

UC Davis MIND Institute Distinguished Lecturer Series

October 6, 2022 | 4:30 – 6 p.m.

Michelle Sie Whitten

**President & CEO, Co-Founder
Global Down Syndrome Foundation**

A Renaissance for Down Syndrome Research and Medical Care

Presentation

Global Down Syndrome Foundation Co-founder, President and CEO Michelle Sie Whitten will discuss the impact of the first research and medical institute dedicated to improving the lives of people with Down syndrome. Whitten will highlight promising clinical trials aimed at improving immune system disorders, cognition and regression. She will also share exciting advancements in advocacy and National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding. Attendees will learn about the foundation's 10-year national plan, medical care guidelines published in the Journal of the American Medical Association and how to support change for good.

About the Speaker

Michelle Sie Whitten is the president and CEO of the Global Down Syndrome Foundation (GLOBAL). She co-founded the organization in 2009, after giving birth to her daughter Sophia, who happens to have Down syndrome. GLOBAL is the largest non-profit in the U.S. working to save lives and improve health outcomes for people with Down syndrome. GLOBAL's medical publications include *GLOBAL Medical Care Guidelines for Adults with Down Syndrome*®, *Prenatal Testing and Information about Down Syndrome*, and the award-winning magazine *Down Syndrome World*™. GLOBAL also organizes the Be Beautiful Be Yourself Fashion Show, the largest Down syndrome fundraiser in the world. GLOBAL's hard work has resulted in a quadrupling of the Down syndrome research budget at the NIH. Prior to her career in the non-profit sector, Michelle was a cable TV pioneer in East Asia. She holds a Masters in Regional Studies – East Asia and a Graduate Certificate in Business Administration from Harvard University. She studied Mandarin Chinese at Peking University and graduated magna cum laude with a B.A. in Asian Studies from Tufts University.



Event information

Distinguished Lecturer Series talks begin at 4:30 p.m.

All lectures are free and open to the public. No reservations are needed.

Seating is available on a first come, first-served basis. These presentations are intended for both professionals and community members.

This lecture will be livestreamed on Facebook and will be available for viewing on the MIND Institute YouTube channel.

**UC Davis MIND Institute
2825 50th Street
Sacramento, CA 95817**

Masks required for in-person attendance.

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