

**Guglielmo Endowed Chair in Developmental Disabilities  
California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA)**

**Distinguished Lecturer Presentation  
April 6, 2016 5:00 – 7:30 pm  
Golden Eagle Ballroom - CSULA**

**Dr. Connie Kasari, UCLA**

**Early Intervention for ASD: Active Ingredients and Deployment to the Community**



**Connie Kasari** is a *Professor of Human Development and Psychiatry at University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)*. She received her Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and was a NIMH postdoctoral fellow at the Neuropsychiatric Institute at UCLA. Since 1990 she has been on the faculty at UCLA where she teaches both graduate and undergraduate courses, and has been the primary advisor to more than 40 PhD students. She is a founding member of the Center for Autism Research and Treatment at UCLA. Her research aims to develop novel, evidence-tested interventions implemented in community settings. Recent projects include targeted treatments for early social communication development in at-risk infants, toddlers and preschoolers with autism, and peer relationships for school-aged children with autism. She is on the science advisory board of the Autism Speaks Foundation, and regularly presents to both academic and practitioner audiences locally, nationally and internationally.

**Description of Presentation:**

Early interventions have been critical for improving the lives of individuals with autism spectrum disorder. Notable achievements include the significantly smaller number of nonverbal children entering school, and the larger number of children accessing the core curricula. Despite these successes, we have much to improve. This talk will address current knowledge of the efficacy of early social-communication interventions with a focus on active ingredients of interventions, decreasing the research to practice gap, and accessing effective interventions in the community.

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The purpose of the Endowed Chair in Developmental Disabilities, originally established in 1981, was to achieve the following goals.

- Development of research emphasis in developmental disabilities
- Further development of teaching excellence, through teaching as well as refinement of course material and training
- Development of Division's potential to provide leadership relative to legislative changes.
- Increase the scope and quality of involvement in community programs service individuals with developmental disabilities
- Develop or assist in the development of public service conferences and seminars in developmental disabilities and provide leadership for graduate students in developmental disabilities
- Provide leadership in staff development for local school districts, community agencies, and university faculty.

There is **no charge** for this event, but reservations are required. Contact the Division of Special Education & Counseling at CSULA (323)343-4400 or email [jhua4@calstatela.edu](mailto:jhua4@calstatela.edu).