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Call for Papers

GAL 2010, 40. Jahrestagung der Gesellschaft für Angewandte Linguistik, *SprachRäume*, September 15–17, 2010, Universität Leipzig

Deadline for submitting an abstract: March 20, 2010

Panel: **Multimodal Spaces. Comparing the activity of drawing border lines in different languages.**

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Description: Space is not an a priori given but constructed in discourse. This will be the common assumption for linguists who we invite to join our panel. By drawing border lines, the space of conversation itself is shaped in contrast with its local surrounding: *inside* contrasts with *outside* (Jungbluth 2005, 2009). Furthermore a *hearserside* space may be opposed to a *speakerside* one (Bühler 1934, Sternberg 1983, Hanks 1990, Fricke 2007). If the participants of a conversation are situated side-by-side, speaker and hearer may establish an opposition between three spaces: one being *close*, one being at a *middle* distance and the third one situated *far away* in order to determine the position of objects or speak about processes of movement.

The aim of a reciprocal understanding of the spaces in focus may be achieved at different costs or may even fail. This happens not only when people of different cultural and linguistic backgrounds are involved. What has to be expressed by routine in some languages may be left implicit in others. Alongside other conventions, this decision depends on the way paradigms of deictic terms are structured in the respective language (English *this* : *that*, German dialect variety *dieser* : *der da*, Polish *ten* : *tamten*. Spanish *este* : *ese* : *aquel*; Ehrich 1992, Diessel 1999, Lenz 2003, Jungbluth 2005, 2009). If the hearer shows that he or she is unable to comprehend the intended reference speakers are free to give further indications by performing gestures or continuing to talk with the aim of solving ambiguous interpretations. Observing interactions in multimodal spaces, the combination of verbal and non-verbal, explicitly gestural signs is predominant (Kendon 2004, Kita 2003, McNeill 2005, Fricke 2007, Mondada 2007, Müller 2007, Schmitt 2007, de Stefani 2007).

We are interested in bringing together scientists engaging in the interpretation of data representing discourses of dissent, conversations where misunderstandings are on hand, dialogs of pedagogical interactions, where border lines may be drawn to gain the educative floor or disputes of opponents and experts involved in mediation procedures held to avoid legal procedures. We aim to assemble contributions representing different languages in order to enable the discovery of common features present in this kind of spoken data and to determine whether they are to be considered as language specific, as typical for certain language families or as universal.

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Abstract submission guide:

The abstract may be submitted in either German or English and should not exceed one page and should not include more than five references. Please include your name, academic affiliation, e-mail address, and the title of the talk. For further information and guidelines see www.uni-leipzig.de/gal2010. Deadline for submitting abstracts is March 20, 2010. Notifications of acceptance will be sent out by the middle of April, 2010. Presentation slots will be 20 minutes plus 15 minutes for discussion and technical set up.

For information and abstract submission, please contact Konstanze Jungbluth at GAL2010_IV@euv-frankfurt-o.de

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