

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2016

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Change in the CECOG organizing committee



The former (on the left) and the new (on the right) CECOG president in 2008 at California.

Csaba Pléh, founding president of the Central European Cognitive Science Association has decided to retire from this position. At the committee meeting Gergely Csibra (Central European University, Budapest) was elected as the new president.

In honor of the former president a poster prize (*The Pléh Prize*) was founded that will be awarded each year to the best poster presented at the Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science.

Otherwise all organizational matters and our intellectual goals remain the same.

8th Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science, Croatia

The Central European Cognitive Science Association organized its 8th annual conference between 28th April – 1st May in Dubrovnik, Croatia. The conference themed 'Comparative Cognition, from Ethology to Cognitive Science' attracted over 80 participants from 17 countries. Here is what participants say:

The VIII. Dubrovnik Conference on Cognitive Science was my first time as a poster presenter. I really liked the topic for this year, and the invited keynote speakers had interesting presentations too. The organizers made an amazing program schedule, the timing was great, and we had enough time for the poster sessions between the presentations. The whole conference had a cozy atmosphere, the social programs guaranteed good opportunities to talk with the other conference participants.

Flóra Szánthó

PhD Student, Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary

I thought the conference was brilliant. It was the best conference that I have attended to date. The location was perfect and the accommodation was very nice although a little hard to find initially. This was the first conference I've been to where I enjoyed every single talk as comparative cognition is my area of interest. The poster conference was much better than other ones I have attended in the past. This was because the sessions were long enough for people to have a break, network and view the posters and the number of sessions made it possible to only have a small number of posters presented each time. The only negative with the poster sessions was that it was too noisy in the corridors so maybe in the future you could try to spread out further along the corridor to create more space between posters.

Benjamin Keep

Research Assistant, University of Lincoln, UK



The conference had a pleasant, family-style feel to it, ensuring that all participants had the opportunity to talk to each other. I loved the format of few talks and lots of time for discussion over posters.

Dr. Ljerka Ostojić

Research Associate, University of Cambridge, UK

The DUCOG conference is, for young researchers like me, an opportunity to chat and discuss with experienced scientist. I was pleased to receive advices, comments and opinions about my work. The talks were interesting and the poster sessions were always full of people happy to discuss each other's experiments. I'm definitely looking forward to know next year conference's theme and dates!

Massimo De Agrò

PhD Candidate, University of Padova, Italy

The following DuCog conferences will include the themes of "Social mind from babies through the life course" (25-28 May 2017) and "Conversation and theory of mind" (24-28 May 2018). Members of the Central European Cognitive Science Association can register at a reduced fee. For details, see our website

Upcoming conferences



Conference on Multilingualism

Ghent, Belgium (11-13 September 2016)

Registration is open



KogWis: Space for Cognition

Bremen, Germany (26-30 September 2016)

Early registration deadline: 16 July 2016



British Association for Cognitive Neuroscience Conference

Budapest, Hungary (12-14 September 2016)

Extended call for abstracts: 11 June 2016



Dreaming Asleep, Dreaming Awake International Conference

Warsaw, Poland (7-8 October 2016)

Abstract submission deadline: 30 June 2016



**International Conference on
Education & Educational Psychology**
Rhodes, Greece (11-15 October 2016)
Abstract submission deadline: 31 July 2016



**IEEE International Conference on Cognitive
InfoCommunications**
Wroclaw, Poland (16-18 October 2016)
Abstract submission deadline: 1 July 2016



**The International Society for Pre- and Perinatal Psychology
and Medicine Annual Conference**
Stoepeln, Germany
(21-23 October 2016)



**International Conference on
Humanities and Cultural Studies**
Prague, Czech Republik (6-10 November 2016)
Abstract submission deadline: 30 September 2016



Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems
Barcelona, Spain
(5-10 December 2016)
Registration opens: 2 August 2016



Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development
Budapest, Hungary
(5-7 January 2017)
Abstract submission is now open.



**The Annual International Conference on Cognitive –
Social, and Behavioural Sciences**
Brno, Czech Republic (9-11 January 2017)
Abstract submission deadline: 1 December 2016



**International Convention of
Psychological Science**
Vienna, Austria (23-25 March 2017)
Call for submissions will open in June 2016



Speech Perception and Acquisition group (Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona, Spain)

The Speech Perception and Acquisition group is led by Prof. Nuria Sebastián Gallés. The main focus of the group was originally the study of language learning with a special emphasis on speech perception processes in both monolingual and bilingual populations during development and adulthood. For example, studies have been conducted that address how infants process speech sounds structure, acquire their phonetic repertoires, discriminate languages, or integrate speech information coming from different modalities. In adults, individual differences have been explored when perceiving speech and the relationship between speech perception and production when listening to native and non-native sounds. However the research extends to other cognitive processes outside the language domain. For example the influences of a bilingual language learning context during infancy in attention or face processing have also been explored. More recently the group has also focused on understanding how social contexts, specifically social hierarchy and ingroup-outgroup affiliation, can affect learning and other cognitive processes such as the theory of mind.

The lab works with different methodologies that are based on behavioral as well as physiological and brain imaging responses.

Jesús Bas
PhD student

Recent publications of the group include:

- Burgaleta, M., Sanjuán, A., Ventura-Campos, N., Sebastián-Galles, N., & Ávila, C. (2016). Bilingualism at the core of the brain. Structural differences between bilinguals and monolinguals revealed by subcortical shape analysis. *NeuroImage*, 125, 437-445.
- Díaz, B., Erdocia, K., de Menezes, R. F., Mueller, J. L., Sebastián-Gallés, N., & Laka, I. (2016). Electrophysiological correlates of second-language syntactic processes are related to native and second language distance regardless of age of acquisition. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 7.
- Santamaría-García, H., Burgaleta, M., & Sebastián-Gallés, N. (2015). Neuroanatomical markers of social hierarchy recognition in humans: A combined ERP/MRI Study. *The Journal of Neuroscience*, 35(30), 10843-10850.
- Soley, G., & Sebastián - Gallés, N. (2015). Infants prefer tunes previously introduced by speakers of their native language. *Child Development*, 86(6), 1685-1692.
- Brito, N. H., Sebastián-Galles, N., & Barr, R. (2015). Differences in language exposure and its effects on memory flexibility in monolingual, bilingual, and trilingual Infants. *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition*, 18(04), 670-682

About CECOG: The Central European Cognitive Science Association (CECOG) is a civil association promoting cooperation in the field of cognitive science in Central Europe. The association was initiated at a meeting in August 2008 by the Budapest University of Technology and Economics and the University of Zagreb by Melita Kovacevic, Ilona Kovács, and Csaba Pléh. President: Gergely Csibra; managing organizers and local hosts of the DuCog series: Nevena Padovan and Paula Fischer; managing secretary of the association: Paula Fischer.

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Previous newsletters are available at our [website](#)