

## **"Compression within a generative view of thought and language"**

(based on joint work with A. Alexiadou, T. Guasti, and K. Yatsushiro)

Language is generally thought to be closely related to non-linguistic thought. We argue instead for a view where thought representations are radically compressed before linguistic articulation. Specifically, we propose that thought representations are generated independent of language and that language realizes in a compressed form. Initial evidence for the account comes from syntax-semantics interface phenomena, code-mixing and -blending, expressive meaning, and historical linguistics. In this talk, I focus on ongoing work developing the approach by using data from large-scale (i.e. 30+ languages) comparisons of child language data.