Autism: Human Social Behavior and Communication
March 19, 2014, with Catherine Lord, Ph.D.

CATHÉRINE LORD, PH.D., is a clinical psychologist whose influential work has helped to shape worldwide standards for diagnosing autism. Her research seeks to identify effective treatments for autism by better understanding the behaviors associated with the disease and characterizing its course throughout the lifespan. She is the founding director of the Center for Autism and the Developing Brain—which is part of NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, Weill Cornell Medical College and Columbia University Medical Center. The Center focuses on finding the most effective behavioral therapies for children and adults with autism. Lord’s recent long-term studies of children with autism are providing new insights into the course of the disease and establishing an evidence base for effective treatments.

More Years, More Life: Potentials and Challenges of Brain Aging
May 14, 2014, with Ursula M. Staudinger, Ph.D.

URSULA M. STAUNDINGER, PH.D., is a lifespan psychologist who is internationally renowned for her research on aging. Her work focuses on the plasticity of the aging process and on the opportunities and challenges that longer lives present to society. Her findings provide helpful advice for life, work, and education in times of demographic change. She joined Columbia University’s Mailman School of Public Health in July of 2013 as the founding director of the new Robert N. Butler Columbia Aging Center. The Center will be a global hub for interdisciplinary aging research and knowledge transfer to policy makers, the private sector, and the general public.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE EMAIL ZUCKERMANINSTITUTE@COLUMBIA.EDU