

Call for papers

Second International Conference "Prominence in Language"

University of Cologne, 11-13 July 2018

Prominence relations establish a ranking between linguistic units, such as between prosodic units, or between arguments of a verb or between discourse referents. Prominence is therefore one of the key notions in language and communication: it accounts for prosodic highlighting and for the building of linguistic structure and discourse representations. The SFB 1252 [Prominence in Language](#) (University of Cologne) investigates the role of prominence from an interdisciplinary linguistic perspective, involving phonology and phonetics, morpho-syntax, semantics and discourse pragmatics. The [Second International Conference "Prominence in Language"](#) (the [first](#) took place in Cologne in 2015) aims at advancing the understanding of the notion of prominence and at promoting the exchange among researchers working on prominence-related phenomena from various perspectives. We invite contributions employing quantitative and qualitative research methods, synchronic and diachronic perspectives, psycho- and neuro-linguistic and cognitively oriented approaches as well as applied ones (such as automatic translation).

A (non-exhaustive) list of topics to be addressed at the workshop may include the following:

1. the encoding of prominence at the phonetics-phonology interface;
2. language-specific and universal prominence scales (animacy scale, referentiality scale, thematic role hierarchy, etc.);
3. factors determining the ranking of entities in discourse (e.g., accessibility, salience, activation, topicality, status as central protagonist);
4. psycho- and neuro-linguistic underpinnings of prominence relations;
5. the role of prominence in the tense-aspect system;
6. the relation between the prominence status of entities in discourse and their availability as perspective-takers.

The workshop will feature plenary talks in the fields of phonetics-phonology, morphosyntax-semantics and discourse by three keynote speakers:

- Jason Bishop (CUNY)
- Eva Schultze-Berndt (The University of Manchester)
- Andrew Kehler (University of California at San Diego)

Organizing Committee

Paul Compensis
Jakob Egetenmeyer
Birgit Hellwig
Stefan Hinterwimmer

Scientific Committee

Martin Becker
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Martine Grice
Birgit Hellwig
Klaus von Heusinger
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Hosted by the SFB 1252 [Prominence in Language](#) and the [Cologne Center of Language Sciences](#) (CCLS), the workshop will take place at the conference center of [KOMED](#), Mediapark 7, 50670, Cologne, from 11 to 13 July 2018.

Abstract submission

We ask for the submission of abstracts on prominence-related phenomena by January 15, 2018. Submissions are limited to a maximum of one individual and one joint abstract per author or two joint abstracts per author. Abstracts should be written in English and not exceed 500 words. Figures, examples and references might be additionally included, but abstracts must not exceed two A4 pages. Please use Times New Roman, 12pt font, single line spacing, and 2.5cm margins. Abstracts should be submitted via EasyChair at the following address: <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=icpl2>

Contact:

prominence-conference-2@uni-koeln.de

Important dates:

January 15, 2018	Submission of abstracts
February 28, 2018	Notification of acceptance
April 30, 2018	Registration open
July 11-13, 2018	Conference