Dr. Melanie Weirich (Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena) will give a talk on

**Speaker identity, phonetic variability and social meaning**

Factors such as age, gender, ethnicity, and group membership have played a pivotal role in explaining inter-speaker variability in speech and idiosyncratic fine phonetic detail since the beginnings of sociolinguistics. In this talk I will present two aspects of sociophonetic variability in the production and perception of speech both concentrating on the social identity of a speaker.

The first aspect deals with the multi-ethnic variety Kiezdeutsch, emphasizing the social meaning of the /ʃ/-/ç/ merger, one of the phonetic-phonological characteristics of this sociolect.

The second aspect deals with speaker gender, highlighting the importance of self-ascribed gender identity to explaining variation in speech production and perception within the same gender.

Everyone is cordially invited.