**Supporting Students with Autism, Communication, & Behavioral Challenges**

Presented by: Pat Mirenda, Ph.D., BCBA-D  
Hosted by: UM-NSU CARD

### June 23-24, 2016

8:30 am – 3:30 pm  
Registration begins at 8:00 am

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<th>Nova Southeastern University</th>
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| Health Professions Division - Room 2102  
3200 S. University Drive  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33314 |

### About the Presenter

Dr. Mirenda is a professor in the Department of Educational & Counseling Psychology and Special Education and director of the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research and Collaboration in Autism at the University of British Columbia. She is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst and a fellow of both the American Speech Language Hearing Association (ASHA) and the International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC). She is a co-author of the 4th edition of *Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC): Supporting Children & Adults with Complex Communication Needs* (2013) and a co-editor of *Autism Spectrum Disorders and AAC* (2009). In addition to publishing numerous research articles and chapters, Dr. Mirenda frequently presents at international, national, and regional conferences.

### Training Description

**Day 1: Evidence-based AAC for Students with ASD** - The first day familiarizes participants with the current evidence base for the use of augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) with individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Topics include a brief tutorial on evaluating AAC practices as "evidence-based," an overview of recent meta-analyses that examined the efficacy of various AAC techniques for individuals with ASD, and the use of functional behavior assessment (FBA) for problem behavior with examples of how FBA has been used in the AAC literature.

**Day 2: Including Students with ASD & Other Developmental Disabilities in General Education Classrooms - All Means All** - Day 2 focuses on inclusive education as a school reform issue that emphasizes social engagement and active participation in grade-level curricular content for all students. Topics include supports needed at the district and school levels, social supports, and the application of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) to students with ASD and other developmental disabilities across the range of age and ability.

### Training Objectives

**Day 1** - Participants will be able to define and describe:
- Two approaches for assessing the quality of research evidence related to a specific practice.
- The state of research evidence for commonly-used AAC interventions.
- Functional behavior assessment, the five elements that comprise it, and why it is important in the treatment of problem behavior.
- Examples of each of the four primary functions of behavior.

**Day 2** - Participants will be able to define and describe:
- Inclusive education, including what it is and what it is not.
- Three components necessary for social inclusion in schools.
- UDL and the three levels of the UDL pyramid.
- Three main UDL principles and applications for students with ASD or other developmental disabilities.