At the invitation of projects B05 and C03

Prof. Daniel Swingley (University of Pennsylvania) will give a talk in the 5th SFB-colloquium

**Phonetic variability and the poverty of the stimulus in constraining developmental hypotheses about language learning**

Psychologists have sometimes characterized learning to understand language as starting with mastery of sounds, then learning words, then discovering how words go together. I will discuss the possibility that this cannot be correct, because it misconceives the developmental role of phonology, and because it poses insoluble categorization problems for learners. I will present experimental and modeling work suggesting a different hypothesis about the learning process.

Everyone is cordially invited.

Please note that Prof. Swingley will also give a talk in the “Typical and atypical language acquisition”-Colloquium on Thursday, 24 May, 12.30 pm. The title of this talk is: *Which words babies know, and why*. Location: Campus Golm, Building 28, Room 0.104