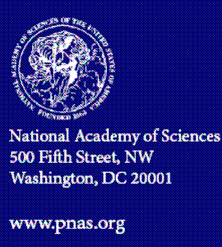


**1. NEWS.****“Scientists show that language shapes perception.”**

Advances in cognitive neuroscience (the science of how the brain works when we think) have shown that what our eyes see and what our brain interprets are two different things. Professor Guillaume Thierry, Dr Panos Athanasopoulos and colleagues at Bangor University report in the prestigious journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA* that our language causes our brains to perceive colours differently. – read more: <http://www.bangor.ac.uk/news/full.php.en?id=792>

**PNAS**

The study attracted attention from the media and **Panos Athanasopoulos** was interviewed by BBC Wales: <http://bilingualism.bangor.ac.uk/RadioWalesfile.mp3>  
The Daily Post:

<http://www.dailypost.co.uk/news/north-wales-news/2009/02/27/welsh-eyes-see-world-differently-55578-23023442/>

as well as Coast 96.3 and Champion 103.

The findings also attracted the attention of Paul Kay, one of the originators of the theory of colour naming universals: <http://languagelog ldc.upenn.edu/nll/?p=1172>

**Language & Cognition Research Group**

Language & Cognition is a research group based in the School of Linguistics at Bangor University. Its members' research focuses on the relationship between language and cognitive structure and function, including the way in which language reflects conceptual organisation, as well as the transformational nature of language with respect to cognition. Major research foci include the relationship between language and thought, the issue of linguistic relativity, the nature of conceptual structure and its interface with language, and models and description of language, discourse organisation and practice, and thought. Methodologies employed are drawn from cognitive linguistics, discourse analysis and experimental psycholinguistics. The group provides a venue for research collaboration and support. The group's members include **Panos Athanasopoulos**, **Vyv Evans** (Group Leader, pictured), **June Luchjenbroers** and **Stéphanie Pourcel**.

**Speech Research Group**

The Speech Research Group at the School of Linguistics and English language focuses on a wide range of research topics related to speech. Much of their work is experimental in nature and they are particularly interested in exploring the intricate relation between phonetics and phonology in various settings and populations. Its members' research focuses on bilingual speech acquisition, foreign accent, speech prosody and intonation, laboratory phonology, phonetic variation, articulatory settings, speech technology and phonetics in interaction. The group's members include **Paul Carter**, **Llio Humphreys**, **Fredrik Karlsson**, **Ineke Mennen** (Group Leader, pictured), **Delyth Prys**, **Ivan Uemlianin** and **Briony Williams**.

**Panos Athanasopoulos** has been invited to give three talks in the United States in April: One at Penn State University (06/04), one at Temple University (08/04) and one at the University of Pennsylvania (10/04).

**Vyv Evans** has been invited to give a keynote lecture at the annual meeting of the Croatian Applied Linguistics Society, to take place in May at the University of Osijek in Croatia. The theme of the conference is:

SPACE AND TIME IN LANGUAGE: LANGUAGE IN SPACE AND TIME

**Ineke Mennen** has had a colloquium accepted at the International Symposium of Bilingualism 7, to take place in Utrecht from 8-11 July 2009. The topic of the colloquium is 'Characterising pronunciation talent', and it will have 4 papers in total.

**Vyv Evans** has submitted a book review on the *Handbook of Cognitive Linguistics*, invited by the *Journal of Linguistics*.

**Vyv Evans** has begun work on a general audience book entitled, *Language: A Window on the Mind*. The book focuses on the way in which recent advances in language science increasingly reveal hitherto hidden recesses of the cognitively modern human mind. The book has been solicited for publication by OUP. Further details, a table of contents and a sample chapter are available on the web here: <http://www.vyvevans.net/#WINDOW>

The bestselling Glossary of Cognitive Linguistics by **Vyv Evans** has now been translated into Korean. The Korean-language edition will be published in April 2009. There is also a Polish-language edition forthcoming.

If you wish to attend the **AHRC workshop 1** on "one brain, two languages: bridging neuroscience and linguistics", please click the link below and provide your name and e-mail address by 6 March to apply for participation.

<http://www.doodle.com/participation.html?pollId=he33yhb5gdemwpbn>

## 2. NEW PUBLICATIONS.

**Pourcel, S.** (2009). Relativistic application of thinking for speaking. In J. Guo, E. Lieven, N. Budwig, S. Ervin-Tripp, K. Nakamura, and S. Ozcaliskan, eds. *Crosslinguistic Approaches to the Psychology of Language: Research in the Tradition of Dan Isaac Slobin*. pp. 493-503. Hove: Psychology Press.

Thierry, G., **Athanasopoulos, P.**, Wiggett, A., Dering, B. & Kuipers, J. (2009). Unconscious effects of language-specific terminology on pre-attentive colour perception. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA*.  
<http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2009/02/23/0811155106.full.pdf+html>

## 3. CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS/ATTENDANCES.

**Leimgruber, J.** (February 2009). Ethnicity as a Variable in Singapore English. *Linguistics Circle Seminar Series*, Bangor University.

**Williams, E.** (February 2009). Home-school language switching in poor countries: a cause for concern? *ESRC Centre for Research on Bilingualism seminar series*, Bangor University.

#### 4. DIARY.

##### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

16th –17th April 2009

Multilingualism, Regional & Minority Languages: Paradigms for 'Languages of the Wider World'

Venue: School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London

##### LINGUISTICS CIRCLE SEMINARS

(Wednesdays 2pm in Linguistics Seminar room)

- 25 March**                    **Prof Jenny Chesire**, Queen Mary University of London  
*Innovation and change in London English*
- 22 April**                    **Mr Ryuichiro Hirata**, Bangor University  
*Preposition Stranding in Welsh? From generative approach*
- 29 April**                    **Prof Svenja Adolphs**, University of Nottingham  
*Developing contextually-sensitive corpora*

##### ESRC CENTRE FOR RESEARCH ON BILINGUALISM SEMINARS

(Mondays 4pm in the Centre's Multi-resource Room)

- 2 March**                    **M. Carmen Parafita Couto & Peredur Davies**  
Bangor University  
*Are Miami bilinguals like Welsh bilinguals? A Matrix Language Frame approach*
- 9 March**                    **Matthias Jilka**, University of Stuttgart  
*Introducing a comprehensive investigation of different manifestations of phonetic talent*
- 12 March** (Thursday) **Paola Giuli Dussias**, Penn State University  
*Using eye-movements to study the comprehension of code-switched speech*
- 16 March**                    **Dr Elena Nicoladis**, University of Alberta  
*Title TBA*
- 23 March**                    **Peter Indefrey**, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics  
*Do first and second language processing differ in the brain?*
- 30 March**                    **Prof. Colin Williams**, Cardiff University  
*Title TBA*
- 6 April**                    **Alberto Rosignoli**, Bangor University  
*Title TBA*
- 20 April**                    **Noriko Hoshino**, Bangor University  
*Title TBA*
- 27 April**                    **Dr Barbara Z. Pearson**, University of Massachusetts  
*Title TBA*

## **LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND COGNITION SEMINARS**

(Thursdays 4pm in Brigantia 342)

**5 March**

**Olga Gordeeva**, Queen Margaret University  
*Effects of non-native accent in L2 speech on the organisation of vowel systems in unit-selection speech synthesis*

**19 March**

**Laurence White**, University of Bristol  
*That elusive rhythm*

*“Thus we may conclude that the mental development of the individual, and his way of forming concepts, depend to a high degree upon language. This makes us realize to what extent the same language means the same mentality. In this sense, thinking and language are linked together”*

*- Albert Einstein*