

## Language in Mind and Society

<b>Locations</b>	Edgbaston Room, Lucas House
<b>Date(s)</b>	Thursday 25th (09:00) - Friday 26th July 2013 (17:00)
<b>Contact</b>	<b>Workshop Leaders:</b> Professor John Barnden and <a href="/staff/profiles/elal/littlemore-jeannette.aspx">Dr Jeannette Littlemore (/staff/profiles/elal/littlemore-jeannette.aspx)</a>

To register your interest in attending this workshop, please email [Sarah Myring \(mailto:s.myring@bham.ac.uk\)](mailto:s.myring@bham.ac.uk), stating any special dietary requirements you may have.

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There is a wealth of work on language across all our Colleges at the University of Birmingham. This has resulted in some interdisciplinary collaboration, but there remain huge unexploited opportunities for the university. And there is a particular 'hot' topic for many disciplines which would provide cross-disciplinary opportunities for colleagues across the university. This will be the workshop's central theme.



It is about interactions between the cognition that underlies individuals' use of language with social and cultural factors; including issues such as how social interaction and social/cultural differences affect language, in its external forms, people's related internal cognition, and the very notions of meaning and understanding. It also includes issues such as how language aspects such as metaphor and emotional/evaluative connotations contribute both to social cohesion and social/cultural difference, and how language relates to communicative modes such as gestures, diagrams and pictures. These matters are important for solving practical problems; from government-citizen communication through teaching practice, to computer technology that interacts with people in ways they find congenial.

The workshop will seek to stimulate discussion on possible collaboration across a wide variety of disciplines: AI, psychology, social sciences, philosophy, medicine, linguistics, to name just a few. It will include brief, idea-seeding presentations by external speakers and plenty of discussion time over the two days, where participants from any part of the university will be encouraged to contribute.

### **WORKSHOP PROGRAMME:**

#### **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
9.00-9.15	WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS
9.15-11.00	John Barnden (Computer Sci, UoB: artificial intelligence & language) & Jeannette Littlemore (English, UoB: applied linguistics & language)
11.00-11.30	COFFEE BREAK
11.30-13.00	Charles Forceville (U. Amsterdam: cognitive linguistics & multimodal metaphor) & Tony Veale (Univ. Coll. Dublin: AI & creativity etc.)
13.00-14.15	LUNCH
14.15-15.45	Yorick Wilks (Inst. Human & Machine Cognition, Florida: AI, artif. companions, ...) & Tina Krennmayr (Metaphor Lab, Amsterdam: cognitive lings & psycholinguistics)
15.45-16.00	TEA BREAK
16.00-17.30	Brief statements from any other participants (academic and non-academic) of what they might like to get out of any multi-disciplinary projects, and general discussion.

#### **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July**

Time	Activity
9.15-10.45	Jerry Hobbs (Info Sciences Inst., Calif.: computational linguistics, emotions, metaphor) & Alice Deignan (English, U. Leeds: corpus linguistics)
10.45-11.15	COFFEE BREAK
11.30-13.00	Khurshid Ahmad (Comp. Sci., Trinity Coll. Dublin: comp. ling., sentiment analysis, ...) & possibly another
13.00-14.15	LUNCH
14.15-15.45	Sotaro Kita (Psychology, U. Warwick: gesture & relationships to speech) & Fiona MacArthur (U. Extremadura, Spain: applied linguistics)
15.45-16.00	TEA BREAK
16.00-17.00	General Discussion of Marie Curie ITNs and other possible projects

