Abbeduto, Leonard, Ph.D.  Director, UC Davis MIND Institute and Tsakopoulos-Vismara Endowed Chair, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, School of Medicine

Biography

Dr. Abbeduto’s research at the UC Davis MIND Institute focuses on the development of language across the lifespan in individuals with neurodevelopmental disorders. His current projects focus on the factors accounting for variation in the course of language in children, adolescents, and young adults with fragile X syndrome, autism, or Down syndrome. These projects seek to identify the behavioral, biological, and environmental influences that shape language in these conditions. Other projects focus on the development of methods to optimize language development through parent-mediated interventions and the role of telehealth technology in the delivery of these interventions. Dr. Abbeduto’s research has been funded virtually continuously by the National Institutes of Health since 1984. He is the editor of the American Journal on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, which is the flagship journal of the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Dr. Abbeduto is also Director of the NIH-funded Interdisciplinary Training Conference on Developmental Disabilities, which is designed to foster an interdisciplinary approach to research on neurodevelopmental disorders in the next generation of scientists.

Current Publications

Journal Articles


**Chapters**


**Presentations**

**Abbeduto, L.** (2011, February). *Language development and fragile X syndrome: Phenotype, variation, mechanisms, and treatment.* Colloquium series presentation, Nisonger Center, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.


disorders: Implications for eye tracking trajectories in autism and fragile X syndrome. Poster presented at the 10th annual meeting of the International Meeting for Autism Research, San Diego, CA.


Research Funding

Social-affective bases of word learning in fragile X syndrome and autism. R01 HD054764 3/8/08-2/28/13, approx. $2.1 million (direct costs). Principal Investigator

Cognitive precursors of language impairment in Down syndrome. R01 HD055345 2/20/09-1/31/14, approximately $2.1 million (direct costs). Co-Principal Investigator (F. Conners, University of Alabama, PI)
Parent Mediated Language Intervention for young children with fragile X syndrome: A pilot efficacy study. National Fragile X Foundation, 10/1/10-9/30/12, $75,000 (direct + indirect costs). Principal Investigator

Language development in fragile X syndrome. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, R01 HD204356, 2/20/12-1/31/17, $2,600,000 (direct + indirect costs). Principal Investigator

Community Service

Editor, American Journal on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Member, NIH NICHD Division of Scientific review, Behavioral and Biobehavioral study section, (2010-2014)

Director/Principal Investigator, Interdisciplinary Training Conference in Developmental Disabilities, R13HD05770, 7/09-7/14, $105,000)