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For Immediate Release

Free Early Childhood Education Workshops

University Park, IL, July 14, 2010 – Children can learn from the messes they create and the songs they sing. The many different ways children learn are celebrated and explained at two free workshops sponsored by the Family Development Center at Governors State University in University Park.

Lisa Murphy, the Ooey Gooey Lady®, will present on August 16, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., in Sherman Hall. Registration begins at 8 a.m.

Murphy is a well-known, early childhood educator and a strong advocate of play based learning. She uses humor and real life anecdotes to engage workshop attendees and share information and activities that combine learning, laughter, and play. She offers inspiration and a wealth of hand-on activities for early childhood educators to use to create child-centered, play based learning environments.

Kathy Poelker of Look at Me Productions, Inc., will lead a music focused workshop on August 20, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., in Sherman Hall. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

Poelker is an award-winning children’s recording artist, author, consultant, and creator of educational music for early childhood. She will present “Let’s Develop the Whole Child - Using Brain Research, Song, Movement, Music, Games, Drama, Dance, and Sensory Motor Fun!” The workshop illustrates how music can and should be incorporated into the early childhood classroom to create a stimulating learning environment.

Both workshops are free and open to early childhood education students and educators. The Family Development Center is committed to offering excellent educational opportunities to the region. School districts are encouraged to register staff members for both workshops.

Parking is free. Governors State University is located at 1 University Parkway, University Park, Illinois. For more information or to register, call (708) 235-7300 or visit www.govst.edu/children.