

# The Origin of Man, Language and Languages (OMLL)

European Science Foundation Eurocores Programme

## Workshop: "Phylogeny and Ontogeny of Human Communication"

- *From primates to humans: what evolution says on communication*
- *Action, imitation and communication development in infants*
- *Genes and language evolution*

**Dates and location:** Ferrara, Italy, 2-4 June 2005, Sala dell'Arengo, Piazza Municipale.

### **Program:**

#### **2 June, Thursday**

14h15 Introduction and welcoming

- **Genes and Language Evolution**

14h30 Barbujani (Ferrara, OMLL): How are genomic and linguistic changes related? ([web page](#))

15h15 Fisher (Oxford): Language and FoxP2 gene. ([web page](#))

16h00 Discussants: van der Veen and Moral

16h30 *Coffee break*

- **Action, Imitation and Communication Development**

17h00 von Hofsten (Uppsala): Goals and predictivity in infants. ([web page](#))

17h45 Pallier (Paris): The critical period for language acquisition. ([web page](#))

18h30 Discussants: Rizzolatti and Volterra

20h00 *Dinner*

#### **3 June Friday**

- **From Primates to Humans: what Evolution says on Communication**

9h00 Rizzolatti (Parma, OMLL): Mirror neurons and the evolution of language. ([web page](#))

9h45 Slocombe (St. Andrews, OMLL): Communication in primates. ([web page](#))

10h30 Discussants: Mehler and Schwartz

11h10 *Coffee break*

- **Action, Imitation and Communication Development**

11h30 Nadel (Paris): Imitation in infants. ([web page](#))

12h15 Gergely (Budapest): What do infants imitate? ([web page](#))

13h00 Mehler (Trieste, OMLL): Language in newborns? ([web page](#))

*Lunch break*

15h00 Discussants: Fadiga and Gallese

- **From Primates to Humans: what Evolution says on Communication**

15h30 Hari (Helsinki): The role of the inferior frontal gyrus in imitation and communication. ([web page](#))

16h15 Wolfensteller (Leipzig): Cognitive functions of human premotor cortex. ([web page](#))

17h00 *coffee break*

17h30 Fadiga (Ferrara, OMLL): The mirror-neuron system in humans. ([web page](#))

18h15 Discussants: Nazzi, Barbujani and Schwartz

20H00 *Conference Dinner*

#### **4 June Saturday**

- **Genes and Language Evolution**

9h00 Muysken and Veenstra (Leiden/Berlin): Creolization. ([web page](#))

9h45 De Knijff (Leiden): The Himalayan paradigm. ([web page](#))

10h30 Discussants: Nespoulet, Vigne and Laka

11h10 *Coffee break*

- **From Primates to Humans: what Evolution says on Communication**

11h30 Amunts (Juelich): Human language cortical areas. ([web page](#))

12h15 Visalberghi (Rome): Imitation in monkeys? ([web page](#))

13h00 Discussants: Slocombe and van der Veen

*Lunch break*

- **Action, Imitation and Communication Development**

15h00 Goldin Meadow (Chicago): Non verbal communication. ([web page](#))

15h45 Volterra (Rome, OMLL): Actions, gestures and words in infancy: old and new evidence. ([web page](#))

16h30 Nespors (Ferrara, OMLL): Differential acquisition of lexicon and grammar. ([web page](#))

*17h15 coffee break*

17h45 Savage-Rumbaugh (Atlanta): Do other animals speak? ([web page](#))

18h30 Discussants: Barbujani and Gallese

19h00 Conclusion

*20H00 Dinner*