THE NISONGER CENTER
BROWN BAG SERIES PRESENTS:
"Language Development and Fragile X Syndrome: Phenotype, Variation, Mechanisms, and Treatment"

Please Join Us:
Wednesday, February 9th, 2011
12:00 – 1:00
243 McCampbell Hall

Presenter: Leonard Abbeduto, PhD, is the Charles J. Anderson Professor of Education in the Department of Educational Psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is also the Associate Director for Behavioral Sciences and the Director of the University Center of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities at the University’s Waisman Center. His current research is designed to investigate (1) the role of child behavioral profiles, genotype, and parent-child interactions in the emerging language phenotype of fragile X syndrome and (2) the impact of having a child with fragile X syndrome on parental well-being. His research has been funded virtually continuously by NIH since 1984. Dr. Abbeduto has published more than 90 articles, chapters, reviews, and books. In 2008, he received the prestigious Kellett Mid-Career Research Award form the University and the distinguished faculty Achievement Award from the School of Education. Dr. Abbeduto is the current editor of the American Journal on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and is a fellow of the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. He is also the President of the Academy on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and the President of Division 33 of the American Psychological Association.

Topic: Fragile X syndrome is the leading cause of inherited intellectual disabilities and the most common known cause of autism spectrum disorders. Dr. Abbeduto’s lab has been focused on understanding the emergence with age of the linguistic phenotype of fragile X syndrome. He will present data on the nature and extent of language problems in this population and on the factors that contribute to within-syndrome variation in language. He also will briefly describe the implications of research for measuring outcomes in clinical trials, as well as a recently initiated language intervention study.