



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jennifer Pelton

E-mail: Jennifer@gesellinstitute.org

Voice: 203-777-3481 ext. 718

Gesell Institute Director Presenting at Three Early Childhood Conferences in China

New Haven, CT (August 6, 2012) – Over the next two weeks Dr. Marcy Guddemi, Executive Director of Gesell Institute of Child Development, will be presenting *Teachers, Parents and Communities Share the Responsibility of Early Childhood Education* at three early childhood conferences across northeastern China.

The conferences are the Yale-China Development Study forum in Beijing; the High Quality Preschool Conference in Shi jia zhuang, Hebei province; and the China National Conference on Early Childhood Education in Dalian, Liaoning province. The third conference will be hosted by the Dalian Municipal Education Bureau and *China Education Daily*, the country's leading English-language news organization. The *Daily* is printed in nine American cities.

Dr. Guddemi's presentation will focus on how parents, schools, and communities must all work together for the same goal of ensuring the highest quality of early childhood education, which will result in the kind of neighbor, co-worker, employee, and citizen we all want in this world. "It does take a village to raise a child!" says Dr. Guddemi. Her talk utilizes the theories of Uri Bronfenbrenner, James Heckman, and Arnold Gesell.

Marcy will be accompanied by Dr. Walter Gilliam, an Associate Professor of Child Psychiatry and Psychology at the Yale Child Study Center. He is also the Director of the Edward Zigler Center in Child Development and Social Policy, which is a branch of the Yale School of Medicine. Dr. Tong Liu, a Postdoctoral Fellow from the Edward Zigler Center, will also be joining them.

Drs. Guddemi, Gilliam and Liu will be visiting Kindergarten classrooms, teaching about the work of Dr. Arnold Gesell (Gesell Institute's namesake and founding Director of the Yale Child Study Center), and introducing Chinese educators to Gesell Institute's Gesell Developmental Observation Revised (GDO-R). The GDO-R is a unique multi-dimensional assessment system for children ages 2 ½ to 9 that can assist parents, educators, and other professionals in understanding a child's behavior in relation to typical growth patterns. It involves direct observation of a child's growth, academic achievement, and social and emotional development. Gesell assessments have been used as a standard of measure of child growth and development for over 85 years.

Gesell Institute of Child Development is an independent non-profit organization associated with how children grow and learn since 1950. The work of Arnold Gesell, PhD, MD (1888-1961) has had a profound influence on the field of child development. Based on Dr. Gesell's pioneering work documenting infant and child growth and development, Gesell Institute's programs and publications help parents and educators understand the ages and stages of childhood. Professional development and parent workshops cover a broad range of topics regarding child behavior, healthy growth and development, and positive learning outcomes. For additional information and resources, visit www.gesellinstitute.org. Gesell Institute is on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube. # # #