



**Universität
Zürich** UZH

Mittelbaukolloquium des Psychologischen Instituts
Leitung: Dr. Michel Druey und Dipl.-Psych. Pamela Rackow

HS 2011

Datum: 16.11.2011
Ort: Binzmühlestrasse 14, Raum BIN 3.D.27
Uhrzeit: 12.30 –13.30Uhr

Titel: Fokussieren und Defokussieren im Arbeitsgedächtnis

Referent: Laura Hein

Abstract:

The study investigates the effects of selection cues on working memory contents. Experiment 1 shows that not cued information is maintained in working memory involuntarily, even if the task does not require it. Experiments 2 and 3 investigated the fate of information that was once cued as relevant and brought into the focus of attention, but later was indicated as irrelevant and hence was de-focused. When presented as mismatching recognition probes, de-focused items are rejected better than items not previously cued. When a de-focused item was later cued again, requiring shifting the focus back to it, then that item was recognized better than an item cued for the first time. These findings indicate that de-focused information is maintained in working memory, and the binding to its position is strengthened. This strengthening facilitates recollection of those de-focused items. Response times showed faster rejection of new items than of mismatching memory items in non-relevant locations, supporting the distinction of familiarity and recollection in recognition in visual working memory. Additional results show that the focus of attention in working memory is spatially imprecise.