# **UCONN**UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT



Wednesday, April 16th, 2025 3:00 - 7:00pm in Konover / Bousfield Sponsored by:



INSTITUTE FOR THE BRAIN AND COGNITIVE SCIENCES

## ABOUT LANGUAGE FEST

Language Fest is a University-wide research conference that brings together the full community of language researchers at UConn, including undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty, for a day of sharing results, ideas, methodologies and fostering future interdisciplinary collaborations.

Language Fest is funded by the Institute for the Brain and Cognitive Sciences.

## **ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:**

Dr. Umay Suanda
Melanie Stroud
Kaya LeGrand
Emma Wing
Portia Washington
Mikayla Robinson
Jiabao Fan
Menghan Yang
Briana Ashton



https://languagefest.uconn.edu/

## **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

3:00-3:30	Registration in Konover	/ Bousfield
	Atrium	

3:30-3:40 Welcome & Opening Remarks in Konovel Hosted by: *Umay Suanda*, PSYC

3:40-4:40 Graduate Student Symposium in Konover

Hosted by: Kaya LeGrand, PSYC; Emma Wing, PSYC; Jiabao Fan, LING

4:40-5:00 Data Blitz in Konover

Hosted by: Kaya LeGrand, PSYC; Emma Wing, PSYC; Jiabao Fan, LING

5:00-5:15 Undergraduate Commencement
Address in Konover
Given by: Melanie Miga, SPAN, COMM, ASLN

5:30-6:30 Poster Session I in Bousfield Atrium\*\*
(odd-numbered posters)

6:00-7:00 Poster Session II in Bousfield Atrium\*\*
(even-numbered posters)

<sup>\*\*</sup>Snacks & refreshments will be provided



## GRADUATE STUDENT SYMPOSIUM



Arinjoy Bhattacharjee Speech Language and Hearing Sciences

"Expanding methods of discourse analysis: Validation of the Language Environment Analysis (LENA) for adults with and without Aphasia"



## Heng Zhang

Literatures, Cultures, and Languages: Applied Linguistics

"Optimality theory and constraint interaction in Mandarin loanword adaptation"



### Hannah O'Connor

Psychological Sciences: Clinical Psychology

"Coding gesture production in autistic individuals"

## GRADUATE STUDENT SYMPOSIUM



## **Anne Marie Crinnion**

Psychological Sciences: Language & Cognition

"Examining individual differences in cue weighting in speech perception"



## **Naomi Sellers**

Psychological Sciences: Language & Cognition "A View on Effort: Assessing Sentence Predictability's Effect on Listening Effort by Measuring Pupil Size"



## DATA BLITZ PRESENTERS

Listed in alphabetical order:

- Ali Mohiuddin, Linguistics & Psychological Sciences
- Brennan Smith, Physiology & Neurobiology
- Brian W. L. Wong, Basque Center on Cognition, Brain, and Language
- Carly Furlong, Cognitive Science & Allied Health Sciences
- Isabella Blasi, Linguistics
- Ishrat Khan, Psychological Sciences
- Joshua Budnik, Cognitive Science
- Katherine Lee, Cognitive Science & Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences





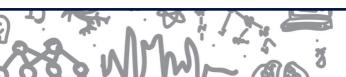


## UNDERGRADUATE COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER



## Melanie Miga

Sign Linguistics & Language Acquisition Lab (Mentor: Diane Lillo-Martin)



## POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Poster Session I (5:30-6:30) - Odd-numbered posters Poster Session II (6:00-7:00) - Even-numbered posters

1) Are Objects Oriented Towards Your Dominant Hand Easier to Recognize While Grasping Batons?

Joshua Budnik, COGS Nathan Lautz, PSYC

Lauren Miller. PSYC

Wesley Leong, PSYC

Eiling Yee, PSYC

2) Can Training in the Presence of Background Noise Promote Auditory Learning?

Carly Furlong, COGS, AHS Akshay Maggu, IBACS, SLHS

Emma Kindl, COGS

Ellilla Killul, COG

 Effects of Task Complexity and Foreign Language Anxiety on Chinese as a Foreign Language Learners' Speech Production Zhupeng Li, LCL

4) Establishing Interrater Reliability for Conversational Discourse Analysis of People with Aphasia

Emma Cleary, SLHS

Kaila Cote, SLHS

Arinjoy Bhattacharjee, SLHS

Jennifer Mozeiko, SLHS

5) Relationships Between Inattention, Reading Comprehension, and Anxiety

Mokshitha Chimbili, MCB Kelly Mahffy, PSYC Nabin Koirala, YCSC, BIRC Nicole Landi, PSYC, YCSC, BIRC





6) Generative and Transformation Rules Within the Language of Personality Spere: Reticular Effects of Syntactic Structures in Hierarchical Models

Mark Hamilton, COMM

7) Real-life Communication in People with Aphasia Occurring Within the Home Environment: Implications for Quality of Life

Kaila Cote, SLHS

Louisa Suting, SLHS

Arinjoy Bhattacharjee, SLHS

Jennifer Mozeiko, SLHS

8) Speech Perception Gradiency and L2 Proficiency: How Listeners Deal with Ambiguity in L1 Versus L2

Brian W. L. Wong, BCBL Arthur Samuel, BCBL Efthymia Kapnoula, BCBL

9) The Relationship between Dyslexia and Resilience \*

Hannah Linder, MCB
Martina Villa, YCSC, IBACS, PSYC
Nicole Landi, YCSC, IBACS, PSYC

\* presented in Session 2

10) Validation of the LENA System for Quantifying Language Environments in People with Aphasia

Arinjoy Bhattacharjee, SLHS, IBACS

Louisa Suting, IBACS, SLHS

Kaila Cote, SLHS

Jennifer Mozeiko, IBACS, SLHS, COGS

11) Waves of Words: Is the EEG mu rhythm during action processing correlated with measures of infant vocabulary?

Ali Mohiuddin, LING, PSYC

Kelsev Davinson, PSYC, IBACS, COGS

Lauren J. Bryant, PSYC

Kimberly Cuevas, PSYC

12) Accessibility of Hearing Loss in New Haven County Venues
Sarah Perrotta. SLHS

13) Does an impaired sense of smell make it harder to think about things like garlic?

Ishrat Khan, PSYC

Eiling Yee, PSYC

Nathan Lautz, PSYC, IBACS

Charles Davis, Duke University

Gitte Joergensen, IBACS

14) Impact of Social Communication & Motivation on Friendship and Loneliness in Autism

Rachael Roizer, PSYC Rebecca Canale, PSYC

Isabella Blasi, LING

15) Investigating Parallels Between Language and Music: An

Introduction to Musical Linguistics

16) The Family ASL Project: Bimodal Bilingual Acquisition by Deaf Children of Hearing Parents

Diane Lillo-Martin, LING, IBACS, COGS

Linghui (Eva) Gan, LING

Chui-Yi (Margaret) Lee, LING

Angelica Llerena, LING

Kayla Vernon, SLHS Shuyan Wang, LING

17) How Does SES Influence the Brain Circuitry for Literacy? Modeling the Association Between SES, Oral Language, White

Matter Integrity, and Reading

Martina Villa, PSYC Nabin Koirala, BIRC

**Meaghan Perdue, University of Massachusetts** 

Lee Branum-Martin, Georgia State University
Nicole Landi, PSYC

18) Syntactic Bootstrapping Supports Semantic Interpretation of

Abstract Adjectives in English

Morgan Casey, Central Connecticut State University

Elena Koulidobrova, Central Connecticut State University

## 19) The Spoken Word: A Science Outreach Digest

Amelia DePino, SLHS

Serina Spitzer, SLHS

Portia Washington, PSYC, IBACS

Hannah Mechtenberg, PSYC

Emily Myers, SLHS, PSYC, IBACS

## 20) Effort-Based Linguistic Retrieval Markers and Accuracy of Autistic Adult Eyewitnesses

Emma Dwyer, SLHS

Tammie Spaulding, SLHS

Bernard Grela, SLHS

## 21) Spurious Representation in Sentence Processing

Paige Antener, PSYC

Madison Stevenson, PSYC, ASL

Gerry Altmann, PSYC, COGS, IBACS

### 22) Revisiting Bouba and Kiki in Autism

Kathryn Prescott, PSYC

Caroline Larson

Mackenzie Stabile

Inge-Marie Eigsti, PSYC

## 23) Variations in Alpha Oscillations and Speech Evoked Responses with Different Background Sound Types During Performance on a Speech-in-Noise Task

Laila Almotwaly, PSYC

Tylor Harlow, PSYC

Heather Read, PSYC

## 24) The Modality and Relative Eye Gaze Organization (MARGO)

### **Project: A Look at Caregiver Eves**

Giovanna Doria, SLHS, ASL

Torri Ann Woodruff-Gautherin, SLHS

Derek Houston, SLHS

## 25) Exploring the Presence of a Flynn Effect in Children with Developmental Language Disorder: A Meta-Analysis

Arinjoy Bhattacharjee, SLHS, IBACS

Tammie Spaulding, COGS, IBACS, SLHS

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26) How Individual Differences in Cue Weighting Influence the Link Between Memory and Speech in Noise Perception

Ava Buckmir, SLHS

Anne Marie Crinnion, PSYC

Emily Myers, SLHS, PSYC, IBACS

27) Blast off Lab: Exploring the Communicational Strengths of Minimally Speaking Autistic Children on the Autism Spectrum

Abrielis Mejia, SLHS

Caileigh Sweeney, SLHS Alexa Jackson, SLHS

Lindsay Butler, SLHS

28) An Instruction Manipulation of a Set for Variability Task

Erin O'Connor, PSYC

Brennan Smith, PSYC

Maria Jose Macias Zuniga, YCSC

Hannah Ferguson, YCSC

Kelly Mahaffy, PSYC

Nicole Landi, PSYC

Nicole Landi, 13

29) Impact of Exposure on Spanish Language Proficiency for Spanish-English Bilinguals

Daisey Delgado, SLHS

Janet Desmarais, SLHS

Erika Skoe, SLHS

30) Watch This! Learning Verbs from their Observational Contexts

Gabrielle Agcaoili, PSYC

Aditi H. Thaker, PSYC

Nina Schoener, University of California, Berkeley Sumarga H. Suanda PSYC, IBACS

31) Sleepyheads: MRI Data Quality in Sleeping Deaf Infants

Katherine Lee, COGS, SLHS

Brennan Smith, PNB

Kelly Mahaffy, PSYC, IBACS, YCSC Nabin Koirala, IBACS, YCSC, PSYC





32) White Matter Integrity as a Predictor of Decoding and Reading Comprehension Ability

Brianna Carvalho, PSYC, Exercise Science

Kelly Mahaffy, PSYC, IBACS, YCSC

Nabin Koirala, IBACS, YCSC, PSYC

Nicole Landi, PSYC, YCSC

33) Examining the Relationship Between Reading Pause and

Articulation Components with Reading Difficulty History
Erik Hoeft, San Francisco University High School

Zhichao Xia, PSYC

Fumiko Hoeft, PSYC, IBACS, UConn Waterbury

34) How Does Language Use Differ Between the Indigenous and

Non-Indigenous Communities in Connecticut?

Jessica Carter, Central Connecticut State University

Elena Koulidobrova. Central Connecticut State University

25) Priming Polationships in Symtox and Mathematics (PDISM

35) Priming Relationships in Syntax and Mathematics (PRISM)

Michelle Zhu, NEAG, MATH

Sarah Gallagher, SLHS

Vladimir Klyukin, SLHS

Adrián Garcia-Sierra, IBACS, COGS, SLHS

36) Functional Vocabulary Comprehension and Daily Living Skills in Minimally Speaking Children and Adolescents on the Autism Spectrum

Briana Ashton, SLHS, IBACS

Lindsay Butler, SLHS

37) The size of "it": Syntactic reactivation effects and accessibility of event representations during anaphora processing

Emma Wing, PSYC

Pasha Koval, COGS, LING

Whit Tabor, PSYC

38) Comparing modality and latency of responses between ASD,

TD, and LAD

Cynthia Petersons, PSYC

Kathryn Prescott, PSYC

Inge-Marie Eigsti, PSYC, IBACS

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39) Metric Grammars
Whitney Tabor, IBACS, PSYC
Hyosun Lee, IBACS, PSYC

40) Word Reading Components in Individuals with and without Dyslexia

*Hayden Fong,* San Francisco University High School *Zhichao Xia,* PSYC

Fumiko Hoeft, PSYC, IBACS, UConn Waterbury

41) Bridging Indigenous Language and Technology
Kelsey D. Lepak, Central Connecticut State University
Nitheesh Mannava, Central Connecticut State University
Liliana Sanchez, Central Connecticut State University
Hipolito Peralta, Central Connecticut State University
Elena Koulidobrova, Central Connecticut State University

42) 'Knowledge Circle': Collaboration in Documentation of Ecuadorian Sign Language

Elena Koulidobrova, Central Connecticut State University Julio Aguirre, Pontfica Catolica Universidad–Ecuador Fernanda Bossano, Instituto Padrimonio–Ecuador Jorge Banet, Pontfica Catolica, Universidad–Ecuador Randi Nelson, Central Connecticut State University

43) CODA: Linguistics Interrelations

Gilmara Jales da Costa, LING
Diane Lillo-Martin, LING, IBACS, COGS
Ronice Muller de Quadros, Universidade Federal
de Santa Catarina





### **Abbreviations**

AHS - Allied Health Sciences

ASL - American Sign Language Studies

ANT- Anthropology

COGS - Cognitive Science Program

COMM - Communications

EPSY - Educational Psychology

HDFS - Human Development & Family Studies

IBACS - Institute for the Brain and Cognitive Sciences

LING - Linguistics

LCL - Literature, Cultures, and Languages

LCL-AL- Literature, Cultures, and Languages: Applied Linguistics

MCB - Molecular & Cell Biology

NBL - Neurobiology of Language

NEAG- NEAG School of Education

PHIL - Philosophy

PNB- Physiology and Neurobiology

PSYC - Psychological Science

SLHS - Speech, Language, & Hearing Sciences

YCSC - Yale Child Study Center

### Collaborators

Duke University; Basque Center on Cognition, Brain, and Language; University of California, Davis; MIND Institute; Yale Child Study Center; Brain Imaging Research CORE; UConn Waterbury, San Francisco University High School; Central Connecticut State University; Pontfica Catolica Universidad–Ecuador, University of Massachussetts, University of California, Berkeley





Language Festival is a highlight of the semester for many in our community. Thank you to our speakers, presenters, collaborators, faculty mentors, and conference organizers for sharing your time, talents, and research with us.

We will see you at the 16th annual Language Festival in 2026!

