

VL2 PRESENTATION SERIES

AT A GLANCE

Sep 17, 2008	Jenny Singleton
Oct 9, 2008	Dimitris Metaxas
Oct 22, 2008	Ceil Lucas, Carolyn McCaskill, Joseph Hill, Roxanne Dummett, Pam Baldwin
Nov 6, 2008	Amy S. Pollick
Nov 19, 2008	Peter Hauser
Feb 11, 2009	Susan Goldin-Meadow
Feb 26, 2009	Jill Morford
Mar 11, 2009	Daphne Bavelier
Mar 26, 2009	Carol Niedle
Apr 9, 2009	David Corina
4:00 - 5:30 p.m.	
SAC 1011	

About the VL2 Presentation Series

In 2008-2009, Gallaudet's NSF Science of Learning Center on Visual Language and Visual Learning will host the VL2 Presentation Series featuring distinguished researchers renowned for their groundbreaking work.

This year's presentations include a broad range of topics related to socio-linguistic studies, brain functioning in deaf individuals, the function of gestures in language, and communication among primates.

Presentations are from 4:00 p.m to 5:30 p.m., with time available for a Q & A session. Presentations will take place at SAC 1011 on the Gallaudet University campus. Light refreshments will be provided. Presentations are open to the public and free of charge. Interpreters are provided. All presentations are videotaped and will be made available on the VL2 website.

For more information on any of the presentations, please refer to <http://vl2.gallaudet.edu>. VL2 is a Science of Learning Center funded by NSF, committed to the scientific research in Visual Language and Visual Learning.



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Visual Language and Visual Learning (VL2) is a Science of Learning Center, funded by National Science Foundation Grant # SBE-0541953.



VISUAL LANGUAGE
& VISUAL LEARNING

PRESENTATION
SERIES
2008 - 2009

SEPTEMBER 17, 2008

Becoming a Visual Learner: The Role of Visual Language Interaction in Young Deaf Children's Lives

Dr. Singleton will focus on a discussion of the role of early visual language experience and how early childhood educators may promote the development of deaf children's visual engagement.



Jenny Singleton



Susan Goldin-Meadow

FEBRUARY 11, 2009

Gesture's Role in Creating and Learning Language

Gesture is versatile in form and function. Under certain circumstances, gesture can substitute for speech, and when it does, it embodies the resilient properties of language. Under other circumstances, gesture can form a fully integrated system with speech and can predict when and how a child will learn.

OCTOBER 9, 2008

Computer-Assisted Analysis of Visual-Facial Gestures

Dr. Metaxas describes a framework for shape and motion estimation as well as recognition of faces and gestures.



Dimitris Metaxas



Jill Morford

FEBRUARY 26, 2009

How We Make Sense of Signs: Sign Perception and Recognition by Native and Non-native Signers

Signers perceive and make sense of thousands of signs every day in a process that seems effortless on the surface. Dr. Morford will report the results of two studies that investigate sign perception and sign recognition by native and non-native signers.

OCTOBER 22, 2008

Black ASL: Socio-Historical Foundations

Drs. Lucas and McCaskill along with their lab members will review the history of education for Black deaf children, discuss the implications of this history for the structure and use of Black ASL, and review the principal factors involved in the formation of language variety.



Ceil Lucas, Carolyn McCaskill, Joseph Hill, Roxanne Dummett, Pam Baldwin



Daphne Bavelier

MARCH 11, 2009

Brain Plasticity and Learning: Lessons from Deafness

Evidence for re-organization of visual functions after congenital deafness will be reviewed. Dr. Bavelier will argue that deaf individuals do not have better vision, but rather that deafness leads to change in some specific aspects of visual attention.

NOVEMBER 6, 2008

Gestures and Multimodal Communication in Great Apes

Dr. Pollick will describe manual gestures that initiate social interactions in bonobos and chimpanzees, as well as how gestures are combined with other communicative signals, namely facial expressions and vocalizations.



Amy S. Pollick



Carol Neidle

MARCH 26, 2009

Crossdisciplinary Corpus-Based ASL Research

Dr. Neidle will present information about a large, publicly available, linguistically annotated corpus, including high quality video files showing synchronized multiple views with a close-up of the face of Deaf native signers as well as discuss ways in which these data have been used in linguistic and computer science collaborations.

NOVEMBER 19, 2008

Impact of Deaf Parents on College Students' Self-Perceptions of their Cognitive Control

Early language exposure and the presence of appropriate role models appears to have an impact on how students self-monitor their behavior. For this study, Dr. Hauser administered the Behavior Rating Inventory of Executive Function (BRIEF) to over 300 deaf and hearing individuals. Preliminary analyses reveal how these groups perceive their own ability to regulate their behaviors and to control their thinking.



Peter Hauser



David Corina

APRIL 9, 2009

How Do We Recognize Signs? Psycholinguistic Investigations of Signed Languages

A prominent issue in sign language research is whether the processes involved in sign recognition are driven by factors that are common to human action recognition in general or entail specialized linguistic processing. Dr. Corina's work has important implications for issues that range from educational and medical practices to models of automatic language recognition.