Writing and Cognition in Interdisciplinary **Perspective**

Writing is one of the key early markers of human civilization, and it has been around for more than 5,000 years. This 5-day international conference will bring together neuroscientists and experts on ancient writing systems with the goal of adding a historical dimension to neuroscience and, for ancient world studies, opening up objective criteria for measuring the efficiency of writing. The conference aims to foster exchange between scholars active in different fields. To facilitate this dialogue, the conference will combine traditional talks with discussion panels. We have invited talks on topics related to: (1) aspects of script usage from different perspectives; (2) neuroanatomical networks and writing-related pathologies; (3) relationship between writing and language; (4) visual form and eye coordination in reading as constituent factors of writing: (5) cognitive load and the role of behaviors in reading; (6) materiality and spatial arrangement of writing; (7) interaction between mind, body and the material technologies of writing; and (8) role of the visual system and object recognition in writing. The conference proceedings will be published.

Invited Keynote Speakers Laurent Cohen. Paris Haleli Harel, Jerusalem Olivier Morin. CNRS / ENS-PSL Lambros Malafouris. Oxford Gordon Whittaker, Göttingen

Invited Workshop Leaders Aleksandra Eberhard-Moscicka, Bern

Special Feature Experiment: eye movement behavior (saccades) in reading ancient texts

Organization

Annick Payne, Bern and Venice René Müri. Bern Karenleigh A. Overmann, Colorado

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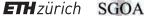


























International conference

Writing and Cognition in Interdisciplinary **Perspective**

25 - 30 August 2024 Monte Verità, Ascona, Switzerland

SUNDAY 25 AUGUST

15.00-17.00 Arrival & Registration

17.00-17.30 Welcome Apéro

17.30-19.00 Keynote lecture Gianmaria Potenza: Elaborating New Codes. Presented by Valeria Loddo

19.00-20.30 Dinner

MONDAY 26 AUGUST

7.00-8.00 Breakfast

8.00-10.00 **Welcome**

Keynote lecture Haleli Harel, Orly Goldwasser and Dmitry Nikolaev: Concepts and categories: A datadriven network approach with iClassifier

10.00-10.30 Coffee Break

10.30-12.30 Presentations Chair: Karenleigh Overmann

Annick Payne: Phonetic Classifiers in the Anatolian Hieroglyphic Script

Nathan Lovejoy: Listening, interpreting, and (mis) understanding personal names in the multilingual ancient Near East

Šárka Velhartická: Thoughts on bilingualism in ancient Near Eastern texts

12.30-14.00 Lunch

14.00-16.00 Presentations Chair: Nicolò Bordoni

Paul Saenger: Verbal numbers and numerals: The Christian metamorphosis of Medieval Latin and its linguistic and neuroscientific implications

Michela Galli: Read and transcribe. Cartular copyists in 13th-century Paris

Arthur P.-É. Coppée: Hylography: A cognitive archaeology of writing in the Aegean Bronze Age

16.00-16.30 Coffee Break

16.00-18.00 Keynote lecture Laurent Cohen: The reading brain

18.00-19.00 Eberhard-Moscicka and Müri:

Methodology Workshop Neuroscience

19.00-20.30 Dinner

TUESDAY 27 AUGUST

7.30-8.30 Breakfast

8.30-10.00 Keynote lecture Gordon Whittaker: Exploring the complex relationship of sign sequences to language

10.00-10.30 Coffee Break

10.30-12.30 Presentations Chair: Nathan Lovejoy

Rachel Garton: Eye movements while reading Hakha Lai: Exploring literacy processing in Tibeto-Burman languages

Benjamin K. Tsou: On dating the origins of the Chinese writing system: A sociolinguistic perspective

Jeremy J. Purcell and **Robert W. Wiley**: Insights into the sublexical system in written English

12.30-14.00 Lunch

14.00-16.00 Presentations Chair: Šárka Velhartická

Martin Kupky: Competing notations in a system, or "how do I express the same thing in three different ways?" The Deutsche Bahn signaling system

Karenleigh A. Overmann: Writing as visible language Yannis Haralambous and Sveva Elti di Rodeano: Compounding and computing: Grapholinguistics and its

16.00-16.30 Coffee Break

16.30-19.00 Reading Experiment

application to ancient writing systems

19.00-20.30 Dinner

WEDNESDAY 28 AUGUST

7.30-8.30 Breakfast

8.30-10.00 Keynote lecture Olivier Morin: Solving the puzzle of ideography

10.00-10.30 Coffee Break

10.30-12.30 **Presentations** Chair: Gabriele Biancalani **Jean-Jacques Glassner**: L'écriture, les mots et les images **Emily Zeran**: The state of phonograms in cuneiform c. 2550

Colton Siegmund: Seeing signs in Mesopotamia

12.30-14.00 Lunch

15.30-21.30 Excursion & Conference Dinner

THURSDAY 29 AUGUST

7.30-8.30 Breakfast

8.30-10.00 Keynote lecture Lambros Malafouris: Writing as 'thinging': A material engagement perspective

10.00-10.30 Coffee Break

10.30-12.30 Presentations Chair: René Müri

Christian Prager: Writing, speaking, thinking: Maya hieroglyphic writing revisited

Gordon Berthin: A study of analogous glyph forms and their possible roles in Rongorongo

Janusz Krukowski: Semasiographic writing from 13,000 years ago

12.30-14.00 Lunch

14.00-16.00 Presentations Chair: Sveva Elti di Rodeano

Valérie Angenot: Language and writing in a tropological perspective.

Elisabeth Birk: A typology of typologies: Recent developments in writing systems typology

Alexey Koshevoy: Zipf's Law of Abbreviation holds for individual characters across a broad range of writing systems

David L. Share: What makes a writing system efficient for the reader?

16.00-16.30 Coffee Break

16.30-19.00 Reading Experiment

19.00-20.30 Dinner

FRIDAY 30 AUGUST

7.30-8.30 Breakfast

8.30-10.00 **Panel Müri, Overmann** and **Payne**: Research Outlook and Network

10.00-10.30 Coffee Break

10.30-12.30 Reading Experiment

12.30-14.00 Lunch