De : FCBG Info
À : Françoise Defferrard
Objet : {MARKETING}NEURO-CONNECT - Nov 25th, 2025
Date : lundi, 17 novembre 2025 09:01:23

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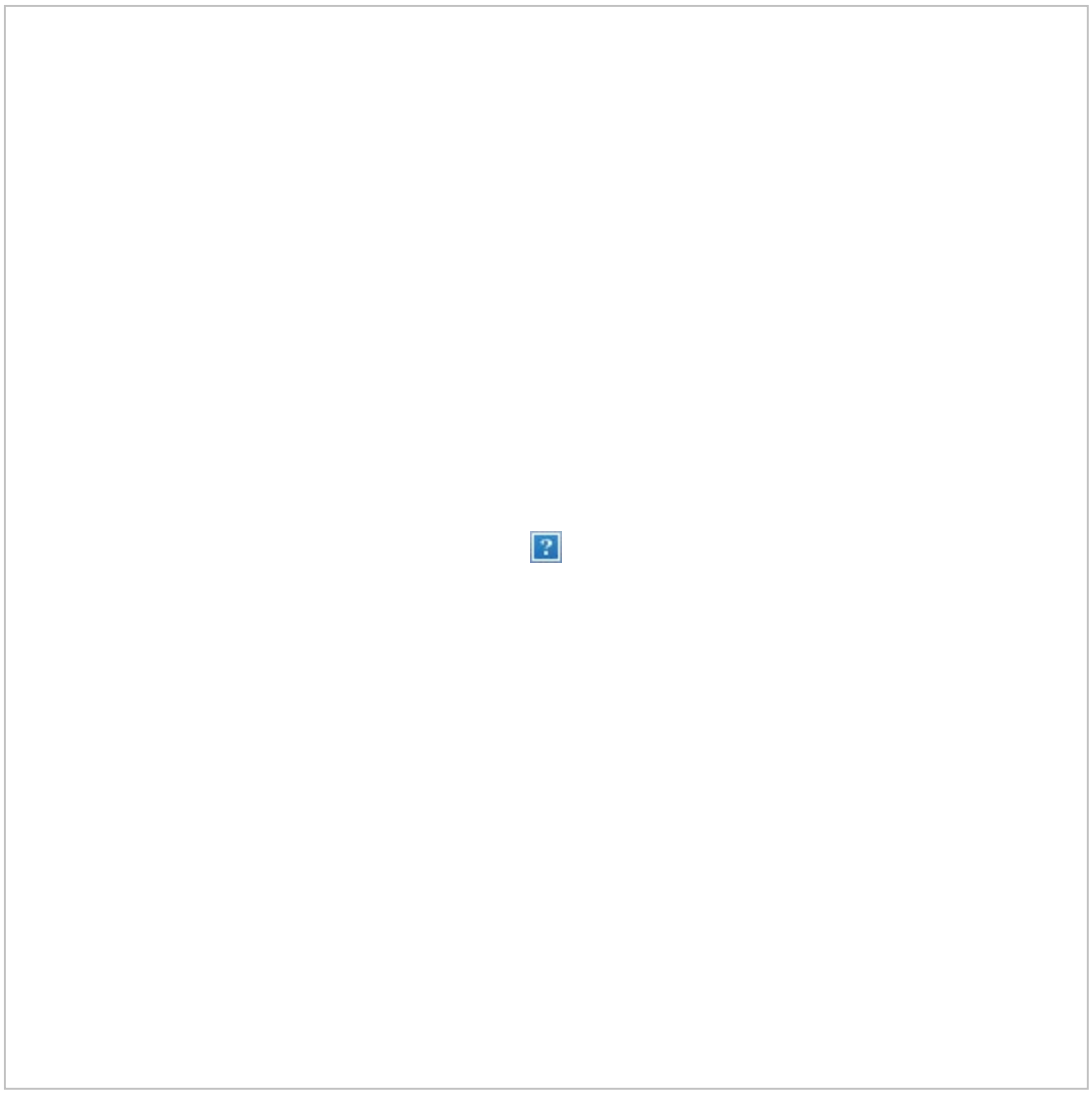
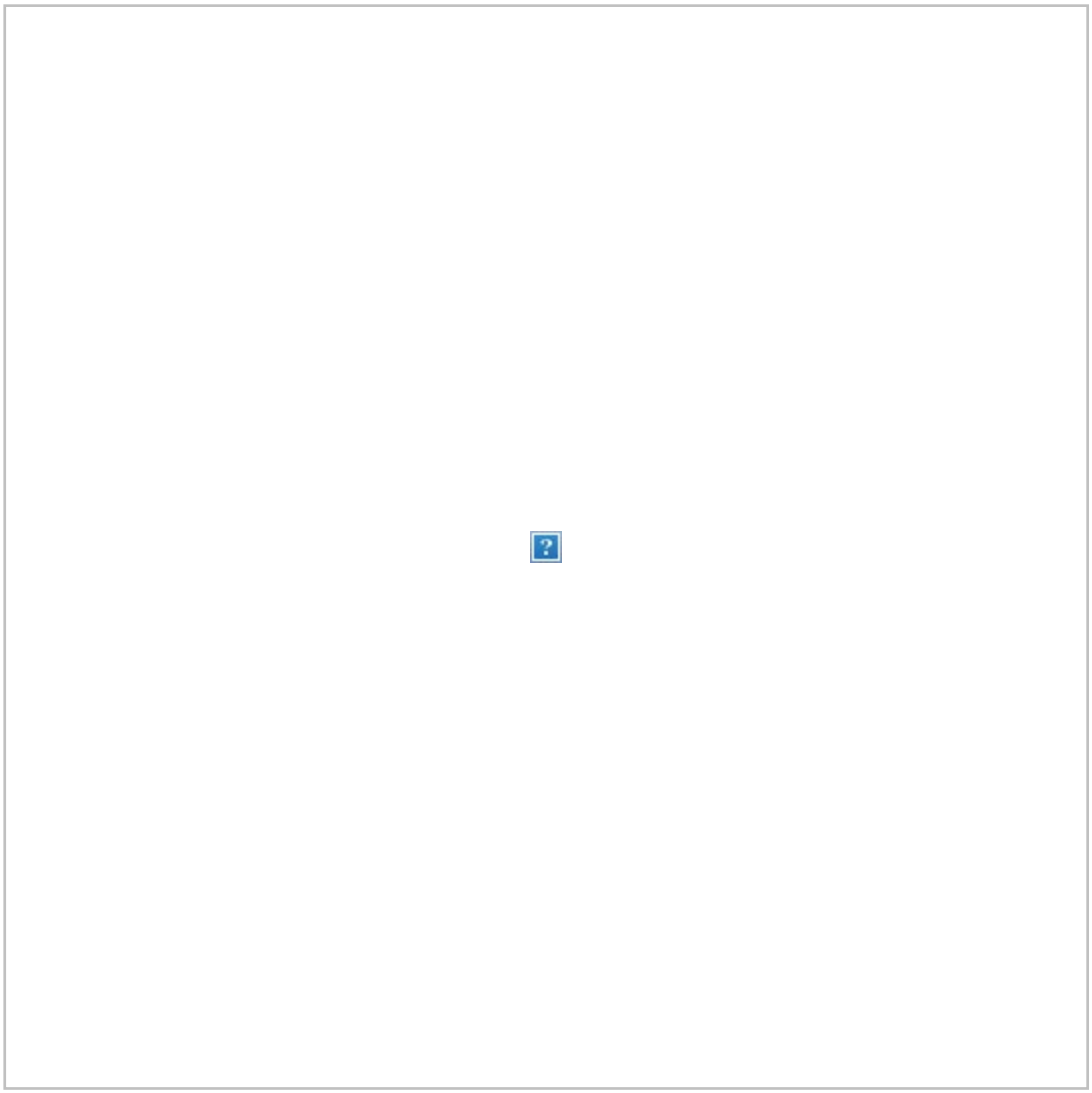


NEURO-CONNECT Tuesday Seminar, November 25th, 12:15 - 13:15 pm



Dear all,

You are cordially invited to the next **NEURO-Connect** seminar, which will take place on **November 25th at 12:15** in room **H8-01-D** at Campus Biotech.

The next session will be hosted by **UNIGE.** The speaker will be **Dr. Saloni KRISHNAN** (University College Landon) with the talk *"***Reward and motivation mechanisms for language learning: insights from development, neuroscience, and neurodiversity***"*. Please see abstract and other details below.

Private meetings with Dr. S. Krishnan can be organized, and early career researchers (ECR, e.g., doctoral and postdoctoral) are encouraged to join the invited speaker for a networking lunch offered by the FCBG (10 spots, first-come, first-served). To indicate your wish to meet one-to-one with Dr. S. Krishnan, please write to Valentina.Borghesani@unige.ch, and to register for the ECR lunch after the talk, please fill-in the following survey **Lunch registration**. **The deadline in both cases is, Monday November 24th**. This

delay is needed to be able to properly organize the schedule and to order the correct number of meals in time. We thank you for your cooperation.

Doctoral students can receive credits for their attendance, please don't forget to have your attendance sheet signed.

For any questions on this event, you can contact the session organizer at Valentina.Borghesani@unige.ch.

Looking forward to seeing you at NEURO-Connect.

The organizing team

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NEURO-CONNECT seminars
Tuesday, November 25th
12:15 - 13:15
Campus Biotech, H8-1-D

Dr. Saloni KRISHNAN (University College Landon)

"Reward and motivation mechanisms for language learning: insights from development, neuroscience, and neurodiversity"
From our earliest years, language learning is profoundly rewarding, allowing us to communicate with others. In this talk, I will present evidence from new behavioural and neuroimaging paradigms showing that intrinsic reward is not just a by-product of language learning but can actively boost comprehension and memory. I will then consider why these motivational benefits are not experienced equally. Children with dyslexia tend to read less, and those with language disorders often avoid language-rich environments. Our neural and behavioural findings suggest that intrinsic reward responses during naturalistic word learning are attenuated in children with dyslexia, even when they learn successfully. These findings provide insight into the vicious cycle in which reduced ability limits motivation, and reduced motivation further restricts opportunities for learning. Finally, I will examine if extrinsic incentives (such as monetary and social rewards) can enhance learning, and whether incentives need to be tailored for different learners. Bringing together insights from development, neuroscience, and neurodiversity, I will argue that understanding the interplay between reward and language systems can reshape how we think about language learning. We need to consider motivation when designing educational and clinical programmes, so we can make language learning

genuinely rewarding for all children.

Bio: Dr. Saloni Krishnan is a developmental cognitive neuroscientist who focuses on language learning in childhood communication disorders, such as DLD (developmental language disorder) and dyslexia. Saloni is based at UCL Language and Cognition, where she is Associate Professor in Developmental Language Sciences. Saloni has received funding from the Academy of Medical Sciences, MRC and ESRC, and currently leads a team investigating the links between motivation and language learning. Saloni has won several prizes for her research, including the Neil O'Connor Award from the British Psychological Society and the NDAS Mid-Career Prize. She was named a Rising Star by the Association of Psychological Sciences in 2022. She serves on the editorial team at Communications Psychology, the International Journal of Language and Communication Disorders, and the Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry. She is a member of the UK Young Academy and a committee member of the British Psychological Society's Developmental section.

Zoom:https://eu01web.zoom.us/j/68616269850?pwd=tT5Rm7YarJgaV4ZWQYNa86MEmga0MT.1

Meeting ID: 686 1626 9850
Passcode: 097437

Disclaimer: the Neuro-Connect seminars are recorded. By participating, you authorize the possible capture and use of your image or voice in audiovisual recordings made during the event.

The NEURO-Connect seminars aim at presenting different areas of the neuroscience community in Campus Biotech, ranging from cognition and emotion to neurobiology and neuroengineering, with the support of all institutions active on the site, including the UNIGE (NEUFO, CISA, FPSE), NCCR Evolving Language, EPFL (Neuro-X), HUG, CIBM and Wyss Center, and with the support of the Fondation Campus Biotech Geneva.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to valentina.borghesani@unige.ch.

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