

Biolinguistic Investigations on the Language Faculty

January 26-28, 2015
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 neurosciences 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

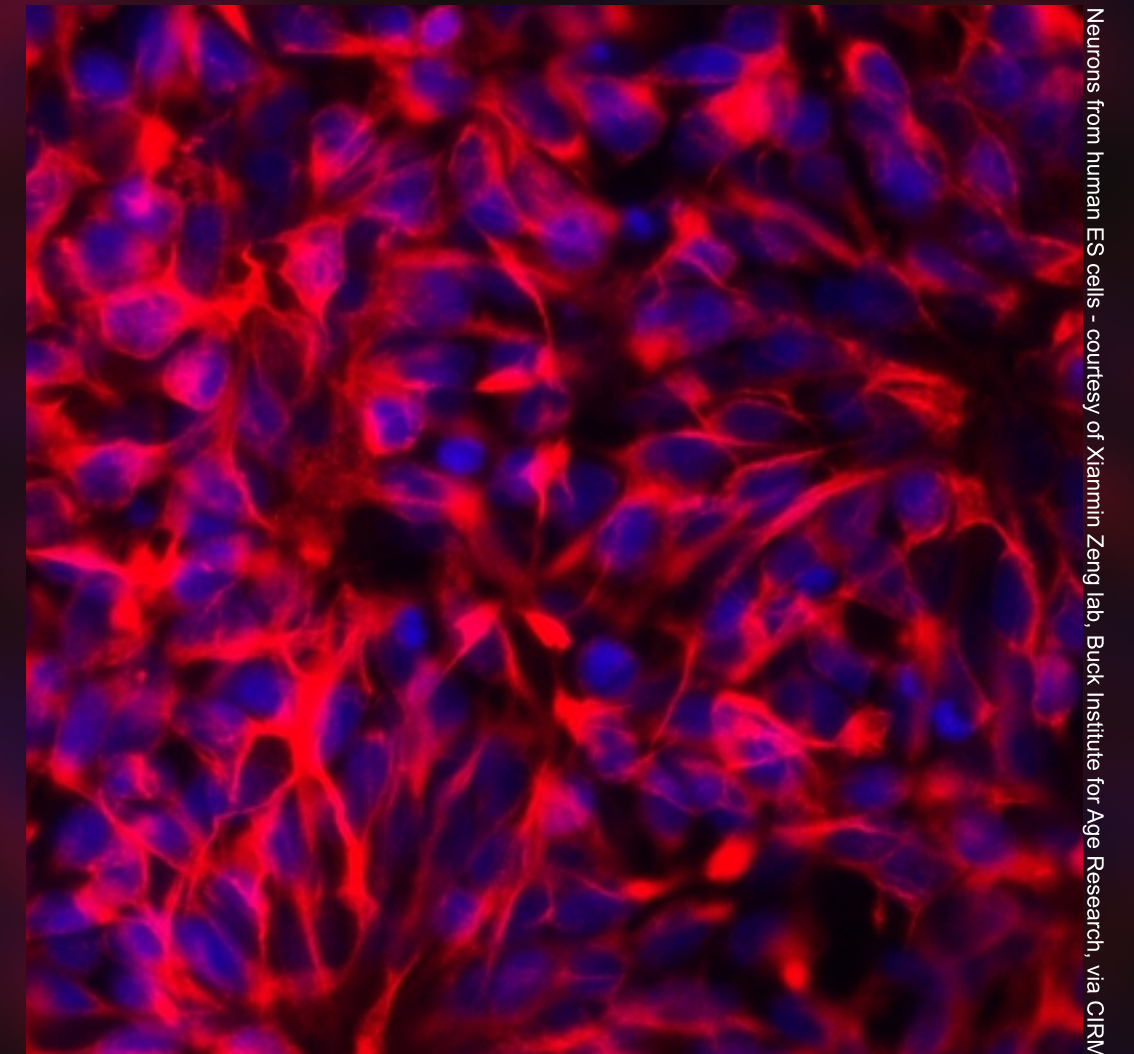
8:00-9:00	Registration
9:00-9:15	Welcome
9:15-10:00	Ken WEXLER : <i>Developmental Biolinguistic Investigations in Syntax and Semantics</i> (Invited talk)
10:00-10:45	Arhonto TERZI et al. : <i>Clitics of Children With Autism: Impaired Syntax, Discourse/Pragmatics or Prosody?</i>
10:45-11:15	Break
11:15-12:00	Anna GAVARRÓ et al. : <i>A Study in Spanish SLI and the Founder Effect</i>
12:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-14:45	Giuseppe LONGOBARDI et al. : <i>Across Language Families - Genome Diversity Mirrors Linguistic Variation Within Europe</i>
14:45-15:30	Giuseppe LONGOBARDI et al. : <i>Algorithmic Generation of Random Languages Argues for Syntax as a Source of Phylogenetic Information</i>
15:30-16:00	Break
16:00-16:45	Anna Maria DI SCIULLO et al. : <i>Language Faculty, Language Development and Object Pronouns in Romanian</i>
16:45-18:00	Poster session
*Dinner	

January 27

9:00-9:45	Caterina DONATI et al. : <i>The Grammar of Code Blending. What Bimodal Bilinguals Can Teach Us About Language Architecture</i>
9:45-10:30	John WINWARD : <i>Second Language Users and the English Article System - Where Does It All Go Right?</i>
10:30-11:00	Break
11:00-11:45	Scott THOMAS : <i>Architecture (Conceptual and Cognitive) and Language Processing</i>
11:45-12:30	Manuela AMBAR : <i>Root Subjunctive Clauses</i>
12:30-14:00	Lunch
14:00-14:45	Edward Ruoyang SHI et al. : <i>FOXP2 and Language: A More Nuanced View</i>
14:45-15:30	Gonzalo CASTILLO et al. : <i>Is Externalization More Than a Side Effect? The Cognitive Abilities of Vocal Learning Birds</i>
15:30-16:00	Break
16:00-16:45	Mirko GRIMALDI et al. : <i>Electrophysiological Evidence of Italian Vowels Segregation and Representation in Human Auditory Cortex</i>
16:45-17:30	Camila MATAMOROS et al. : <i>Variables and Other Biolinguistic Issues in Phonology</i>
17:30-18:00	Break
18:00-18:45	Joana ROSSELLÓ : <i>Language Externalization Is Not Secondary: On the Integration of Speech and Thought</i>
18:45-19:15	Pedro Tiago MARTINS et al. : <i>What Makes Speech Human-Specific?</i>

January 28

Symposium	The Language of Schizophrenia: New Questions for Biolinguistics
9:00-9:15	Introduction: Roberto CAVALLARO
9:15-10:00	Peter MCKENNA : <i>Everything You Wanted to Know About Schizophrenic Language But Were Afraid to Ask</i>
10:00-11:30	Break
11:30-12:15	Wolfram HINZEN : <i>The Positive Symptoms of Schizophrenia in Light of the Un-Cartesian Hypothesis</i>
12:15-14:00	Lunch
14:00-14:45	Marta BOSIA et al. : <i>Language, Pragmatics and Social Cognition in Schizophrenia</i>
14:45-15:30	Edith POMAROL-CLOTET : <i>Disordered Speech and Language in Schizophrenia: The Perspective From Brain Imaging</i>
15:30-16:15	Round Table on the Language Faculty and Schizophrenia
16:15-17:00	Closing remarks



Neurons from human ES cells - courtesy of Xianmin Zeng lab, Buck Institute for Age Research, via CIRIM

Aaron Ecay
Andrea Ceolin
Andrea Moro
Anna Dora Manca
Anna Gavarró
Anna Maria Di Sciullo
Arhonto Terzi
Bridget Samuels
Camila Matamoros
Caterina Donati
Cedric Boeckx
Charles Reiss
Chiara Branchini
Cristina Guardiano
Edith Pomarol-Clotet
Edward Ruoyang Shi
Elizabeth Qing Zhang
Francesco Di Russo
Francesco Sigona
Giuseppe Longobardi
Gonzalo Castillo
Guido Barbujani
Joana Rosselló
John Winward
Konstantinos Francis
Manuela Ambar
Marta Bosia
Mirko Grimaldi
Monica Alexandrina Irimia
Myriam Cantú-Sánchez
Nina Radkevich
Pedro Tiago Martins
Peter McKenna
Roberto Cavallaro
Saleh Alamri
Scott Thomas
Silvia Ghirotto
Stanca Somesfalean
Theodoros Marinis
Valentina Bambini
Wolfram Hinzen