SFB 1287 Limits of Variability in Language
Cognitive, Grammatical, and Social Aspects

13th SFB-Colloquium, Friday, 10 May 2019, 12.15 pm
University of Potsdam, Campus Golm, Building 29, Seminar Room 0.26

At the invitation of projects B03 and Q

Prof. Dr. Brian Dillon (UMass, Amherst, USA)
will give a talk on

The real-time computation of agreement dependencies: The view from acceptability judgments

Agreement attraction phenomena have become an important model case for psycholinguists interested in understanding how syntactic structure is represented in working memory over the course of incremental parsing. In this talk I will summarize two lines of research that investigate agreement attraction phenomena (a project led by Christopher Hammerly, along with Adrian Staub, and Matt Wagers) using acceptability judgment methodologies. Across these studies, we apply formal models of decision making under uncertainty applied to acceptability judgments, with the aim of quantifying key aspects of the underlying mental state that supports acceptability judgments in agreement attraction constructions. At present, our data suggest that agreement attraction phenomena in comprehension, as in production, reflect in large part the mechanisms by which morphosyntactic features are encoded in memory during incremental processing."

Everyone is cordially invited.