



Colloquium

Prof. Dr. Michael Herzog

École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne EPFL Switzerland
Laboratory of Psychophysics LPSY

Tuesday, March 19 2013 18:00 s.t. GA 04/187

How the conscious mind constitutes itself through perceptual learning

Perceptual learning is learning to perceive. Whereas novices can hardly discriminate a Bourgogne from a Bordeaux wine, sommeliers can often identify even the grape and vineyard. Lifelong training makes experts. Perceptual learning is thought to be driven by the repeated presentation of stimuli. Here, I will show that perceptual learning can occur without stimulus presentation by mental imagery. We presented a blank screen and asked observers to imagine a Gabor stimulus. This imagery training improved performance in a similar fashion as with real Gabor presentations. Using combinatorial reasoning, I will discuss why there is imagery perceptual learning and how it individually shapes our percepts and minds.

Host: Hubert Dinse
Institut für Neuroinformatik, Neural Plasticity Lab, Ruhr University Bochum

All interested students, scientists, and scholars are cordially invited

www.rub.de/cns

www.neuralplasticitylab.de

www.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/sfb874/index.html

Funded by SFB 874