The etiology of gender dysphoria (GD) is traditionally believed to be linked to prenatal and early post-natal sex hormone exposure. However, brain imaging studies employed to test this notion, while being largely consistent in showing structural and functional differences among cisgender male and female controls, seem rather inconsistent with respect to findings in subjects with GD. Another fundamental problem is that the majority of the available brain imaging data do not address the principal feature of GD, a strong perception of incongruence between one’s self and one’s body. The talk presents new brain imaging data challenging the general view about a “sex-atypical” cerebral dimorphism in GD, and proposes that a hallmark for this condition is functional and structural hypo-connection within self-own body perception processing networks.

Ivanka Savic-Berglund, MD, PhD
Professor of Neurology
Karolinska Institute
Stockholm, Sweden

May 4, 2017 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Neuroscience Research Building (NRB 132)
635 Charles E. Young Dr. South

For more information contact: Mary Susselman (310-206-4291, mwalker@mednet.ucla.edu)