CENTRO DE LINGUÍSTICA DA UNIVERSIDADE DO PORTO
CLUP, Unidade FCT nº 22
(Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, Portugal)
(PEst-OE/LIN/UI0022/2011)

WORKSHOP

"INTRODUCTION TO BIOLINGUISTICS"

Faculdade de Letras da Universidade do Porto
Sala de Reuniões (2º Piso)
8 November, 2011
(10:30h – 18:00h)

CEDRIC BOECKX

Catalan Institute for Advanced Studies (ICREA)
&
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB)

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

In this two-part seminar I will examine the nature and roots of "biolinguistics" (by which I mean the interdisciplinary attempt to uncover the biological nature of the human language faculty). I will also devote a fair amount of time to outlining current research opportunities and what I think needs to take place to forge head.
By the end of the seminar I hope that students will be familiar with the central questions of the field, some of the major controversies surrounding it, and some sense of what the field may have to offer in the future.

The talks will not exclusively be addressed to students of linguistics, and will be of interest to a broad range of disciplines, all of which can be characterized as the "life sciences". Those interested in language deficit, language acquisition, anthropology, neuroscience, and developmental/evolutionary biology are welcome, as are students in the philosophy of science.

Technical expertise in linguistics is absolutely not required to be able to follow the lectures. Familiarity with the history of modern cognitive science would be a plus.

READINGS

Those who may want to do some preparatory readings are encouraged to turn to the following three classics:
-Lenneberg, E. 1967. Biological foundations of language. Wiley.
-Chomsky, N. 1980. Rules and representations. Columbia UP.
-Piattelli-Palmarini, M., ed. 1980. Language and learning. Harvard UP.

As well as the following two recent discussions:
-Boeckx, C. and A.M. Di Sciullo. 2011. Introduction: Contours of the Biolinguistic Research Agenda. In Di Sciullo and Boeckx, The biolinguistic enterprise. Oxford UP.
-Jackendoff, R. To appear. What is the human language faculty? Two views. Language/ (Available at http://ase.tufts.edu/cogstud/incbios/RayJackendoff/recentpapers.htm)

CEDRIC A. BOECKX
(PhD, Linguistics, University of Connecticut, 2001)
http://filcat.uab.cat/clt/membres/professors/boeckx/CV.pdf

ICREA Research Professor (tenured), Institutió Catalana de Recerca i Estudis Avançats & Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (2009-present)

Previous appointments:
2003-2009: Harvard University, Dept of Linguistics
2001-2006: University of Maryland, College Park, Dept of Linguistics
2006 (Fall): Leiden University, Dept of Linguistics
2001-2002: University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Dept of Linguistics

Recent books:
- Boeckx, C. A.; DiSciullo, A. M. (Eds). 2011. *The Biolinguistic enterprise*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Boeckx, C. A. (Ed.). 2011. *The Oxford Handbook of Linguistic Minimalism*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Boeckx, C. 2009. *Language in cognition*. Malden: Wiley-Blackwell.

Co-editor: *Biolinguistics* (http://www.biolinguistics.eu)

INFORMATION, APPLICATIONS AND TIMETABLE

Morning session: Starts at 10:30h
Afternoon session: Starts at 15:00h
Information and Applications: Prof. João Veloso (CLUP), jveloso@letras.up.pt
Price:
- Students, Researchers and Staff from the University of Porto, Members of CLUP: Free of charge
- Researchers and Staff from other universities: 40 EUR (paid cash upon arrival)
- Students from other universities: 20 EUR (paid cash upon arrival)

Venue:
Faculdade de Letras da Universidade do Porto (http://sigarra.up.pt/flup_uk/WEB_BASE.GERA_PAGINA?p_pagina=1942)
Via Panorâmica, s/n – 4150-564 PORTO
"Sala de Reuniões" – 2nd Floor