training courses
- We encourage students to purchase one of the Scales
- We use the Training DVD with our students
- We review the Scales in class
- We use our own training materials on the Scales with our students
Interested in participating in the survey?

- https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ersisurvey

- Or, email Cody Carlton
  - cody.carlton@ersi.info
How Trident Technical College Uses the Environment Rating Scales
Trident Technical College

- Located in Charleston, SC – serves Berkeley, Dorchester, and Charleston counties

- Part of the South Carolina Technical College System
  - 16 technical colleges across the state

- Second largest public higher education institute in the state

- 400 students enrolled in Child and Youth Studies
Trident Technical College

- Associate of Applied Science in Early Care and Education
  - Career Paths
    - Child Care Professional*
    - Child Care Management*
    - Special Education*
    - School-Age Care and Youth Development
    - *accredited by NAEYC

- Diploma in Applied Science: Early Childhood Development (42 hours)

- Certificates (18-33 hours)
  - Child Care Management
  - Early Childhood Development
  - Infant and Toddler Development
  - School-Age and Youth Development
  - Special Education
ECD 239: Assessment and Program Planning

- This course is designed to help students use assessment and evaluation tools to identify strengths and weaknesses of programs and provide developmentally appropriate practices for young children.

- Taught online.
NAEYC Key Assessment:
   ECD 201 philosophy paper, criterion #4
Understanding the goals, benefits, and uses of assessment—including its use in development of appropriate goals, curriculum, and teaching strategies for young children. (NAEYC Standard 3a)

Excellent: Discuss the goals, benefits, and uses of assessment in early childhood programs. Discuss the benefits of authentic assessment vs. inappropriate assessment.
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Questions???

- Contact Information:
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    - richard.latham@tridenttech.edu