Continuing the Quest for Quality
SPRING CONFERENCE

COMMUNITY CAMPUS
PORTSMOUTH, NH

Conference Schedule

Friday March 25, 2011

8:00 - 8:30
Registration, Pick up name badges, Join us for a Continental Breakfast

8:30-10:00
Workshop Session #1

10:00-10:15
Break & vendor time in New Heights Gym

10:15-11:45 Workshop Session #2

12:00-1:30 Luncheon in New Heights Gym (Keynote Speaker)
Vendor Time

1:30 - 3:00 Workshop Session #3

3:00 Keynote stickers Available in Lobby (turn in evaluations)
Intentional Language-Understanding the Words We Use with Children

By evaluating the phrases children are being told daily, parents and care providers understand the impact of their words. This workshop looks at ten common expressions adults use with kids.

Discovering language flaws and finding ways to better express ourselves supports healthy relationships with children. Avoiding the pitfalls in communicating with children is the primary focus of this exciting session.

*Scott has been professionally working, playing, writing and talking about children for over twenty years. He teaches a graduate level course in "Challenging Behaviors," and an undergraduate course in "Positive Discipline." Scott’s first book "Positive Discipline - That Works!" is in its fourth publishing. His second book, "Intentional Language" was released in the fall of 2003. His newest reader, "This Child is Driving Us Crazy - What Should We Do?" helps adults develop an effective behavior plan for children with feisty behaviors.

Scott's background includes being,
a primary care provider for abused and neglected children
a lead teacher in a parent cooperative
a nonprofit childcare center director
a state sponsored Child Sexual Assault Prevention trainer
a childcare training specialist
a credentialed Trainer, Mentor, Faculty, Level 2, in New Hampshire
a certified instructor for Vermont Northern Lights Career Development Center

Register on-line at abcseacoast.org or mail this form to the Alliance for Better ChildCare
Conference Registration Form

Please print clearly

Name:_____________________________________________________________________

Organization _______________________________________________________________

Home/Work (please circle) Address: ____________________________________________
                                                                                   ____________________________________________

City:__________________________________State:____________Zip_________________

Daytime Phone Home/Work (please circle) ______________________________________

Email:_____________________________________________________________________

Position___________________________________________________________________

Please indicate a 1st & 2nd choice for workshops in each session using the number assigned to
each workshop. Workshops are limited in size.

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2nd Choice  A__________ B__________ C__________

Registration is limited and is on a first come first served basis

Registration Information
*Early Bird Registration (completed on-line or postmarked by February 28th)
Alliance for Better ChildCare Members $65.00
Non-Members $95.00
Full Time Student Registration $40.00
(Name of college, student ID # and registration signed by advisor)

*Regular Registration (completed on-line or postmarked by March 18th)
Alliance for Better ChildCare Members $75.00
Non-Members $105.00

Checks made payable to the Alliance for Better ChildCare

Yes, I would like to be a member of ABC!!
Enclose the annual membership fee and enjoy member conference price right away.
Membership is:
$45.00 for centers
$20.00 for family providers
$20.00 for a personal membership

1. Please use one registration form per person. The registration form may be re-produced.
4. There will be a $25.00 fee for all returned checks.
5. For more information call: The Alliance for Better ChildCare Coordinator Tammy Hart at (603) 332-2945 or email abc@abcseacoast.org.
6. No confirmation will be sent.
7. Conference fees include lunch and a continental breakfast.
Many Thanks to our Sponsors!!

Department of Health & Human Services-Child Development Bureau

Great Bay Community College

NH Children’s Trust

Directions

From the North: Take Rt 16 South to the Portsmouth Traffic Circle. Take Rt 1 South. At your 6th set of lights take a right onto Peverly Hill Rd. Then take your first left onto West Road. Follow to stop sign and turn Right onto Campus Drive. Follow drive onto campus and park in the First Lot.

From Maine: Take 95 South and exit at the Portsmouth Traffic Circle to get onto Rt 1 South. At your 6th set of lights take a right onto Peverly Hill Rd. Then take your first left onto West Road. At stop sign, turn Left onto West Rd. Follow to stop sign and turn Right onto Campus Drive. Follow drive onto campus and park in the First Lot.

From South: Take 95 North and exit at the Portsmouth Traffic Circle to get onto Rt 1 South. At your 6th set of lights take a right onto Peverly Hill Rd. Then take your first left onto West Road. Follow to stop sign and turn Right onto Campus Drive. Follow drive onto campus and park in the First Lot.

Core Knowledge Areas

1. Developing as a Professional
2. Building Family and Community Relationships
3. Teaching and Learning
4. Promoting Child Growth and Development
5. Observing, Documenting and Assessing
A1. Moving Ahead: Planning your Future Through a Professional Development Plan
Do you like your job now and want to move ahead or in a different direction at some point in your career? This workshop will help participants do a personal SWOT analysis of themselves and identify resources for understanding the qualifications and requirements of jobs in the Early Childhood field. Be ready to leave with an action plan on how to move ahead in this important and exciting field.
Core Knowledge Areas:
Developing as a Professional
Presenter: Anita Ward French is the Program Coordinator of the Early Childhood Education Program at Great Bay Community College in Portsmouth. She is also the Professional Development Chair person for NH Association for the Education of Young Children and has worked with adult students through college courses and workshops since 1994.

A2. Literacy Through Dramatic Play
Giving your brain permission to ‘fire up connections between play and language’ is the premise for this session. Please bring your favorite puppet, book or prop to utilize our hands-on activities. Be prepared to interact, improvise, share and relate to each other and the large group. Utilizing neuroscience and research about language development correlating with success in school by 3rd grade, Debi will give you strategies and techniques for engaging your students/staff and teachers in all aspects of the daily curriculum.
Core Knowledge Areas:
Teaching & Learning
Presenter: Debi Bennis Owner and Educational Consultant for The Harmony Wheel has been sharing her passion for literacy for three decades. Whether it be as an elementary school teacher/reading specialist, drama director or early childhood Ladders to Literacy Mentor, Debi has acquired language developmental nuggets from her years as a nationally certified Parents as Teachers Educator, special needs parent and learning styles advisor. Known for her 'thinking outside of the box' presentations, she will challenge you to look at yourself and approach learning in a new way. Debi makes her home in Epping, but travels throughout the seacoast and New Hampshire, creating seminars/staff development workshops and offering 1:1 learning style quests. Feel free to contact her: debibennis@msn.com

When we talk about Parent Partnership what is the first thing that comes to your mind? Is it fear because you don’t know how to do it or don’t know what it is? Or is it WHY, why are we doing this? What are the benefits? Come and take part in this interactive workshop and we will discuss and brainstorm how parent partnerships can be a benefit to families, agencies and the communities.
Core Knowledge Areas:
Building Family & Community Relations
Presenter: Julie Day BS, Parent Advocacy Director, NH Children’s Trust/Prevent Child Abuse NH

A4. Let’s Get Moving: Music in Early Childhood
Are you bored with your morning circle routine? Let’s kick it up a notch! This workshop will provide you with different music and movement activities to integrate into your curriculum. Also, why spend lots of money on experience materials from catalogs when you can use recycled materials from yard
sales, thrift shops and your own home to create a enriched musical experience for the children in your program!

Core Knowledge Area:
Teaching & Learning

**Presenter: Debra J. Verdicchio** is a Lead Teacher in the Preschool room at Live and Learn Early Center in Lee, New Hampshire. She holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Childhood Studies and Integrated Arts from Granite State College. Debra holds an Early Childhood Master Level 2 credential and an Early Childhood Master Professional credential, as a Workshop Trainer and Individual Trainer.

**A5. Pop, Fizz, Whee! Making Math and Science Come Alive Every Day!**

This workshop will allow participants to play and explore as we look at how to make math and science not so scary. We must make children realize that math and science exist in everything around them. It is refreshing and enlivening. This workshop allows the participants to explore in depth how much fun an open-ended discovery of mathematical and scientific facts can be. The child’s love of learning is linked with a zest for play. Whether children are working on new physical skills, social relations, or cognitive content, they approach life with a playful spirit. We need to define our roles as early educators as the guiders and stage setters for following a child’s wonder and building our math and science curriculum from there.

Core Knowledge Area:
Teaching & Learning

**Presenters:** Johanna Booth-Miner  TMF level II and Director level III is the owner and director of Live & Learn Early Learning Center in Lee, NH. For 35 years through Live & Learn she has worked to meet the needs of and develop an educational partnership among family, Live and Learn Early Learning and the community that works together to maximize the potential of each child. She was a participant the second NAEYC leadership cohort. Johanna has always been active in the professional organizations for Early Childhood professionals, serving 13 years as President of The Alliance for Better ChildCare and now is the Past-President of the New Hampshire Association for the Education of Young Children, (NHAECY).

Sarah Miner  MEd, TMF level III and Director level IV is the Co-Director of Live and Learn Early Learning Center. She has worked in preschool, kindergarten and after school and now in Administration and teaching dance. Sarah earned her Master’s degree in Early Childhood Education and currently is on the Alliance for Better Childcare’s Executive Committee as Marketing and Public Relations and New Hampshire Alliance for Education of Young Children Co-Chair of the Spring Conference. She was a participant the second NAEYC leadership cohort. Sarah is also the mom of two boys ages 5 and 6.

**A6. Inspiring and empowering your students to be the best authors that they can be; the story behind the story of how Shawn became a storyteller and published author.**

Many children feel that there is nothing in their lives interesting enough to write about. I show how the simplest things from everyday life can become interesting and an imaginative story. You will leave my workshop feeling inspired and empowered to help your students be the best authors that they can be. You will be able to help your students feel energized, inspired, and touched with a new appreciation for reading and writing.

Core Knowledge Area:
Teaching and Learning

**Presenter: Shawn Middleton** is a Storyteller, and book Author. Shawn has delivered over 2,500 stories at schools, libraries, early learning centers and festivals. He was on the summer reading tour Kid, Books and the Arts in 2004. Shawn has served as artist in residence at numerous elementary schools throughout the Northeast. Shawn has led storytelling workshops across the region including Washington D.C. for the National Association for the Education of Young Children 2009 Annual Conference and in Anaheim, CA for the National Association for the Education of Young Children 2010 Annual Conference. He is a member of
the League for the Advancement of New England Storytelling and a member of the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Like all things based in nature our outdoor classroom has changed over the years. This workshop will be interactive. The participants will share in how children use a natural outdoor classroom as a learning environment full of open ended discovery. Can you imagine what happens when the swings leave and a mud mountain rises from that open spot, when rocks take the place of blocks, and tree branches become huts? This is a place of natural wonder, it’s unpredictable, exciting, fun and a lesson plan under a log, floating overhead or hanging from a tree.

Core Knowledge Areas:
Teaching & Learning

Presenter: Dave Miner has been a certified playground safety inspector through NH Parks & Recreation since May of 2008. Dave built the entire new addition building at Live & Learn Early Learning Center and then stayed on as the Garden and Outdoor Educator. He has years in construction and building design and is now in charge of facilities and maintenance.

Workshop Session #2
10:15-11:45

B8. AlphaBITS
This workshop, AlphaBITS, is designed for teachers and family providers to increase the use of the alphabet in and around their classrooms by learning new games and seeing new ideas. By utilizing each area to expose and enhance the learning, you will help the children in a “hands on” manner to see, hear, and feel the alphabet around them every day. Repetition works! This workshop supports visual, auditory, and kinesthetic learners alike. Come listen, see, and play games that you can create for each area of your classroom. Teachers will have a chance to have small group discussions and add their favorite creative ideas to the workshop.

Core Knowledge Areas:
Teaching and Learning

Presenter: Deanna Kosciusko graduated from the University of Connecticut at Storrs with a Bachelor of Science in the School of Family Studies. Her concentration was in Early Childhood Education. She has worked with children from infants to kindergarteners since 1985 throughout New England. Deanna has been teaching at ChildsPlace since 1994 and is currently with the kindergarten program.

B9. “I Am Bad, So I Do Bad”!
At your wits end trying to discipline children that defy your authority? Working with children who find it impossible to accept accountability for any negative behavior? Troubled by children that lack empathy and remorse for others? ‘Pervasive Shame’ could be at the core of these behaviors as well as many others. Shame is internalized by a child as extreme feelings of worthlessness. Come and explore possible causes and strategies that can make a difference for a life time! These children need a hero – they need you!

Core Knowledge Areas:
Teaching and Learning
Promoting Child Growth and Development

Presenter: Gail Sharpe is a Child Abuse Prevention Trainer for Prevention & Empowerment. Gail provides staff development for teachers, childcare providers, nurses, clergy, parents & all child advocates/professionals. She also provides Child Abuse Prevention Programming for children (K-6th Grade) and consultations. Gail is a Therapeutic Parent Educator for Prevention & Empowerment and she provides behavioral, social & emotional support to children & families dealing with intense challenges resistant to more typical interventions. She is also an Instructor for Granite State College (Partnership with DCYF) and trains foster parents, residential staff, CPSW, JPPO in all areas of Abuse/Neglect.

B10. Developing A Healthy Brain

The development of the brain begins at conception and continues across the life span. Child care professionals support and promote very young children’s healthy brain development when they use relationships, respect, repetition, routines, and responsive interactions – the “5R’s.” In this session participants identify ways to purposefully use these five strategies in their work infants, toddlers and their families.

Core Knowledge Areas:
Promoting Child Growth and Development

Presenter: Kristin Booth is a Program Specialist at the Child Development Bureau working on both child care scholarship and quality issues. She has been committed to improving the quality and professionalism of child care since she entered the field 18 years ago. Infants and toddlers are her age group of preference. She enjoys time with her family, traveling and being involved with her church.

B11. Class: A Hidden NH Culture

This participatory workshop will focus on how class affects families and their choices, and how provider assumptions can get in the way of working with families and children. The scholarship of Dr. Ruby Payne as well as scenarios and activities will be part of the session. Useful practices for cross-class interactions will be identified.

Core Knowledge Areas:
Building Family and Community Relationships

Presenter: Lynn Clowes, MA is the Director of the Cultural Competency Group at the NH Minority Health Coalition, an organization that has addressed NH cultural competency needs since 1993. In this position, she conducts and facilitates cultural competency workshops and forums for health, mental health, and human service providers as well as educators and business employees that serve culturally, ethnically, and linguistically diverse populations. Beyond workshops, Clowes and her associates provide long and short-term consulting with agencies on organizational culture, culturally competent policies and procedures, and managing workplace diversity among employees or between providers and clients. Clowes speaks French, Spanish, Finnish, and English, has served as an interpreter in Central America Solidarity work, and draws on over fifteen years of experience in cultural exchange and international development to inform her work. Clowes worked as Director of Training at the Mississippi Consortium for International Development at Jackson State University, and received a BA in History from the University of Pennsylvania and a MA in International and Intercultural Management from the School for International Training in Brattleboro, Vermont. She is passionate about educating and learning about the issues of race, culture, and justice.

B12. Let’s Run Up the Hill, Fall Down Together Laughing The Power of Play in Building Strong Teams

Build a cohesive work force in your center through good communication and fun games. Using staff development, help your staff bond and grow together with activities and humor. Come prepared to have fun, try new ideas and expand possibilities for your center.

Core Knowledge Areas:
Developing as a Professional
B13. How to Talk so Kids Will Listen and Listen so Kids Will Talk
This is the foundation program for creating the family of your dreams. The program focuses on fundamental strategies that move you towards values you believe in and understand. Your values. We all want great things for our children, we want them to grow up and be healthy, confident, and capable. How do we get there? In this 4-6 week series, start with basic strategies you can use right after the first class and move to the major components of empathy, fairness, and handling tough issues. You will learn how to actively listen, use natural and logical consequences in a framework that you can understand, and learn a step-by-step problem solving process that really works. All of this happens in an environment that keeps you engaged and involved in the process. Bonus: these strategies transfer to your work and relationship environments as well!
Core Knowledge Areas:
Building Family and Community Relationships
Teaching and Learning

Presenter: John Battye has a Master’s degree in education and has spent 18 years joyfully guiding and teaching children in both public and private settings. John trains parents and teachers in the areas of early literacy education, classroom management strategies, effective communication with kids, leadership development, cooperative learning, and Responsive Classroom. John is the father of four children, aged 7-17 who are great at letting him know when one of his strategies isn’t working. One of the hallmarks of John’s presentations is that they are highly interactive and engaging—as one participant says, “They are a mix of charisma, wisdom and energy!”

B14. Developmental Domains and Messy Art: How open-ended, creative experiences encourage children’s growth and development
Many children today are exposed to “cookie-cutter” approaches to learning: worksheets, pre-cut activities, and scripted programs. Unfortunately, these well-intentioned practices can stifle children’s creativity and inhibit divergent thinking (thinking that encourages many answers to problems). “Messy” art is more than “just playing.” It is the understanding and belief that open-ended art activities encourage process over process, are Developmentally Appropriate, encourage higher forms of mental activity. Participants will have the opportunity to play with messy art activities. They will also learn how to talk to children about their art work, how to develop the “whole child” thorough art making activities, and ways to document art work to help families understand how much their children learn through messy art.
Core Knowledge Areas:
Teaching and Learning

Presenter: Stephanie Therrien has taught in the field of Early Care and Education for several years. She is currently the Program Coordinator for GIRLStart, a National Literacy Program designed to boost young girls literacy skills while also incorporating social and esteem building activities that represent the GirlsInc. philosophy of “Strong, Smart and Bold.” Stephanie also teaches college courses in Early Childhood Education, Child and Family Studies, and Child Development at NHTI-Concord’s Community College, Nashua Community College, and Southern New Hampshire University.
**Workshop Session #3**  
1:30pm-3:00pm

**C15. Successfully Working with Challenging Behaviors**
Are these children spoiled? manipulative? stubborn? obstinate? pushy? The problem with these labels is that they imply that the children's behaviors are contemplated and intentional. We quickly find that usual reward-and-punishment strategies do not work with these children. Working with these kids often makes people feel frustrated, overwhelmed, guilt-ridden, and exhausted. Sometimes we reach the point where we feel the situation is hopeless. So what do we do? This session looks closely at these children and works to develop systems that help them, support you, assist their classmates, and empower their parents.

Core Knowledge Areas:
- Promoting Child Growth and Development
- Teaching and Learning

Presenter: Scott Noyes (See keynote)

**C16. Strengthening Families from Principles to Strategies**
Strengthening Families is a national initiative that provides a framework of strategies and protective factors, which provide a strategic approach to child abuse and neglect prevention. Participants will receive information on obtaining resource materials related to Strengthening Families. They will learn how to utilize assessment tools and strategies in their everyday work with children and families, which build upon strengths within the family. This dynamic training will provide participants the opportunity to learn innovative ways to link various systems that serve children, youth and families through providing information based on the Strengthening Families framework of preventing child abuse and neglect. This training is designed for the Child Welfare professionals to learn strengths based approach to case practice and work in the field based on local and national trends.

Core Knowledge Areas:
- Building Family and Community Relationships
- Promoting Child Growth and Development

Presenter: Jessica Sugrue, M.S., MECP-A.P., mother of three, works for the Department of Health and Human Services, Division for Children, Youth and Families-Child Development Bureau for the State of New Hampshire as the Child Care Training Specialist. She leads Strengthening Families, I am moving, I am learning, Zero to Three and other key quality initiatives in early care and education aimed at providing professional development opportunities to professionals. Jessica earned her Master’s Degree in Human Services with a concentration in Organizational Management and Leadership from Springfield College in 2008. She has over eleven years experience working with families and children in NH.

**C17. Help Me Get Ready To Read**
This interactive workshop is for ALL caring adults who read aloud to children from infancy through their preschool years. Gain valuable information about early literacy concepts and skills, and learn parenting strategies and reading strategies to use to both help young children acquire these concepts
and skills and foster their self-esteem. Marx and Kasok explain criteria for selecting good children’s picture books and offer recommendations for books to read aloud to young children.

Core Knowledge Areas:
Teaching and Learning

Presenters: Susan Marx is a parent educator, writer and editor of educational material for students and teachers, and an elementary classroom teacher. She has led over 600 positive parenting workshops for diverse groups of parents and professionals on a range of topics including creating home-school partnerships, helping children succeed in school, fostering children's self-esteem, encouraging healthy communication, using positive discipline strategies, understanding children’s temperament, and getting children ready for kindergarten. As a writer and editor, Susan prepared materials for reading, social studies, spelling, and language arts textbooks for major textbook publishers. She has taught in classrooms in Massachusetts, California, and New York. Susan has eight grandchildren who love having books read to them especially at bedtime.

Barbara Kasok is a certified as a consulting teacher of reading in Massachusetts. She has taught in elementary school classrooms as well as in federally funded Title I reading programs (K-4). As a project manager, Barbara developed national reading programs and recommended appropriate books for teaching reading in grades K-8. She supervised editorial teams working on developing, writing, and editing manuscript for K-8 reading, language arts, and social studies materials for national publishers. Materials included reading lessons for teachers, reading practice books for children, decodable storybooks for beginning readers, and rhyme and poem books. Barbara has two grandchildren who love to find new books to read in her book basket.

C18. Using the Natural World in Art and Everyday curriculum with Toddlers and Young Preschoolers
Come to the workshop ready to be hands on and experience the art world as a toddler at Live and Learn. You will leave with many activities to bring back to your own classroom both as actual art you have created and also pictures of the art our toddlers have created. Be prepared to be amazed at the beautiful art the youngest in our care can produce! It’s often hard to imagine making meaningful art with toddlers but it can and SHOULD be done often! We will dive right in so don’t be late!

Core Knowledge Areas:
Promoting Child Growth and Development, Teaching and Learning
Observing, Documenting and Assessing

Presenters: Melissa Tucker has a BS from UNH with a concentration in child studies. She is credentialed with the State of NH as a Lead Teacher level IV, Director Level I, and holds current first aid and CPR certifications. She joined the Live & Learn staff in January 2004. She took a two year break to gain valuable experience with another group of toddlers and returned to Live & Learn in August 2009, along with her infant son! Her passion is toddlers as they are ever changing and growing so fast!

Jennifer Forcier is working towards completing her Bachelor’s Degree in Early Childhood Education. She works at Live & Learn Early Learning Center with infants and toddlers.

C19. Music for the Heart and Mind
Have lots of fun while learning songs and sign language with associated classroom activities that nurture self-esteem, increase disability awareness, and enhance respect for others. In addition, we will see how music can enhance competence with phonics and math. While this workshop utilizes music to foster self-esteem, the principals can be used with any of the arts and with academia as well. Good voices are NOT required; only a love for children.

Core Knowledge Areas:
Teaching and Learning
Presenter: Fran Friedman, Ph.D. is a recording artist and music educator. She is winner of the national Parents' Choice Gold Award for the CDs for children. Fran combines her background (Ph.D. in Audiology and Post-Doctorate in Neuropsychology) with her work in music, to enhance children's emotional and academic growth in a fun way.

C20. Sensory Integration: What Every Caregiver Needs to Know
All children have many needs. However, when a child’s sensory deficits impacts functions in everyday life, they have a form of Sensory Integration Dysfunction. This workshop will address the difficulty in the way the brain takes in, organizes and uses sensory information, causing the child to have problems interacting effectively in the everyday environment. Tools will be shared to help understand the role we can play in supporting children adjusting to their world, sense of need, coping with behaviors and environment.

Core Knowledge Areas:
Teaching & Learning
Promoting Child Growth & Development

Presenter: Amy Upton holds a Master of Science in Child and Family Studies and is credentialed as an Afterschool Master Professional and Workshop Trainer and Early Childhood Trainer, Mentor, Faculty Level III. Amy has been in the field of Early Childhood for over twenty years, during which time she founded and directs East Side Learning Center in Concord, New Hampshire. East Side provides care over three children, ranging in age from three to twelve; it is the first and only accredited Afterschool program in New Hampshire. Amy is an adjunct faculty at New Hampshire Technical Institute and consultant for New Hampshire’s Preschool Technical Assistant Network.

C21. Developing Emotional Resilience
Many people feel stress from the day-to-day demands of being in a hectic, challenging work environment. This workshop will help you become aware of your trigger points and give you dozens of options to not only manage your emotions, but understand the tools that you carry every moment to affect the kind of change that makes a difference for children, coworkers, family and most importantly, yourself. You create the target and learn how to aim and fire right towards it.

Core Knowledge Areas:
Developing as a Professional
Building Family and Community Relationships

Presenter: John Battye has a Master’s degree in education and has spent 18 years joyfully guiding and teaching children in both public and private settings. John trains parents and teachers in the areas of early literacy education, classroom management strategies, effective communication with kids, leadership development, cooperative learning, and Responsive Classroom. John is the father of four children, aged 7-17 who are great at letting him know when one of his strategies isn’t working. One of the hallmarks of John’s presentations is that they are highly interactive and engaging—as one participant says, “They are a mix of charisma, wisdom and energy!”