Thursday, October 6, 2016
Why People Don’t Want to Know What is Causing the Radical Increase in Autism

Donald N. Cardinal, Ph.D.
Professor of education, College of Educational Studies

Autism has taken the world by storm. The once rarely discussed disability has been omnipresent in the popular media. Is it environmental, the byproduct of pharmaceutical company greed or a conspiracy between corporations and the Center for Disease Control? The CDC reports the rate of autism among children is 1 in 68, up from 1 in 150 just a decade earlier.

Professor Cardinal will share the results of a recent study conducted by the Thompson Policy Institute where the increased rates of autism can be explained in California's children by shifts in past policy, along with a changing perspective on neurologically diverse children and adults. Once thought of as deserving of a lifelong sentence in state hospitals, today, those with autism are demanding to be heard and be considered participants of life. In this presentation, science will meet the social movement of neurodiversity.

Thursday, November 3, 2016
Waging Faith-Based Wars: Explaining the American Roots of Global Conflict

Gregory Daddis, Ph.D.
Associate professor, Wilkinson College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences; Director, War and Society M.A. Program

How do Americans talk about war, justify its use, and what assumptions are made when we decide to employ and support military force overseas? In an era of what American policymakers are calling “persistent conflict,” it seems worthwhile to consider how the United States’ deployment of military power during the last 50 years has rested on a certain set of beliefs—convictions oftentimes resting on what we expect from war and on what we see as the overall utility of war. Policymakers and citizens alike maintain an enduring faith that our nation, via its military forces, has the power to transform societies abroad. This presentation offers insights into Chapman’s new M.A. in war and society graduate program.

Thursday, March 2, 2017
The Performing Arts at Chapman and Beyond: A 21st Century Vision

Giulio M. Ongaro, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Performing Arts

With the opening of the magnificent Musco Center, the performing arts are at a defining moment in their history at Chapman University. At the same time, the traditional business model of the performing arts in our society seems to be inadequate, with opera companies, orchestras, theatres and dance groups often struggling to stay afloat, or closing their doors. There is an intense debate going on among professionals and educators in the performing arts, trying to figure out what will attract audiences and continue to make performing arts a vibrant part of society in the 21st century.

Dr. Ongaro will focus on what makes most performing arts students different from the general Chapman student population, the range of careers available to them, the set of skills needed in the performing arts world, and what it all means at Chapman and on a bigger stage.

Thursday, May 4, 2017
Mapping Discovery in Schmid College

L. Andrew Lyon, Ph.D., Dean, Schmid College of Science and Technology
Georgiana Bostean, Ph.D., Assistant professor of environmental science, health and policy, Schmid College of Science and Technology, Wilkinson College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

How does one’s environment support healthy behaviors and improve our overall wellbeing? This is just one of the many questions being asked by faculty at Schmid College, where collaborative, interdisciplinary approaches to research are vital to the process of discovery. In this presentation, Dean Lyon and Dr. Bostean will discuss a range of important questions about the roles of society and environment in health.