Biolinguistic Investigations on the Language Faculty

January 26-28, 2016
Pavia, Italy

Invited speaker
Ken Wexler, MIT

A conference organized by the International Network in Biolinguistics, UQAM and the NeTS Center at IUSS, Pavia

This conference aims to contribute to our understanding of the human capacity for language, understood as a generative procedure that relates sounds and meanings via syntax.

While theoretical hypotheses about this relation are part of the generative enterprise since its beginnings, recent developments address the issue in terms of the properties of the ‘language organ’.

Different hypotheses about the properties of the generative procedure, giving rise to the discrete infinity of language, are under discussion, and their connection with biology is open to important cross-disciplinary work.

Advances have been made in human-animal studies to differentiate human language from animal communication.

Contributions from neuroscience also point to the exclusive properties of the human brain for language.

Studies in genetically based language impairments also contribute to the understanding of the properties of the language organ.

We invite contributions presenting theoretical and experimental investigations on the properties of the Language Faculty.

biolinguistics.uqam.ca
nets.iusspavia.it

Conference program

January 26
8.00-9.00 Registration
9.00-9.15 Welcome
9.15-10.00 Renato Chierchia, ‘Developmental Biolinguistic Investigations in Syntax and Semantics (Invited Talk)’
10.00-10.45 Ahmad ‘Erdal, ‘On the Limits of Chomsky: Why Auditory Speech Grammar?’
10.45-11.00 Carla Pagliuca, ‘The Emergence of Syntax’
11.15-12.00 Arie Gaviria et al., ‘A Study on Spanish SIlSub/Intrusion Effect’
12.00-14.00 Lunch
14.00-14.45 Giuseppe Longobardi et al., ‘Animal Language and Multimodal Language Variation within Europe’
14.45-15.30 Guiseppe Longobardi et al., ‘Linguistic Generations of Random Language Argives for Syntax as a Store of Type-Non-Invariant Information’
15.30-16.00 Anna Maria D. D'Addabbo et al., ‘Language Faculty, Language Development and Object Permanence in Neonates’
16.15-18.00 Poster session
‘Girino’

January 27
10.30-11.00 Simona Thomas, ‘Architecture (Cortical and Subcortical) and Language Processing’
11.45-12.30 Maritza Amador, ‘Neural Subcortical Correlates of Language Production’
12.30-14.00 Lunch
14.00-14.45 Edward Huang et al., ‘FOXP2 and Language: A Multi-Disciplinary View’
15.30-16.00 Break
16.00-16.45 Mirko Galmi et al., ‘Electrophysiological Evidence of Inattentional Suppression and Reconfiguration in Human Auditory Cortex’
16.45-17.30 Nora M. Moros et al., ‘Visuo-spatial and Other Biolinguistic Issues in Phonology’
17.30-18.00 Break
18.00-18.45 Joanna Rossello, ‘Language Extremization In Not!’

January 28
8.00-8.30 Symposium: The Language of Schizophrenia: New Questions for Biolinguistics
9.00-9.30 Peter McRae, ‘Every Word You Want to Know About Schizophrenia Language But Were Afraid to Ask’
10.00-11.30 Break
11.30-12.15 Wolfram Hynen, ‘The Positive Symptoms of Schizophrenia: A Light-Filled Brain in Calligraphy’
12.15-13.00 Lunch
14.00-14.45 Mark BCS et al., ‘Language, Pragmatics and Social Cognition in Schizophrenia’
14.45-15.30 Emanuele Casali et al., ‘Quantitative Speech and Language in Schizophrenia: The Perspective From Brain Imaging’
15:30-16.15 Round Table on the Language Faculty and Schizophrenia
16.15-17.00 Closing remarks