

ViLA

Variation in Language Acquisition

Rorschach / Switzerland

24th - 26th of June 2020

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS



«Variation in Language Acquisition» is a conference focusing on the acquisition of sociolinguistic variation in multilingual and multidialectal contexts in first and second or foreign languages. ViLA 4 aims to bring together the growing amount of research that considers the ability to perceive and employ variation in speech as an integral part of the language acquisition process.

The conference comes as the fourth one of this kind, after a workshop in 2012 in Münster, Germany, a conference in Grenoble, France, in 2014 and a conference in Salzburg, Austria, in 2017. ViLA 4 will take place at Swiss University for Speech and Language Therapy Rorschach close to the Lake of Constance in Switzerland.

The conference aims to cover the following four thematic issues:

1. Child acquisition of dialectal varieties of the first language;
2. Child multilingual and multidialectal acquisition within multilingual/multidialectal communities;
3. Acquisition of language-internal variation as well as language mixing in the case of second language learning in contact with native speakers [e.g. study abroad, migration], and learning about sociolinguistic variation in the foreign language classroom;
4. Lifelong second dialect acquisition.

The following invited key note speakers have confirmed their participation:

1. Gunther de Vogelaer, University of Münster, Germany
2. Kyriakos Antoniou, University of Cyprus, Cyprus
3. Lisa Green, University of Massachusetts Amherst, United States of America
4. Sabine Stoll, University of Zurich, Switzerland

Research from different disciplinary backgrounds is welcome: sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics, social cognition, anthropology, social neurosciences, etc. We encourage proposals that bring together cognitive and social issues or that combine experimental and corpus or field methods.

We welcome proposals for 20-minute paper presentations followed by 10-minute discussions that address the above issues, from one or more of the following perspectives: Alternatively you have the possibility to submit a poster, which will be presented twice within the poster session during the coffee break.

In any case applications must meet the specific criteria enumerated below:

- Description and modeling of adult- or native-like sociolinguistic knowledge and behavioural patterns
- Underlying cognitive or linguistic mechanisms
- Language socialization
- Acquisition of the indexical field and links between linguistic and social knowledge
- Influence of the environment: family, peers, and teachers
- Studies contrasting or combining theoretical views: formal approaches, constructionist and usage-based approaches, etc.
- Language acquisition and language change
- Combining methods and desirable innovation in methodology

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FORMAT FOR ABSTRACT

- 500 words. times, single spaced, title centered at the top in bold, word count indicated
- question clearly stated, significance and originality for the field, methods, analysis, discussion
- examples, tables, figures and references on a second page

Abstracts (pdf format) should be submitted using the following email address: vila2020@shlr.ch

The working language of the conference is English.

More information:

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FEES

(include the three lunches and daily coffee breaks)

Before 31st of March 2020

- General: 200 CHF
- Students, unaffiliated: 100 CHF
- Conference dinner: 60 CHF

After 31st of March 2020

- General: 250 CHF
- Students, unaffiliated: 120 CHF
- Conference dinner: 60 CHF

Important dates

- Deadline for submission: 30th of November 2019
- Notification of acceptance: 29th of February 2020
- Conference date: 24th-26th of June 2020