

CAMPUS NOTES

Autism Institute at FSU making strides

For the first time, toddlers with autism have demonstrated significant improvement after intensive intervention by parents rather than clinicians, according to a new FSU study published online in the journal *Pediatrics*. Amy Wetherby, director of the Autism Institute at FSU'S College of Medicine, was the lead author of the pediatrics study. Social communication includes eye gaze, facial expressions, gestures, sounds, sharing of emotion, listening, learning to understand words, discovering how to use objects — things that children with autism have difficulty learning. With National Institutes of Health support, Wetherby and her team are working with Emory University to identify autism and begin intervention in children as young as 12 months.