

# ψ Spring 2017 Colloquium

*the Department of Psychology presents...*

## **The Art of Camouflage: Gender differences in the social behaviors of girls and boys with ASD**



### **Michelle Dean, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor  
Special Education

***CSU Channel Islands***

**Abstract:** The presentation will focus on two research studies that examined the social behaviors of girls with ASD in relation to boys with ASD and typically developing boys and girls. I will describe how children with ASD choose friends and socialize at school, and highlight evidence of a male bias in our perception of ASD. The study findings illustrate how male social groups are as conducive to exposing the social challenges of boys, as female social groups are to camouflaging the social challenges of girls. Finally, I will discuss the risk factors related to being a girl with ASD with social challenges at school. Related to the research findings, I will discuss future directions for research and school-based interventions.

**Wednesday, 3.15.17 3:30-4:30 PH1 140**