



SOCIETY FOR THE NEUROBIOLOGY OF LANGUAGE

SNL 2020 Goes Virtual!

SNL is excited to be hosting its first fully online meeting, which will take place from October 21 through October 24, 2020. While we cannot meet in-person this year, attendees will still be able to enjoy the latest research in the neurobiology of language at SNL 2020 (Virtual Edition). It is our hope that the fully online format will open doors for more participation than ever before!

SNL 2020 features four full days of scientific programming with many of the events that attendees have experienced at past meetings, including three Symposia, four Slide Sessions, eight Poster Sessions, three Awards Talks, as well as Coffee Breaks and Socials. Not only will the virtual format allow attendees to interact live with poster presenters, many presenters will also upload a video walk-through of their poster which will be available online for three months following the meeting. SNL is especially pleased to welcome three esteemed keynote speakers--Jenny Crinion, Elissa Newport, and Hugues Duffau.

While we will miss networking in-person, SNL hopes to provide interactive online opportunities that allow its member scientists to develop relationships that strengthen scientific collaboration. Currently, a [tentative schedule](#) is posted on the SNL website. Be sure to keep an eye out for SNL email bulletins, which will provide detailed information on each event.

Registration opens on Wednesday, August 26 and is \$50 per attendee. You must be an SNL member to register.

SNL 2020
October 21-24, 2020
(Virtual Edition)

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Neurobiology
of Language

Job Postings &
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It's a whole new world, and SNL intends to embrace the opportunity to bring cutting-edge research to everyone. We look forward to seeing you at the 12th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Neurobiology of Language (Virtual Edition)!

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

Important Notice to All Poster & Slide Presenters: Session Preferences Due By August 27

All notifications of accepted abstracts were sent on August 25. **If you have not received a notification, please contact SNL right away.** Because sessions are scheduled over various time zones, not all sessions may be convenient for you. Ideally, we would like to schedule your presentation during a session that is compatible with your local time zone. To help the committee assign sessions to presenters, please login to your SNL account and indicate your preferred sessions. Session preferences are due by end of day on Thursday, August 27.

We look forward to seeing you online at SNL 2020 (Virtual Edition)!



**Registration for SNL 2020
Opens On August 26**



Job Postings and Announcements

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Postdoctoral Fellow

Two postdoctoral fellow positions are available to work on the Project of Strategic Importance Scheme funded by the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) titled 'The neurocognition of typical and atypical language development: Towards developing early biomarkers'. These are two-year positions with the starting date of 1 September 2020.

The research project is an international collaboration between PolyU and Georgetown University. The aim is to identify key neurocognitive substrates of typical and atypical speech, language and reading development, including developmental stuttering, developmental language disorder (DLD) and developmental dyslexia, in Chinese children through cognitive and MRI measures. Headed by Dr. Caicai Zhang, the research team includes several speech language pathologists and cognitive neuroscientists at PolyU (Dr. Angel Chan, Dr. Dustin Lau, Dr. Mehdi Bakhtiar, Dr. Min Ney Wong, Dr. Man Tak Leung and Dr. William Shi Yuan Wang), and an international collaborator Dr. Michael Ullman.

The project is linked to CoBra (Conversational Brains), a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Network funded by the European Commission in the framework of the Horizon 2020 programme.

Responsibilities

The successful candidates will be based at the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies at PolyU and work with the entire research team. Job duties include behavioral and MRI data collection and analysis, paper writing and publishing.

Qualifications

1. Applicants should have a PhD in linguistics, psychology, cognitive neuroscience or related disciplines;
2. Applicants should have research experience in developmental neuroscience or any of the three aforementioned developmental disorders: developmental stuttering, DLD, and developmental dyslexia, with possible qualification/experience for diagnosing any of the three disorders;
3. Experience with MRI data collection and analysis is preferred;
4. It is desirable if the applicant is familiar with Chinese (Cantonese).

Application

Please refer to the post specification [here](#), and send the following materials to Dr. Caicai Zhang at caicai.zhang@polyu.edu.hk.

1. CV;
2. Completed application form for Research/Project posts ([HR Form 7A](#));
3. Two references.

Applicants will be considered until the position is filled.

PolyU is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants, without discrimination against national origin, gender, religion will receive equal considerations for employment.

University of Rouen Normandy (France)

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Research profile : recognised researcher (R2)

Offer description

The "Perception and Interaction" group (P&I), part of the LITIS lab (150 researchers), University of Rouen Normandy (France), is involved in multidisciplinary research at the intersection of computer vision, computer science, mathematics, mechatronics and cognitive science. The group models and designs mainly intelligent wearable systems for visually impaired people with multimodal ICT technologies (vision, tactile, audio, AI). The group worked/works on fundamental research problems (models, algorithms and experimental evaluation) and their application to visually impaired persons (VIP) interaction with the space (mobility, art perception). Several international and national research projects ("Smart glasses", "HUMANPERception", ACCESSPACE, NAV-VIR, Museum Guide) have been or are implemented in collaboration with industrial and academic partners (CEA, Collège de France, CNRS, InsideVision, MIT, DoD, Panama University, Pavia

University, Kaunas University, Technical University of Lodz, etc.). The group has received the USA PETA's "Price for ethical technological research" (2012), and the CCAH's "Applied research on deficiency" award (2017).

It is expected that the post-doc fellow will contribute to on going research projects (e.g. pagesperso.litislab.fr/~sgay/index.php?page=postdoc&lang=en, « Museum Guide » project, mystifying-austin-87a7b8.netlify.app/fr/, ACCESPACE accesspace.univ-rouen.fr/index.php), and significantly advance the state-of-the-art in all aspects of VIP's interaction with the space via embedded perception and man-machine interactive wearable systems.

This includes the following sub-topics/subtasks to be addressed during the postdoc:

1. Indoor & outdoor multimodal autonomous mobility modelling (bio-inspired, VIO (Visual Inertial Odometry), GNSS, multi-sensor data fusion etc.) for VIP mobility assistance
2. Modelling of the VIP mobility assistive devices
3. Design of a wearable embedded multimodal assistances for VIP interaction with space (haptic device, a tactile belt, embedded vision system)
4. Images segmentation & their tactile representations
5. Experimental evaluations' preparation and their carrying (protocol design, collected data processing/analysis) of the designed systems in simulated environments and in ecological settings with human participants (VIP, museums' staff, etc.)
6. Publishing of the results and participation in dissemination activities.

Requirements (Skills/Qualifications)

PhD in Computer Science, Robotics or closely related field Good theoretical and practical background in

- Computer Vision, Image processing, (multimodal) Perception (& sensing), Interaction
- Robotics (navigation, bioinspired navigation, VIO, etc.)
- Mechatronics/automation/control electronics
- AI, computer engineering, embedded systems (GPU, FPGA)

Good programming skills (python, Java, C/C++; Matlab) Knowledge of 3D modelling and 3D printing (e.g. Maya, Blender, SolidWorks) Theoretical knowledge of Bayesian models will be a plus.

Specific Requirement

-experience with real robotic hardware (programming, electronics & mechanics) -experience with Ubuntu/Linux -open mind towards cognitive science and visually impaired sciences & technologies -scientific curiosity and ability to work autonomously -proactive team working attitude -good communication skills (at least in English) -availability to co-supervise M.Sc. and PhD candidates on the post-doc topics -availability to travel to international conferences and meetings with partners -assistance in administrative works as a project partner -European work permit.

Required languages: French, English

Required Research Experience

At least 3 year research experience - a PhD degree obtained in 7 years before this position start ; this period may be longer and including breaks such as maternity/paternity leave, parental/educational leave, etc.

Website for additional job details :

please send your questions to prof. Edwige.Pissaloux@univ-rouen.fr

Benefits

The employment will take place with respect to national regulations (Labor code) with social security and retirement benefits. Beneficial and welfare schemes and wide range of sports and cultural offers are provided.

The position is for 1 year with renewal granted after the first year if both parties are satisfied, and will be paid according to the French salary regulations for postdoctoral scholars depending on the candidate's previous experience.

Eligibility criteria

The position will remain open until satisfactory candidate is found.

Selection process

Please send via email to Edwige.Pissaloux@univ-rouen.fr (in .pdf format with scanned signature) your application including :

1. A letter of intent specifying research experience and intended contributions and the starting date
2. The curriculum vitae including a complete list of publications and scientific achievements and interests
3. Master degree marks
4. An e-copy or at least summary and outline of your PhD
5. E-copy of up to 3 representative recent paper publications
6. Names and email addresses of at least two permanent staff acquainted with research activities of the candidate to be contacted for letter of recommendation

The name of each file should start with candidate-name followed by applied position (post-doc) and nickname of the content.

The candidate may be asked by email for an e-interview (skype, zoom, BBB,...) with the appointment international committee.

Additional comments

The LITIS lab is located in the city named Saint Etienne du Rouvray, with tramway access from the center of Rouen. Some teaching classes (in French and in English) at the University (undergraduate and graduate levels) are possible, and will be paid in addition. Female and disabled applicants, and people with immigration background with equivalent qualifications will be given preferential consideration. Since we will not return your documents, please submit their e-copy only.

Max Planck Institute, Nijmegen, the Netherlands

Research Positions in the Neurobiology of Language Department

We are offering a few junior and senior research positions (postdoctoral and beyond) in the Neurobiology of Language department at the Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics and the Donders Centre for Cognitive Neuroimaging in Nijmegen, the Netherlands.

Research in the Neurobiology of Language department is done in a very inspiring research environment, without teaching obligations; furthermore, considerable technical support is available, as well as access to state of the art research and neuroimaging facilities including MRI at 1.5, 3 and 7 Tesla, a whole-head MEG system, three ERP labs, a TMS lab, a Virtual Reality Lab, and multiple behavioural labs.

Requirements

- A PhD qualification in a related field.
- The focus of your research should fit into the overall research portfolio of the department, as described on our website <https://www.mpi.nl/department/neurobiology-language/4>
- A connection to the Memory, Unification and Control (MUC) framework would be appreciated.

Conditions of employment

- Full-time position (39 hours per week) with a term of appointment of maximally 3 years.
- The salary is according to the German TVöD (Starting salary: €52,573 - €61,663 p.a.).
- Positions will be available in the fall of 2020 and later.

Employer

The MPI for Psycholinguistics in Nijmegen is the only research institute in the world entirely devoted to the study of language. Our goal is to understand how our minds and brains process language, how language interacts with other aspects of mind, and how we can learn languages of quite different types. We are situated on the campus of the Radboud University, and have close collaborative links with the Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition and Behaviour and the Centre for Language Studies at Radboud University. We are part of the Max Planck Society, an independent non-governmental association of German-funded research institutes dedicated to fundamental research in the natural sciences, life sciences, social sciences, and the humanities. The Institute is part of the Max Planck Society, an independent non-governmental association of German-funded research institutes dedicated to fundamental research in the natural sciences, life sciences, social sciences, and the humanities. The Max Planck Society is an equal opportunities employer. Applications from women, people with disabilities and under-represented groups are particularly encouraged. The Institute is located in the Netherlands. Scientists in the Netherlands report among the highest job satisfaction ratings of any in the world.

For further details please see our website: <http://www.mpi.nl>

Application procedure

For information about the position, please contact Peter Hagoort (Peter.Hagoort@mpi.nl).

Applications should include:

1. a CV;
2. a list of publications;
3. the names of two referees who would be willing to write letters of recommendation;
4. examples of published work;
5. a cover letter describing research interests;

Send applications to:

Carolin Lorenz (Secretary to Prof. dr. Peter Hagoort)
Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics
Postbus 310
6500 AH Nijmegen
The Netherlands
e-mail: Carolin.Lorenz@mpi.nl

Deadline for applications: September 15 2020

LION Lab CHU Sainte-Justine

Postdoctoral Fellow Position

As part of a large longitudinal research project, the Elan study, funded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), the LION Laboratory led by Dr. Anne Gallagher, is looking for a post-doctoral fellow for a period of at least one year, renewable.

Our Lab

Our research team conducts studies to better understand cognitive and language development in neurotypical children and children presenting various clinical problems (epilepsy, congenital heart disease, premature birth). The projects are led by Dr. Anne Gallagher, Canada Research Chair in Child Neuropsychology and Brain Imaging.

For more information : www.lionlab.umontreal.ca

Project / Appointment Description

The Elan study aims to characterize the development of language networks in healthy infants from birth to 36 months of age. Each visit (planned at birth, 4, 8, 12, 18, 24, and 36 months) includes a neurodevelopmental assessment (4 to 36 months) and a functional Near Infrared Spectroscopy recording (fNIRS, at all ages). The postdoctoral fellow will be actively involved in the recruitment, neurodevelopmental assessments, fNIRS data acquisition and processing as well as in the writing of scientific articles and communications. The postdoctoral start date is flexible, but preferably September 1, 2020.

Salary will be determined based experience and qualification levels. The salary will come from the researcher's research fund or an external nominative scholarship if applicable. Currently, research funds for this project are secured for a period of five years. The appointment will be renewable on a yearly basis, contingent on satisfactory performance, availability of research funds and the project's advancement.

The postdoctoral fellow will be actively involved in:

- data acquisition coordination;
- behavioral and neuroimaging data acquisition and analysis;
- preparing files for legal and ethical compliance;
- undergraduate and graduate students' supervision;
- knowledge transfer and dissemination;
- writing of scientific manuscripts.

Requirements and Qualifications:

- Graduate (PhD) training in biomedical sciences, psychology, cognitive neuroscience, or related discipline;
- Experience in neurodevelopmental assessment (a major asset)
- Experience in pediatric neuroimaging (a major asset)
- Strong scientific writing skills in English;
- Excellent knowledge of good clinical practices;
- Strong proficiency in French and / or English, spoken and written (fluency in both languages is a major asset).

Desired Skills:

- Strong leadership;
- Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines;
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills;
- Sense of responsibility, thoroughness and autonomy;
- Proactivity and ability to work with minimal supervision;
- Strong organizational, time and priority management skills.

Application Submission

Applicants must send by email their curriculum vitae, a recent transcript, motivation letter, and 2 references as soon as possible or by September 1, 2020 to the attention of Dr. Anne Gallagher (anne.gallagher@umontreal.ca)

Anne Gallagher, Ph.D., neuropsychologist
Canada Research Chair in Child Neuropsychology and Brain Imaging
Associate Professor
Department of Psychology
University of Montreal
Director, LION Lab
CHU Sainte-Justine Research Center
www.lionlab.umontreal.ca

The Pennsylvania State University Postdoctoral Scholar

The Language and Aging Lab at The Pennsylvania State University (<https://sites.psu.edu/mdiazlab/>) invites applications for a Postdoctoral Scholar. Our lab investigates age-related differences in the neural and behavioral bases of semantic and phonological processes, with a focus on language production. Our primary goals are to further our understanding of the neural factors that contribute to age-related retention and decline seen in language; and to investigate the relationships between structural factors, functional activations, and behavior. Our lab is affiliated with the Center for Language Science (<http://cls.psu.edu/>), a vibrant, interdisciplinary community of language researchers with expertise in bilingualism, speech language pathology, psycholinguistics, and cognitive neuroscience. State-of-the-art scanning and data analysis facilities are available and proximally located at the Social, Life, and Engineering Sciences Imaging Center (<http://imaging.psu.edu/>).

The ideal candidate would have a background in the cognitive neuroscience of language and/or aging. Experience with fMRI data analysis and/or programming is desirable, but not mandatory. For additional information about the position, please contact the lab director, Michele Diaz, Ph.D., at mtd143@psu.edu.

The appointment will be for one year, with a good possibility of additional years. The anticipated start date is late spring or summer 2020. Applicants should upload a CV, 2 reprints or preprints, and a statement of research interests. Additionally, applicants should arrange for two letters of recommendation to be sent separately to Michele Diaz at mtd143@psu.edu. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Candidates must have completed their Ph.D. by the time of appointment. Apply online at <https://psu.jobs/job/93170>. In addition, successful candidates must either have demonstrated a commitment to building an inclusive, equitable, and diverse campus community, or describe one or more ways they would envision doing so, given the opportunity. PennState is committed to and accountable for advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion in all of its forms. We embrace individual uniqueness, foster a culture of inclusion that supports both broad and specific diversity initiatives, leverage the educational and institutional benefits of diversity, and engage all individuals to help them thrive. We value inclusion as a core strength and an essential element of our public service mission.

To review the Annual Security Report which contains information about crime statistics and other safety and security matters and policies, please go to <https://police.psu.edu/annual-security-reports>, which will also explain how to request a paper copy of the Annual Security Report.

Penn State is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer, and is committed to providing employment opportunities to all qualified applicants without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or protected veteran status.

The Pennsylvania State University

Faculty in the Cognitive Area of the Psychology Department

Faculty in the Cognitive Area of the Psychology Department at Penn State University are looking for highly motivated candidates for admission to the PhD program. Professors Roger Beaty, Michele Diaz, Elisabeth Karuza, Janet van Hell, and Daniel Weiss are now accepting graduate student applications for admission in Fall 2021. We employ a variety of behavioral and neuroimaging (EEG & fMRI) techniques to explore the psychology and neuroscience of creativity, including metaphor production and contributions of semantic memory to verbal creativity (Beaty); the neurobiology of language production and aging (Diaz); the cognitive neuroscience of learning (Karuza); bilingualism and language development (Van Hell); and the statistical learning mechanisms underlying language acquisition (Weiss). We are members of the Center for Language Science: a vibrant, interdisciplinary, and collaborative language community of language researchers with expertise in bilingualism, speech language pathology, psycholinguistics, and cognitive neuroscience. Penn State offers state of the art, proximally located, equipment and facilities, including a Siemens Prisma Fit 3.0T MRI system, EEG recording suites, fNIRS, tDCS, and eye-tracking equipment. The Penn State psychology department has an outstanding track record of research, with a strong commitment to graduate student mentoring and development. Students can also pursue Dual-Title Doctoral Degrees in Psychology and Language Science or Psychology and Social Behavioral Neuroscience, as well as a Specialization in Cognitive and Affective Neuroscience. Interested students are encouraged to contact us to discuss their research ideas and training goals.

Roger Beaty: rbeaty@psu.edu <https://sites.google.com/view/beaty-cncl/>

Michele Diaz: mtd143@psu.edu <https://sites.psu.edu/mdiazlab/>

Elisabeth Karuza: ekaruza@psu.edu <https://karuzalab.la.psu.edu/>

Janet van Hell: jgv3@psu.edu <http://bild.la.psu.edu/>

Daniel Weiss: djw21@psu.edu <http://weissslab.weebly.com/>

Applications are due December 1, 2020

For more information about how to apply, please visit our website:

<https://psych.la.psu.edu/graduate/prospective-students>

Review of applications will begin immediately after the December 1st deadline. For more information about the cognitive area:

<https://psych.la.psu.edu/graduate/program-areas/cognitive>

Auburn University

Tenure-Track Assistant Professor in Cognitive or Behavioral Neuroscience

Position

The Department of Psychological Sciences at Auburn University invites applications for a tenure-track position as an Assistant Professor beginning Fall semester, August 16, 2021.

Responsibilities

Candidates are expected to maintain a strong independent research program, with potential for extramural funding. Candidates will also contribute to the education and training of undergraduate and graduate students, including teaching courses in the candidate's area of expertise.

Qualifications

Candidates should have an independent research program in cognitive or behavioral neuroscience, broadly defined, with preference for candidates whose programs are extramurally funded and complement existing strengths in the Department of Psychological Sciences (e.g., autism, clinical neuroscience, cognitive and affective neuroscience, comparative cognition, developmental disabilities, environmental health, language processing, learning and conditioning, and psychopharmacology). Auburn University has state-of-the-art resources for human- and nonhuman model neuroscience research, including 7T neuroimaging and strong research ties with local military and community organizations. A strong record that includes publications, teaching experience, and potential for external funding is required. Candidates with the potential to strengthen our commitment to diversity and inclusion are highly desirable. Candidates must have earned a Ph.D. in Psychology or a related field. Exceptional ABD candidates will be considered but must have their Ph.D. by the start date.

Application

Include a cover letter; curriculum vitae; statement of research; statement of teaching interests; statement addressing past and/or potential contributions to diversity through teaching, research, professional activities and/or service; representative reprints; transcripts; and contact information for 3 professional references. Applications should be submitted electronically through the online portal at:

<http://aufacultypositions.peopleadmin.com/postings/4258>.

Review of applications will begin **October 15th, 2020** and will continue until a candidate is selected. Please visit our webpage to learn more about the Department of Psychological Sciences: <http://www.cla.auburn.edu/psychology>. Questions regarding this position should be addressed to the chair of the search committee, Dr. Jen Robinson at jrobinson@auburn.edu.

The candidate selected for this position must meet eligibility requirements to work in the United States at the time the appointment is scheduled to begin and continue working legally for the proposed term of employment; excellent communication skills required.

Auburn University is one of the nation's premier public land-grant institutions, and is recognized as a "Very High Research Activity (R1)" institution. In 2019, it was ranked 44th among public universities by U.S. News and World Report. Auburn maintains high levels of research activity and high standards for teaching excellence, offering Bachelor's, Master's, Educational Specialist, and Doctoral degrees in agriculture and engineering, professional degrees, and the arts and sciences. Its 2019 enrollment of 30,460 students includes 24,594 undergraduates and 5,866 graduate and professional students. Organized into twelve academic colleges and schools, Auburn's 1,426 faculty members offer more than 200 educational programs. The University is nationally recognized for its commitment to academic excellence, its positive work environment, its student engagement, and its beautiful campus.

Auburn residents enjoy a thriving and increasingly diverse community, recognized as one of the "best small towns in America," with moderate climate and easy access to major cities or to beach- and mountain-recreational facilities. Situated along the rapidly developing I-85 corridor between Atlanta, Georgia, and Montgomery, Alabama, the combined Auburn-Opelika-Columbus statistical area has a population of over 500,000, with excellent public schools and regional medical centers.

Auburn University is an EEO/Vet/Disability employer.

New York University

Postdoctoral Research Position

Description

The Psycholinguistics, Aphasia, and Neuromodulation (PLAN) lab at New York University, directed by Dr. Adam Buchwald, has an opening for a full-time postdoctoral research associate to begin in Fall 2020 or Spring 2021. The postdoc will be involved in federally-funded research on stroke recovery in the domain of speech production. The overarching goal of the research is to optimize speech recovery in stroke survivors by combining effective behavioral treatment with non-invasive brain stimulation. The studies related to this project include behavioral and neurobiological investigations. The position entails designing and carrying out experimental studies and neurobiological analyses in stroke survivors and neurotypical speakers, as well as overseeing research assistants, analyzing data, and working with Dr. Buchwald on manuscripts and other writing. The postdoc will receive training in research as well as in professional development skills that will support advancement to the next career stage. The initial appointment will be for one year, with possible renewal for additional years. Salary will be commensurate with NIH postdoctoral

funding levels. Applicants are encouraged to contact Dr. Buchwald (buchwald@nyu.edu) with any questions about the position. Application review will begin on September 5, 2020, and the position will remain open until filled.

Qualifications

Required

- PhD or equivalent in communication sciences and disorders, psychology, cognitive science, linguistics, rehabilitation sciences, or a related field
- Strong communication and organizational skills
- Experience with neuroimaging data and analysis pipelines

Strongly preferred

- Experience collecting and analyzing behavioral data, fMRI, and especially DTI/DKI
- Experience with speech research, including acoustic analysis
- Experience with stroke research or other clinical research experience

Application Materials

CV, unofficial transcript, and a list of 2-3 references

<https://apply.interfolio.com/77546>

Conferences & Programs

The SMILES

(Sensorimotor Interaction, Language and Embodiment of Symbols)

October 2020

The SMILES (Sensorimotor Interaction, Language and Embodiment of Symbols) Workshop will take place virtually at the ICDL 2020 (International Conference on Developmental Learning).

Call for Abstracts and Papers

- Deadline: 25th of September 2020
- papers abstracts: 2 pages
- long papers: 4-6 pages
- Submissions: smiles.conf@gmail.com
- Papers format: same as ICDL conference <https://cis.ieee.org/publications/t-cognitive-and-developmental-systems/tcdis-information-for-authors>

Workshop dates (coming soon): the days before or after the ICDL conference (26-30 October 2020)

Workshop Short Description

On the one hand, models of sensorimotor interaction are embodied in the environment and in the

interaction with other agents. On the other hand, recent Deep Learning development of Natural Language Processing (NLP) models allow to capture increasing language complexity (e.g. compositional representations, word embedding, long term dependencies). However, those NLP models are disembodied in the sense that they are learned from static datasets of text or speech. How can we bridge the gap from low-level sensorimotor interaction to high-level compositional symbolic communication? The SMILES workshop will address this issue through -an interdisciplinary approach involving researchers from (but not limited to):

- Sensori-motor learning, - Emergent communication in multi-agent systems,
- Chunking of perceptuo-motor gestures (gestures in a general sense: motor, vocal, ...),
- Sensori-motor learning,
- Symbol grounding and symbol emergence,
- Compositional representations for communication and action sequence,
- Hierarchical representations of temporal information,
- Language processing and acquisition in brains and machines,
- Models of animal communication,
- Understanding composition and temporal processing in neural network models, and Enaction, active perception, perception-action loop.

More Info

- Contact: smiles.conf@gmail.com
- Organizers: Xavier Hinaut, Clement Moulin-Frier, Silvia Pagliarini, Joni Zhong, Loo CHU KIONG, Michael Spranger, Tadahiro Taniguchi
- Invited Speakers (coming soon)
- Workshop Website (coming soon): <https://sites.google.com/view/smiles-workshop/>

ICDL conference website: <https://cdstc.gitlab.io/icdl-2020/>

Publications

Special Issue *Brain and Language*

Open Call for Submissions

Experience-Based Individual Differences Associated with Multilingualism in the Mind and Brain
<https://www.journals.elsevier.com/brain-and-language/call-for-papers/experience-based-individual-differences> (see this link for full call for papers). Any questions? Email the guest editors.

In this special issue, we shift the question from whether multilingualism confers effects to the mind/brain to what the conditions and experiences of multilingualism are that advance our understanding of diverse language experience, cognition and the brain. Narrowing the search space in this regard accomplishes several objectives. Firstly, framing the question in this way forces us to engage with the reality that bilingualism is not a categorical variable, but rather a continuous one along multi-dimensional spectra. Secondly, identifying variation in diverse language experience that correlates with brain functions, structures and language processing will enrich the current understanding of how language is represented in the mind and brain. Thus, as a collection contributing to the study of language science, we will move to better understand multilingualism as an experience-dependent mechanism that potentially underlies neuroplasticity in different developmental stages.

In line with the above, this special issue of *Brain and Language* commits to compiling a set of papers where multilingualism is presented as a set of dynamic experiences. The special issue will be comprised of studies that collect detailed information regarding the complexities and temporality of individuals' multilingual experiences as part of its empirical operational definition. The studies will model this complexity to tease out dimensions of multilingual experience (e.g. age of acquisition, type of bilingualism, patterns of exposure and use over the lifespan, current patterns of use across an array of daily contexts (at home, at work, in social settings, etc.) that correlate with (degrees of) language processing, domain-general cognition, and variation in brain functions and structures.

In addition to addressing the role that bi-/multilingual experiences could have on shaping language processing, cognition, and brain outcomes, we emphasize and encourage submissions with the following key aspects to studies:

- Bilinguals or multilingual speakers as participants, including bimodal-bilingualism, bi-dialectalism, clinical populations/clinical studies
- fMRI, DTI, EEG, fNIRS and/or eye-tracking methods
- Different developmental stages across the lifespan
- Focus on interactional contexts of multilingualism from different social and/or cultural contexts as well as longitudinal studies examining second language acquisition

Proposed schedule for the special issue, which we hope will allow for publication of the special issue in the latter part of 2021:

Submission Portal Opens: Nov. 15th, 2020

Submission Portal Closes: Jan. 20th 2021

Reviews Returned to Authors by: March 20th 2021

Revisions Due Back by: May 15th 2021

Final Acceptances (or Rejections) by: July 15th 2021

Please select the article type name "VSI: Multilingualism & brain" while submitting your article for this special issue.

Publish Your Research with *Language Learning*!

Language Learning, with a Transparency and Openness Promotion score of 11 (along with *Science and Nature*), a Google Scholar ranking of 3rd in Language and Linguistics, and a Web of Science ranking of 6/187 for Linguistics journals, is proud to announce advances in the neuroscience of language learning with the publication of the special issue on the 'Cognitive Neuroscience of Second and Artificial Language Learning' (edited by Guillaume Thierry and Patrick Rebuschat) and the newly published the Registered Report 'Foreignness or Processing Fluency? On Understanding the Negative Bias Toward Foreign-Accented Speakers' (authored by Foucart, Costa, Moris-Fernández, and Hartsuiker) using electrophysiological approaches.

Language Learning encourages submissions addressing fundamental theoretical issues in language learning from a range of approaches including cognitive science and neuroscience perspectives. Several article types are accepted including empirical studies, review articles, Registered Reports and Methods Showcase articles.

