

UTTERANCE INTERPRETATION AND COGNITIVE MODELS 4 (UICM4)

September 02-03, 2013

Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium

We are happy to announce the fourth edition of the conference “Utterance Interpretation and Cognitive Models” (UICM4) that will take place in Brussels on September 02-03, 2013.

The first edition addressed the issue of the semantics/pragmatics interface, essentially drawing on the work of semanticists, pragmaticists and philosophers of language. The second edition broadened the perspective by inviting the views of scholars from the related subfields of syntax, cognitive linguistics and evolutionary linguistics, while the third one gathered researchers mainly interested in the developmental and cognitive determinants of utterance interpretation.

Conference scope

For this edition we would like to focus on questions related to implicit contents in utterance interpretation. Among the different ways for a content to be implicit, we will choose as the topic of the conference pragmatic inferences, related for instance to non-literal and affective contents, style effects, indirect speech acts, displays of politeness.

The conference aims at reaching across disciplinary boundaries and bringing together researchers who, though belonging to distinct schools or traditions, all take a view of interpretation that is informed by cognitive concerns. We are convinced that a better understanding of how utterances come to be endowed with meaning, particularly in cases where it is conveyed implicitly, calls for collaboration between various subfields of linguistics, as well as with other disciplines. We hope that the fourth conference on *Utterance Interpretation and Cognitive Models* will help discussing the challenging and exciting issues concerning implicit communication.

Keynote speakers

- **Elisabeth Camp** (University of Pennsylvania)
- **Marina Terkourafi** (University of Urbana-Champaign, Illinois)
- **Rachel Giora** (University of Tel Aviv)
- **Raymond Gibbs** (University of California, Santa Cruz)

Abstract submission:

In addition to the keynote lectures, the conference will feature contributed papers. We welcome submissions of abstracts for 20-minute presentations

focusing on any aspect of the communication of implicit contents, related to the following issues:

- What are the theoretical problems triggered by the study of implicit meaning?
- What are the common characteristics underlying the conveying and the representation of implicit contents?
- How are we to model the processing of implicit contents? Which tools can we use to test these models, building on empirical data?
- Can we consider new methods for studying the understanding of utterances from an experimental point of view?
- Prosody is an important feature of the production of utterances. Which role(s) does it play in the interpretation of implicit contents associated with utterances?

All the contributions will be taken into account, originating from fields such as philosophy of language, psychology, linguistics, anthropology and (neuro)cognitive science will be taken into account. Interdisciplinary and challenging approaches are particularly welcome.

Important dates:

Deadline for abstracts: 30/04/2013

Notification of acceptance: 30/06/2013

Conference: 02-03/09/2013

Abstract format:

- Only electronic submissions are accepted.
- The length of the submissions is a maximum of 500 words (references excluded).
- Each abstract should clearly indicate the title of the talk, and provide indication of the references used.
- The abstracts should be prepared for blind review, and include no indication of the name(s) of the author(s). Only anonymous abstracts will be considered.
- Abstracts should be submitted to the following email addresses: **uicm4@ulb.ac.be**, with "UICM4-Submission" as subject.
- The abstracts should be sent as an attachment to an email message, in either MS Word (.doc), Rich Text Format (.rtf) or Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format.
- The body of the email message should contain the following information: The name(s) of the author(s), affiliation, title of the paper and email address.
- A maximum of one submission as author, and one as co-author, will be allowed.