Einladung zum Vortrag

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„Testing the Category Precision Hypothesis"

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The revised Speech Learning Model (Flege & Bohn, 2021) posits that (1) the capacity for speech learning remains intact over the life span and (2) segmental speech representations reflect input received over the life span and can be updated whenever input changes. What, then, explains the individual differences in production and perception accuracy that is so often seen in L2 research, even for highly experienced users of an L2? According to the SLM-r, the production of L2 vowels and consonants depends importantly on how individuals perceive the relation (if any) between L2 sounds and the nearest L1 sound(s). Give that the L1 categories of individuals are apt to differ in detail, cross-language mapping patterns and perceived L1-L2 phonetic distances may also differ. Learners establish new phonetic categories when sufficient phonetic dissimilarity is perceived to exist. When smaller (or no) L1-L2 differences are perceived, learners are predicted to merge the phonetic properties of an L2 sound with its nearest L1 neighbor. These

"composite" phonetic categories reflect input from two languages. This talk focuses on one as-yet untested hypothesis of the SLM-r: individuals whose L1 categories are precise, exhibiting relatively little token-to-token variability, will be better able to detect L1-L2 phonetic differences and so will be more likely to establish new phonetic categories for L2 sounds than those whose L1 categories are less precise.

Wir freuen uns auf Ihre Teilnahme!