

GESTURE AND SPEECH IN INTERACTION

The fourth edition of Gesture and Speech in Interaction (GESPIN) was held in Nantes, France on September 2–4, 2015. The previous three editions took place in Poznan in Poland, Bielefeld in Germany and Tilburg in the Netherlands. This year, more than 40 presentations were made in the field of gesture studies. GESPIN is an international conference on how gesture and speech work together to achieve various goals.

The keynote speeches of the conference addressed three different aspects of multimodal interaction: gesture and grammar, gesture acquisition, and gesture and social interaction. In a talk entitled *Qualities of event construal in speech and gesture: Aspect and tense*, Alan Cienki presented an ongoing research project on narratives in French, German and Russian, a project that focuses especially on the verbal and gestural expression of grammatical tense and aspect in narratives in the three languages. Jean-Marc Colletta's talk, entitled *Gesture and Language Development: towards a unified theoretical framework*, described the joint acquisition and development of speech and early conventional and representational gestures. In *Grammar, deixis, and multimodality between code-manifestation and code-integration or why Kendon's Continuum should be transformed into a gestural circle*, Ellen Fricke proposed a revisited grammar of noun phrases that integrates gestures as part of the semiotic and typological codes of individual languages. From a pragmatic and cognitive perspective, Judith Holler explored the use of gaze and hand gestures as means of organizing turns at talk as well as establishing common ground in a presentation entitled *On the pragmatics of multi-modal face-to-face communication: Gesture, speech and gaze in the coordination of mental states and social interaction*.

Among the talks and posters presented at the conference, the vast majority of topics related to gesture and speech in interaction understood both in terms of mapping of units in different semiotic modes and of the use of gesture and speech in social interaction. Sever-

al presentations explored the effects of impairments (such as diseases or the natural ageing process) on gesture and speech. The communicative relevance of gesture and speech and audience-design in natural interactions, as well as in more controlled settings like television debates and reports, was another topic addressed during the conference. Some participants also presented research on first and second language learning, while others discussed the relationship between gesture and intonation. While most participants presented research on gesture and speech from an observer's perspective, be it in semiotics or pragmatics, some nevertheless focused on another important aspect: the cognitive processes involved in language production and perception.

Researchers from the Odessa Law Academy, Prof. Dr. Nataliya Petlyuchenko and Dr. Anna Artiukhova, also made a presentation at the conference. Their paper *Aggressive Rhetoric: Prosodic and Kinetic Means* presents aggressive rhetoric as the persuasive method in political communication, the transformation of the concept 'speech aggression' towards its positive semantic, the complex of aggressive speech means on the verbal and paraverbal levels. According to them, verbal means of an aggressive rhetoric are the rhetorical figures, such as the antithesis that creates the greatest emotional stress due to its underlying semantic contrast. Paraverbal means of aggressive rhetoric are the prosody and co-speech gestures of the antitheses.

For the complete proceedings of the conference, please visit <https://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/hal-01195646/document>.

