

Title and abstract of the invited lecture:

Developmental Perspectives on Speech Planning and Production

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It is easy to identify young children's voices in a crowd: these are typically higher than those of adults, but may also have missing grammatical morphemes, more pauses and slower speaking rate. These differences suggest that children may plan their speech differently from the way adults do, and raise questions about how their speech planning processes develop and change over time. However, most models of speech planning assume an adult language processor; there has been little attempt to model connected speech processes in children. Recent adult research shows that speech initiation time and the size of (prosodic) planning units can differ as a function of task, suggesting that even adult speakers may not always plan their speech in the same way for the same utterance. These findings present both a challenge and an opportunity for exploring similar issues in child speech. This talk thus presents preliminary findings regarding aspects of children's speech planning processes with the goal of moving toward a developmental model of speech planning and production.