

MGA Workshop – Methods of Gesture Analysis: “From form to meaning”
October 8-10, 2009
Human Technology Centre (HumTec)
RWTH Aachen University

in collaboration with
Berlin Gesture Center (www.berlingesturecenter.de)
VW-project “Towards a Grammar of Gesture” at the European University Viadrina
(www.togog.org)

organizers:

Irene Mittelberg, HumTec, RWTH Aachen University
Cornelia Müller, European-University Viadrina & Berlin Gesture Center

This workshop is the third event in a series of workshops dedicated to Methods of Gesture Analysis (MGA). Previous locations include European-University Viadrina and VU University Amsterdam. The workshop brings together experts in gesture research and doctoral students, post-docs, and faculty who wish to receive hands-on training in the analysis of spontaneous coverbal gestures.

MGA takes a semiotic, semantic, and micro-analytic stance. The workshop spans both formal and semantic aspects of gesture analysis. While participants will be introduced to the core concepts that are central to this approach, the focus will be on analyzing speech and gesture data bottom-up. We will move from a fine-grained gestural form analysis (form features, gesture phases, and gesture combinations) to mimetic modes and finally to some of the central semantic processes in concrete and abstract referential gestures (including iconicity, indexicality, metaphor, and metonymy). Special attention will be paid to the distribution of semantic features across speech and gestures.

In addition, there will be a joint plenary talk (title tba) by

Alan Cienki, VU University Amsterdam, and
Cornelia Müller, European University Viadrina.

Workshop fees: €40 for students and €80 for non-students (covering registration, tea/coffee breaks, and the welcome reception). Attendance is limited to 20 participants.

If you are interested in participating, please email your CV and a one-page description of your experience with and/or interest in gesture analysis by September 7, 2009 to mga2009@humtec.rwth-aachen.de

Further details concerning the program will soon be made available at www.humtec.rwth-aachen.de (under "Natural Media & Engineering").

For more information, please contact us at: mga2009@humtec.rwth-aachen.de

