



DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

Colloquium

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The Native Speaker In Second Language Processing Research

Tuesday, January 24th, 2:30 p.m.

Bluemont Hall, Room 498

Abstract: Native speaker performance is generally a baseline comparison for non-native speaker performance. However, two opposing approaches make different assumptions about the nature of native versus non-native speaker language. The Emergentist approach views native/non-native speaker differences as quantitative and relative, while the Generative approach (e.g., Chomskyan) views them as qualitatively and biologically distinct. Evidence for each view will be presented, and implications for interpreting second language processing research, particularly response time data, will be discussed.