SOCIETY FOR THE NEUROBIOLOGY OF LANGUAGE

SNL 2021
October 5–8

Important Deadlines

June 21
Board of Directors election opens

Neurobiology of Language

Job Postings & Announcements

If you have a job posting, general announcement, or conference/workshop notice that you would like to include in the SNL Newsletter, please send it to
newsletter@neurolang.org

Join Our Mailing List

SNL 2021 (Virtual Edition)

Plans for SNL 2021 (Virtual Edition) are well underway! The SNL Board of Directors and Program Committee are committed to making the meeting accessible to members from across the globe and showcasing contributions from scientists with diverse perspectives, disciplines, and demographics.

Abstract submissions are currently out for review. Notification of Accepted Abstracts are scheduled to be sent July 19. ALL accepted abstracts will be delivered as slide presentations, either a traditional 15-minute slide talk or a "slide slam." Slide Slams will feature thematically organized programs of 5-minute mini-talks, followed by a live discussion/Q&A including all presenters. These dynamic sessions will replace poster sessions and have been designed to increase visibility and ensure a more interactive discussion space for all our SNL presenter's planned work.

In the up and coming weeks, SNL will be announcing the scientific program, which will include three invited Keynote speakers and three selected Symposia.

We look forward to seeing you at the 13th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Neurobiology of Language (Virtual Edition)!

Job Postings

Research Professors & Research Associates positions at the BCBL- Basque Center on Cognition Brain and Language (San Sebastián, Basque Country, Spain) www.bcbl.eu

The Basque Center on Cognition Brain and Language (San Sebastián, Basque Country, Spain) offers**Research Professors & Research Associates** research fellow positions in seven main broad areas of research:

- **Language development across the life span**
- **Speech perception, productions and disorders**
- **Reading and dyslexia**
- **Multilingualism**
- **Neurodegeneration, brain damage and rehabilitation**
- **Language and other cognitive systems**
- **Advanced methods in cognitive neuroscience**

The Center promotes a rich research environment without substantial teaching obligations. It provides access to the most advanced behavioral and neuroimaging techniques, including 3 Tesla MRI, a whole-head MEG system, four ERP labs, a NIRS lab, a baby lab including an eyetracker, two eyetracking labs, and several well-equipped behavioral

labs. There are excellent technical support staff and research personnel (PhD and postdoctoral students).

We are looking for cognitive neuroscientists or experimental psychologists with a background in psycholinguistics and/or neighboring cognitive neuroscience areas, computational modelers, and physicists and/or engineers with fMRI/MEG expertise.

These permanent positions are for researchers willing to develop a long-term scientific career in the Basque Country. This call is open both to established researchers as Research Associates, with 8 to 12 years of postdoctoral experience; and senior leading researchers as Research Professors, with longer research experience. The applicants must have their PhD completed before January 2013.

Applications from women researchers are specially welcome.

An acceptance letter of the host institution Scientific Director is mandatory.

To submit your application please follow this link**https://calls.ikerbasque.net/**

Deadline: *September 10, 2021, at 13:00, CET*

For further information please contact the Scientific Director of BCBL, Manuel Carreiras **(info@bcbl.eu**)

The Collaborative Research Centre CRC 1287 "Limits of Variability in Language: Cognitive, Computational, and Grammatical Aspects" in Potsdam, Germany, invites applications for 10 positions for PhD candidates and Postdocs available from July 2021 for a duration of four years

The linguistic system exhibits a high degree of variability at all levels of linguistic description. This variability in language can be characterised as a range of different possible linguistic behaviours that are available to an individual language user, a group of language users, or in specific languages. The variability is limited by the constraints of the underlying linguistic system and shaped by cognitive and social or communicative factors. This variability is not just reducible to random noise but provides an important source of information to explain and predict linguistic behaviour. By modelling the factors influencing linguistic behaviours, the CRC (21 PIs in 13 scientific projects, one transfer project, and three service projects) contributes to a better understanding of the underlying mental representations and processing architectures in individual language users, as well as of the grammatical options available in individual languages and specific linguistic varieties, and options shared by particular subgroups of languages users.

The CRC provides a fantastic research infrastructure including a large interdisciplinary network of researchers, its own graduate school (successful PhD candidates and Postdocs automatically become members of **the MGK** - Integrated Research Training Group), and funding opportunities for conference visits, summer schools, hosting international experts etc.

Applicants can apply for one or more of the**following projects** according to their interest and qualification:

B01:(In)Variability in prosodic cues and their incremental use in perception, production, and interaction (Isabell Wartenburger, Outi Tuomainen, Sandra Hanne)

B02: The link between production and comprehension. Insights from aphasia (Frank Burchert, Nicole Stadie)

B03: Modelling the connection between eye-movement control, sentence processing, and brain signals (Shravan Vasishth, Ralf Engbert, Milena Rabovsky)

C03: Effects of variable input on word learning and word recognition in infants (Barbara Höhle, Adamantios Gafos)

C06: Grammatical processing and syntactic change (Ulrike Demske, Claudia Felser)

C07: Limits of variability in phonotactic acquisition due to universal biases: A cross-linguistic investigation of monolingual and bilingual infants (Natalie Boll-Avetisyan)

C08: Consequences of head-argument order for syntax (Gisbert Fanselow)

T01: Transforming text across media (Manfred Stede, Tatjana Scheffler)

The University of Potsdam has a vibrant and interdisciplinary scientific community spanning many disciplines, including leading groups in the field of cognitive sciences (http://www.uni-potsdam.de/en/cognitive-sciences/index.html). The University is located in the city of Potsdam, which is connected to Berlin city centre via a quick 30-minute train ride. Potsdam is an attractive historical city and its palaces are a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Both cities are culturally vibrant and offer an unparalleled quality of life, as well as affordable cost of living.

The University of Potsdam aims to increase the proportion of women in research and teaching and therefore expressly invites qualified female candidates to apply. The University of Potsdam values the diversity of its members and pursues the goals of equal opportunities regardless of gender, nationality, ethnic and social origin, religion/belief, disability, age, sexual orientation or identity. In the case of equal suitability, women in accordance with Section 7 (4) BbgHG and people with a severe disability will be given preferential consideration. We explicitly invite applications from abroad and from persons with a migration background.

A detailed description of the available positions and the respective requirements can be found here**http://www.uni-potsdam.de/sfb1287/vacancies**.

Postdoctoral researcher in Auditory Neuroscience, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

The University of Connecticut (UConn) is pleased to invite applications for a postdoctoral position in the Department of Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences.

Erika Skoe, at the University of Connecticut, is seeking a postdoctoral auditory neuroscientist to join her team to work on an NSF-funded project on bilingualism and auditory system aging. The project combines EEG-based and MRI-based methods to compare Spanish-English bilinguals to monolingual English speakers.

The position has a flexible start date. The initial appointment is one year and renewable for up to three years total, with a preference given to those who can commit to at least two years in the position. The position includes opportunities for professional development and interdisciplinary training, as well as the opportunity to be part of the large and vibrant community of language and auditory researchers at the University of Connecticut.

Minimum Qualifications
· Ph.D. in communication sciences and disorders, psychology, neuroscience, or related fields.
· Expertise in MRI and/or EEG data collecting and processing.
· Strong evidence of research productivity.
· Excellent verbal and written English communication skills
· Strong interpersonal skills.

Preferred Qualifications
· Programming experience in R and MatLAB.
· Experience with clinical audiological methods.
· Conversational Spanish.

Appointment Terms
This is a full-time, 12-month position with an anticipated start date of September 1st. The successful candidate's academic appointment will be at the Storrs campus.

To Apply
Please apply online at **https://hr.uconn.edu/jobs**, Staff Positions, Search #495334 to upload a recent CV, a brief statement of research interests (1 page), and the contact information for 2 references.

Please email Erika Skoe (**Erika.skoe@uconn.edu**) with questions. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis until the position is filled. Applications received prior to July 4, 2021 will be given full consideration.

Employment of the successful candidate is contingent upon the successful completion of a pre-employment criminal background check.

The University of Connecticut is committed to building and supporting a multicultural and diverse community of students, faculty and staff. The diversity of students, faculty and staff continues to increase, as does the number of honors students, valedictorians and salutatorians who consistently make UConn their top choice. More than 100 research centers and institutes serve the University's teaching, research, diversity, and outreach missions, leading to UConn's ranking as one of the nation's top research universities. UConn's faculty and staff are the critical link to fostering and expanding our vibrant, multicultural and diverse University community. As an Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity employer, UConn encourages applications from women, veterans, people with disabilities and members of traditionally underrepresented populations.

The Speech Motor Neuroscience Group at the University of Wisconsin–Madison invites applications for two postdoctoral research positions in the field of speech motor control and learning / speech motor neuroscience.

The group consists of two research labs, the **Brain, Language, & Acoustic Behavior (BLAB) lab** (directed by Carrie Niziolek) and the **Speech Motor Action + Control (SMAC) lab** (directed by Ben Parrell), both funded through grants from the NIH and the NSF. Both postdoctoral scholars will additionally have opportunities to interact with vibrant research communities at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, including the **Waisman Center** (which houses both labs) and the **Neuroscience Training Program**.

Position 1: We are seeking a postdoctoral researcher to investigate the influence of the linguistic system on speech motor planning. This research involves behavioral testing of sensorimotor adaptation using altered auditory feedback. The postdoc will be expected to take a lead role in experiment design, execution, and analysis.

Position 2: We are seeking a postdoctoral researcher to investigate the role of the cerebellum in speech motor control. This research involves behavioral and neuroimaging experiments with individuals with cerebellar ataxia and healthy controls. The postdoc will be expected to take a leading role in the implementation and execution of these experiments, including coordinating with our collaborators at UC, Berkeley and UC, San Francisco.

As a postdoc in the Speech Motor Neuroscience Group, you will also be encouraged to develop additional lines of research in related topic areas, including predictive coding of self-produced vocalizations, feedback-driven speech learning, dynamics of native and non-native speech production, speech motor control in individuals with neurological disorders, computational modeling of the speech motor system, and comparisons of speech and nonspeech motor control systems. Additionally, there are opportunities for developing new studies employing structural and functional MRI, MEG, and TMS. The initial appointment for both positions will be for one year, with potential extensions for additional years.

Required qualifications:
- PhD or equivalent in psychology, cognitive neuroscience, linguistics, communication sciences and disorders, or a closely related field
- A documented history of research productivity
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Leadership and organizational skills

Useful qualifications:
- Experience collecting and analyzing human behavioral data, MEG, EEG, MRI, and/or TMS data
- Computational skills, including MATLAB
- Advanced knowledge and expertise in statistics

Salary and benefits are based on NIH guidelines, commensurate with experience and qualifications. The positions are open until filled. The preferred start date for Position 2 is on or earlier than September 1, 2021.

Interested candidates should email both PIs, Carrie Niziolek <**cniziolek@wisc.edu**> and Ben Parrell <**bparrell@wisc.edu**>, with "**Postdoc Job: (YOUR FULL NAME)**" **in the subject line** to submit (1) a current CV, (2) a one-page cover letter describing qualifications, interests, and career goals, and (3) a list of names and contact information for three references.

PhD positions at UCL Deafness, Cognition and Language Research Centre

UCL Deafness, Cognition and Language Research (DCAL) Centre invites expressions of interest from highly motivated students seeking to undertake a PhD project under its associated degree-programmes. DCAL consists of a multidisciplinary team of linguists, psychologists and neuroscientists that study language, cognition and the brain from the unique perspective of deafness and deaf communication. Applications are invited from students interested in any of these areas.

Funding
Applicants will be supported to apply for funding through different schemes via UCL's Division of Psychology and Language Sciences (e.g. via UK Research Councils, UCL and other funders). Most programmes have deadlines in December/January, and candidates are encouraged to get in touch with potential supervisors as soon as possible to begin to develop an application.

Possible PhD topics include:

- Crossmodal plasticity and multisensory integration
- Cognitive functions in deaf and hearing children and adults
- Reading development in deaf children
- Literacy and language interventions in deaf and hearing children
- Language development and language learning
- Sign language and spoken language processing in the brain
- Music and rhythm through vision and touch in deaf and hearing individuals
- Linguistics of sign languages
- Linguistics of visual/multimodal language

Interested students should get in touch with potential supervisors with a copy of their CV and a one-page statement of their research interests and why they are interested in studying at DCAL. Further information can be found here: For further questions please contact **dcal@ucl.ac.uk**.
Deadline for expression of interest: 1 Nov 2021 for 2022-23 start.

We particularly encourage applications from deaf and hard of hearing students and/or students from minority ethnic groups who are currently under-represented at UCL and DCAL.

UCL is the number one London university for Research Strength (REF2014), recognized for its academic excellence and global impact.

Other

8th Summer Neurolinguistics School - The science of reading: From brain to behavior and back again - 28-30 June 2021 (online)

Center for Language and Brain is happy to invite you to join us for the
8th Annual Summer Neurolinguistics School, to be held **online** on **28-30 June 2021**.
This year's topic is **The science of reading: From brain to behavior and back again**The school will be devoted to the cognitive and neural mechanisms of reading across languages and populations.

Our confirmed **invited lecturers** are:
- **Roelien Bastiaanse**, University of Groningen / HSE University,
- **Hazel Blythe**, Northumbria University,
- **Victor Kuperman**, McMaster University,
- **Brennan Payne**, University of Utah,
- **Fabio Richlan**, University of Salzburg,
- **Debra Titone**, McGill University.

The School will also feature solicited 'flash talks' and oral presentations.

For more information, please see our website:**https://www.hse.ru/en/neuroling/summer_school_2021**, or e-mail us at **neuroling.summer.school@gmail.com**.

Leipzig Lectures on Language 2021—Combinatorics

Leipzig Lectures on Language 2021 is a novel series of online talks on combinatorics in language, where visions in theoretical and experimental linguistics are discussed in combination with cutting-edge empirical methods. The term combinatorics is used here as a cover term for the many definitions of combinatorial processes in the psycho- and neurolinguistics literature including compositionality, combination, composition, binding, merge, blending, etc.

The **Leipzig Lectures on Language** aim to not just capture the current state of the field, but seek to highlight the directions into which junior scholars are currently moving forward. In regular intervals on **Wednesdays always from 1 pm to 2:30 pm (UTC)** between May 19 and September 29, 2021 every lecture provides a platform for a so-called "tandem" of a senior and junior scientist to discuss questions concerning combinatorics in language.

In every session, a senior researcher will first briefly introduce prominent aspects of their theoretical framework related to combinatorics in language, while a junior researcher will then give a more detailed talk on their empirical work. This is then followed by a moderated discussion session to which the audience can contribute by asking questions direclty on YouTube or on Twitter using the hashtag #LeipzigLang21.

The overall goal of this lecture series is to provide answers to questions like: What information do we combine in language? Is this process domain-specific or domain-general? How does the brain support combinatorics

in language? How does combination take place during language acquisition? What kind of cutting-edge empirical methods will bring us further? How can theory influence experimental linguistics and vice versa?

The line-up for the remaining part of 2021 is as follows:
- June 30, 2021: **Molly Flaherty** and **Susan Goldin-Meadow**: Language acquisition; language evolution; sign language; gesture processing
- July 14, 2021: **Pedro Tiago Martins** and **Cedric Boeckx**: Language evolution; emergence of language; speech processing; vocal learning
- July 21, 2021: **Stephan Meylan** and **Roger Levy**: Language development; computational modeling; psycholinguistics; comprehension-production interface; eyetracking
- September 15, 2021: **Giulio Degano** and **Narly Golestani**: Language processing; prosody-syntax interaction; computational modelling
- September 29, 2021: **Bingjiang Lyu** and **Lorraine Tyle**r: Language processing; incremental comprehension; linguistic predictions; speech processing; RSA
- October 20-21, 2021: End-of-Year Symposium: **https://www.cbs.mpg.de/1744420/lll-workshop** **(Abstract submission now open!)**

Accessibility: Live-captioning will be provided for all lectures.

For further details on the lecture series, speakers, dates, and information how to participate please visit: **https://www.cbs.mpg.de/leipzig-lectures-on-language**