

RaAM

CALL FOR PAPERS

RaAM 6th Specialized Seminar

“Ecological Cognition and Metaphor”

University of Southern Denmark, Odense, May 18th – 19th, 2017

We are pleased to announce that the 6th specialized seminar of RaAM – the International Association for Researching and Applying Metaphor – will take place on Thursday 18th and Friday 19th May 2017 at the University of Southern Denmark in Odense, Denmark, hosted by the Department of Language and Communication. The theme of the seminar is “Ecological Cognition and Metaphor”.

Plenary speakers:

- Raymond W. Gibbs, Jr. - *University of California, Santa Cruz, USA*
- Agnes Szokolszky - *University of Szeged, Hungary*
- Jordan Zlatev - *University of Lund, Sweden*

Ecological Cognition and Metaphor

The theme of the 2017 seminar is “Ecological Cognition and Metaphor”. The goal of the seminar is to relate the newest tendencies within cognitive science to the study of metaphor and other forms of figurative language. In recent years a new way of looking at the notion of cognition is gaining ground, often labelled as 4E-cognition (embodied, enacted, embedded and extended cognition). The basic claim is that cognition cannot be reserved to individual processes in the head (and body) only; rather cognition is seen as “a doing”; it is something we do in our active and explorative sense-making with the bio-social environment. Thus, an ecological turn is on its way within cognitive science that seeks to explore thought, feeling and action as inter-related dimensions of an agent-environment system. The seminar will investigate these new approaches in relation to the study of metaphor, i.e.: If cognition is no longer to be seen as solely a property of the individual mind where does it leave a cognitive approach to metaphor? Can we investigate metaphor as evolving constraints on experience, thought and feeling within a distributed cognitive system? What is the role of metaphor in the creation of the interpersonal mind, e.g., how can metaphors be studied as affordances for joint action and thinking?

Call for Papers

We invite researchers from different disciplines, theoretical and methodological backgrounds to submit abstracts of papers, themed panels or poster presentations. These may include (but are not restricted to) studies of metaphor and other forms of figurative language in relation to:

- 4E –cognition (embodied, enacted, embedded and extended)
- Distributed language and cognition
- Multimodality
- Social interaction
- Gesture studies
- Narrative studies
- Media and the public debate
- Emotion and affect
- Ecological psychology
- Dynamical systems theory
- Phenomenology and inter-subjectivity

Submission of Abstracts

Abstracts are invited for paper presentations and posters. Abstracts should be no more than 300 words (excluding references). Proposals for themed panels (2-4 papers) should be no more than 400 words. All abstracts have to be submitted via EasyChair.

Deadline for abstract submission: **December 9th 2016**

- Notification of abstract acceptance or rejection: **January 9th, 2017**
- Registration for seminar participation: **February – April 2017**

Please note that you will have to be a member of the RaAM association in order to attend the seminar. For further information visit: www.raam.org.uk/join-raam. You do not have to be a RaAM member to submit an abstract, but you will need to be a registered and paid-up member in order to complete the conference registration process in spring 2017.

Pre-seminar workshop

On May 17th there will be a pre-seminar workshop led by Ray Gibbs and Thomas Wiben Jensen. The workshop is open to both Ph.D. students as well as senior researchers:

Enacting Metaphor in Everyday Life

The idea of the workshop is to explore the various ways people live (and not just "live by") or enact metaphor in different ways in life, including language, gesture, different expressive, artistic actions and ordinary private moments. At the core of this way of looking at metaphor is the idea of "metaphorical enaction". As an alternative to the more traditional notion of "metaphorical

expression”, implying the idea of previously formed mental concepts, metaphorical enaction gives priority to the idea that we create our experience through our bodily activities, cultural practices, social actions and so forth. In this sense the environment is shaped by the way we act. This means that metaphorical enaction is also a way of bringing forth ways of life. Following from this the workshop invites contributions looking at different perspectives and methods for exploring metaphorical enaction. A central question is what kind of theory is needed to account for the diversity of metaphorical experiences and ways of bringing forth double meanings. Thus, we invite work from a range of different ways of analyzing metaphor such as experiments, corpus work, literary analysis, art work, or multimodal social interaction, as well as phenomenological ways to uncover the presence of metaphor in our lives.

In cooperation with RaAM, a number of bursaries will be made available (details to follow soon).

Further questions can be addressed to the following email address: raamdenmark@gmail.com
Seminar website (under construction)

Looking forward to seeing you in Odense!

The RaAM 2017 Local Organising Committee

Thomas Wiben Jensen (University of Southern Denmark)

Astrid Jensen (University of Southern Denmark)

Linda Greve (Aarhus University)

Anders Klitmøller (University of Southern Denmark)

Anders Hougaard (University of Southern Denmark)

Cindie Maagaard (University of Southern Denmark)