Using Real-World Knowledge During Language Comprehension

Prof. Mante NIEUWLAND
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Date: 5 March 2019 (Tuesday)
Time: 4:30 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
Venue: Swire Hall One,
Fung King Hey Building,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Abstract:

To make sense of everyday language, it is essential for people to map what is said onto what they hold to be true about the world. This verification process is carried out routinely and almost immediately as a message unfolds over time. This talk focuses on this process by which we recruit real-world knowledge in an incremental manner, and introduces my ERP research on how this process unfolds in sentences considered to be ‘difficult’ (e.g., negative or counterfactual sentences)

Speaker:

Mante Nieuwland completed his BA, MA and PhD Cum Laude degrees in Psychology all from the University of Amsterdam. He subsequently worked as a Rubicon post-doctoral researcher at Tufts University (2007-2009), as a staff scientist at the Basque Center for Cognition, Brain and Language (2010-2012) and as a Chancellor’s Fellow/Tenured Lecturer at the University of Edinburgh (2012-2016), and he is currently a senior investigator in the Department of Neurobiology of Language at the Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics. His research focuses on how the brain achieves high-level aspects of language processing, such as pragmatic and referential meaning, and on the role of incremental and predictive processing in language comprehension.

ALL ARE WELCOME