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**Rose F. Kennedy Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Center (IDDRC)**  
**Seminar Series**

Director: Steven U. Walkley, DVM, Ph.D.

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# Craniofacial and brain dysmorphology in autism and schizophrenia

## Curtis Deutsch, Ph.D.

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**Kennedy Center (Room 901): 1:30pm, Monday, July 16, 2012**



**Biographical Notes:** Dr. Curtis Deutsch conducts research in psychiatric genetics and developmental neurobiology at the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center and the Longwood Medical Area in Boston. In recent years, he has focused on analyses of craniofacial and brain dysmorphology in autism, in both multiplex patients (from the Autism Genetics Resource Exchange) and subjects from the Simons Simplex Collection. He is currently relating these phenotypes to molecular genetic markers.

For more information, visit:

<http://profiles.umassmed.edu/profiles/ProfileDetails.aspx?From=SE&Person=529>

**Abstract:** This talk will discuss the relationship between craniofacial anomalies and neuropsychiatric illness. How might this relationship arise? Since brain and craniofacial morphology arise from common primordia and are molded by shared forces, it is hypothesized that pathogenic processes result in both psychopathology and dysmorphology. Thus, specific classes of craniofacial dysmorphology may delineate brain maldevelopment. These dysmorphic features may be of major diagnostic significance, indicating general classes of altered morphogenesis or specific malformation syndromes. The speaker will provide worked examples for this approach, and relate these embryologically-derived measures to genetic findings. Moreover, quantitative diagnostic methods, based on 3D stereophotogrammetric imaging, will be highlighted in the course of the seminar.