

Using the CLASS to Improve Staff Performance: (But We're Not Keeping Score)

**April 6-7, 2010, Doubletree Guest Suites Historic Charleston,
Charleston, South Carolina**

There are currently many popular tools for rating classroom quality. NAEYC accreditation criteria, along with the ITERS and the ECERS are perhaps the most commonly used. With the re-authorization of Head Start in 2007, yet a new rating scale has appeared on the scene – the *Classroom Assessment Scoring System*, or **CLASS**. Why does the Federal government want to introduce yet another rating scale when we already have plenty? There are two very good reasons.

- ★ The CLASS is an instrument that rates only the quality of staff-child interactions
- ★ Research has demonstrated that the quality of these interactions, particularly in the Domains of Emotional Support and Instructional Support are reliable predictors of success in school. The same cannot be said for items measured by other instruments.

Because the CLASS has been piloted for use in Federal monitoring reviews, there is very high interest in the OHS-sponsored training on scoring classrooms using the CLASS instrument. (*This is not the OHS-sponsored training.*) In **Using the CLASS to Improve Staff Performance**, we are not nearly as interested in keeping score as we are in using the CLASS to make lasting and ongoing improvement in the quality of teacher-child interactions in Head Start classrooms. In order to accomplish this, supervisors, content specialists, and managers need two sets of skills that **Using the CLASS to Improve Staff Performance** provides:

- ★ A working knowledge of CLASS domains, dimensions, indicators, and behavioral markers; and
- ★ The tools to help all staff members, even the most marginal and/or entrenched staff, improve their interactions with children.

This training provides hand-on, nuts-and-bolts strategies for helping staff change the way they think about how they teach and to encourage them to be willing to change not just because we say so (or even because the CLASS says so), but because they believe it is what's best for children. Come to this training to find out how to support your staff through the change that the CLASS represents. Your scores will probably improve as well!

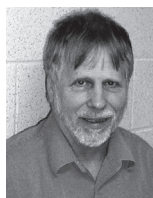
The Standard Registration Fee is \$295 per person. Members of *T/TAS@Your Service* may qualify for the Subscriber Rate of \$280 per person. (Some restrictions may apply based on level of subscription; visit www.ttas.org/ays.html for information on how to become a subscriber.) For details on registering, including how to earn 1.05 Continuing Education Credits (CEUs) for this event, please see page 3.



Learning Outcomes

- Participants will gain a deeper understanding of the CLASS rating criteria.
- Participants will learn to identify specific techniques for supporting staff using CLASS criteria.
- Participants will practice performance feedback techniques based on the CLASS criteria.
- Participants will be able to describe research findings on the relationship between high CLASS scores and school success.
- Participants will be familiar with additional training resources on scoring classrooms using the CLASS.

Your Presenter



Michael Gramling, Human Development Specialist, is a lifelong social justice advocate, and found his professional home in 1979 when he discovered Head Start and embraced its values and its goals - particularly those of enhancing the dignity of families living in poverty and of supporting parents as the primary educators of their children. Mr. Gramling holds a Master's Degree in Human Development from Pacific Oaks College, and is the author of *Positive Guidance: Making A Place for Everyone*.

(TTAS reserves the right to substitute presenters as circumstances warrant.)

Hotel Accommodations

The Doubletree Guest Suites Charleston-Historic District is located at 181 Church Street (at the corner of Church and Market Streets) in historic Charleston. Hotel accommodations are available at the special conference rate of \$129 per night, single or double occupancy (plus applicable taxes). Please make your hotel reservations by contacting the hotel **no later than March 5, 2010** by directly contacting the Doubletree at 843-577-2644 or 877-408-8733.

To qualify for the special conference rate, please state that you will be attending **Head Start Using CLASS to Improve Performance**. The room block will be held until the stated deadline or until the block is sold out, whichever comes first. Reservations are accepted on a space and rate availability basis by the hotel, and room blocks often fill quickly. Please consult the hotel for information on their specific cancellation policies, to learn about additional charges that may apply to hotel guests (i.e., parking fees, local phone charges, internet access fee, etc.), and to learn about available amenities, such as room service, in-house dining, and additional area attractions.

The Doubletree Guest Suites enjoys the most excellent location in the Charleston Historic District, next to the City Market. Our friendly hotel is just steps from famed restaurants, King



Street boutiques, antebellum mansions, "Rainbow Row," Waterfront Park, Charleston's High Battery, historic homes and gardens, theatres, carriage rides, and more. Charleston

International Airport, easily accessible via I-26, is only 20 minutes away. Spacious guest rooms, suites, and executive accommodations feature all the comforts of home and high-speed internet access, and the award-winning Hanks Seafood Restaurant serves the freshest seafood and regional specialties in casually elegant surroundings.

Tentative Agenda

April 6, 2010

8:00 - 8:30 a.m.	Registration and Refreshments
8:30 - 10:15 a.m.	Overview of CLASS Domains, Dimensions, Indicators, and Behavioral Markers
10:15 - 10:30 a.m.	Break
10:30 a.m. - Noon	Overview of CLASS Domains, Dimensions, Indicators and Behavioral Markers (Cont'd)
Noon - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch on Your Own
1:30 - 3:00 p.m.	Incorporating CLASS Indicators into Classroom Observations
3:00 - 3:30 p.m.	Wrap Up

April 7, 2010

8:00 - 8:30 a.m.	Refreshments
8:30 - 10:15 a.m.	Day One Review
10:15 - 10:30 a.m.	Break
10:30 a.m. - Noon	Providing Feedback Using CLASS Observations
Noon - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch on Your Own
1:30 - 3:00 p.m.	Implications for Classroom Practice
3:00 - 3:30 p.m.	Wrap Up, Evaluation, and Adjournment

Registering for T/TAS Events

It is easy to register for events sponsored by T/TAS. There are three methods for registering:

- ★ **To Register On-Line:** To register for any T/TAS event, please go to our web site at www.ttas.org/calendar.html, locate the event you wish to register for, and then click on the **Register** button.
- ★ **To Register By Mail:** Complete and return the attached Registration Form with check, money order, or Purchase Order (made out to T/TAS), or with Credit Card info (Visa, MasterCard, or Discover) to: **T/TAS, 1906 College Heights Boulevard, #11031, Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101-1031.**
- ★ **To Register By Fax:** Complete and fax the attached Registration Form with Purchase Order or Credit Card (Visa, MasterCard, or Discover) information to our office at 270-745-3340 or 270-745-2142.

Registration forms will not be processed unless accompanied by payment, credit card info, or Purchase Order. Registrations will be accepted until events fill.

Enrollment is Limited: T/TAS cannot guarantee enrollment at events. In the event that available enrollment slots fill, you will have the option of being placed on a waiting list in case space reopens due to cancellations. We recommend you do not make hotel or travel arrangements until you receive your registration confirmation. T/TAS is not liable for any hotel or travel penalties or fees that may be incurred by participants or registrants.

Confirmation of Registration: Registrations can only be confirmed by e-mail. Please provide your e-mail address on the registration form if you wish to receive a confirmation. If you do not receive a confirmation within five days of registering for the event, please contact Mike Hartz at 800-882-7482.

Cancellations/Substitutions Policy: If you cancel your registration in writing 10 or more business days before the event, registration fees will be refunded, less a \$25 enrollment charge. No refunds will be made less than 10 business days prior to the event; however, you may designate a substitute to attend in your place. T/TAS reserves the right to cancel the event if enrollment criteria are not met or when conditions beyond our control prevail. In the event of cancellation, each registrant will be contacted. The liability of T/TAS is limited to the refund of registration fees only.

Continuing Education Units (CEUs): Western Kentucky University offers Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for participants successfully completing a T/TAS training seminar. To apply for CEUs, please complete the appropriate section of the attached registration form and include an additional fee of \$25 per person. Consult the event registration form to learn how many CEUs will be offered for each event.

T/TAS Also Brings the Training to You

T/TAS is a leading provider of on-site professional development training and technical assistance. Our knowledgeable experts deliver the same high-quality training and materials in your local program setting, reaching **all** of your staff at a cost competitive with the cost of sending just a few to a conference or seminar. **Most of the events in our annual and quarterly training catalogs can be adapted for presentation in your local program or cluster.**

T/TAS also specializes in designing training specifically for delivery on-site in your local program, including such titles as *Preparing for An On-Site Federal Review*; *Program Governance: Road Map to Success for Decision-Makers*; *Positive Guidance: Making A Place for Everyone*; *Self-Assessment*; *The Supervisor/Mentor Coach Institute*; *Five Parenting Behaviors That Predict Success in School*; *Supporting the Involvement of Fathers in the Lives of Young Children*; and *Ongoing Monitoring: The Key to Quality in Head Start*. To learn more or to schedule training, call 800-882-7482.



Event Registration Form

PLEASE PRINT THE NAME AND POSITION OF THE PERSON ATTENDING exactly as it should appear on the name tag. Copy this form as necessary for registering additional persons.

Name: _____ Position: _____

Agency/Program: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail Address (for Confirmation of Registration): _____

Enrollment is Limited: T/TAS cannot guarantee enrollment in any event. In the event that available enrollment slots fill, you will have the option of being placed on a waiting list in case space reopens due to cancellations. We recommend you do not make hotel or travel arrangements until you receive your registration confirmation. There will be no on-site registration.

EVENT	SELECT FEE(S)
<input type="checkbox"/> USING THE CLASS TO IMPROVE STAFF PERFORMANCE (BUT WE'RE NOT KEEPING SCORE), APRIL 6-7, 2010, DOUBLETREE GUEST SUITES HISTORIC CHARLESTON, CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA	<input type="checkbox"/> Standard Registration: \$295 <input type="checkbox"/> TTAS@Your Service Subscribers: \$280 * <input type="checkbox"/> Check if requesting 1.05 CEUs (10.5 contact hours) from Western Kentucky University and include an additional \$25 in payment.

* Subscribers, please include **TTAS@Your Service** Enrollment No. _____. Some restrictions may apply; visit www.ttas.org/ays.html for information on becoming a subscriber.

Room blocks often fill quickly; please make your hotel reservations by the date listed in the conference descriptions.

CHECK METHOD OF PAYMENT (Forms will not be processed unless accompanied by payment):

- Check payable to T/TAS.
- Purchase Order No. _____ payable to T/TAS.
- Credit Card (Mastercard, Visa, Discover only): _____ - _____ - _____ - _____
 Expiration Date: _____ Signature: _____
Visa Card Users, please include 3-digit V number from back of card: _____

Return to: **T/TAS**
1906 College Heights Boulevard #11031
Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101-1031
Fax: 270-745-3340 or 270-745-2142
Call 800-882-7482 for more information

ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS:
Do you have any disability that requires special materials or services?
Do you have a special dietary need?

Cancellations: To obtain a refund of registration fees (less \$25 enrollment charge), cancellations must be received **in writing** 10 working days prior to the start of the event.