Keynote Speech Early Birds Have Words: 早學三光,晚學三荒 Maria Polinksy Professor of Linguistics, Harvard University

Maintaining two or more languages is a life-long effort which produces consistent results if the learning starts early and continues steadily over the developmental span. This talk will present and analyze systematic differences between early and later bilingualism and will show that early bilingual learning can lead to significant results under consistent maintenance. However, if early bilingual learning is not continued in adolescence it results in a reduced language system different from the baseline.