

Le GTRC sur les asymétries d'interfaces
et le
Département de linguistique et de didactique des langues
de
l'Université du Québec à Montréal

ont le plaisir de vous inviter à la conférence suivante :

Dynamic Islands

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(joint work with Howard Lasnik and Norbert Hornstein)

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12 h 30

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RÉSUMÉ

Generative grammar has offered two answers to the question of why ‘islands’ exist. The most well developed proposal is the Subjacency/Barriers/Phases account, all of which implement the idea that in a well designed system computations should apply within limited ‘windows’; island effects result when rules transgress the limits such windows allow (Chomsky 1973, 1977). Islands, then, are byproducts of principles that guarantee the computational efficiency of grammatical operations (Weinberg 1988). An alternative, far less well developed, approach traces the etiology of islands to conditions on the output(s) of the computational system. The roots of this approach lie in Ross’s (1967) idea that islands are the byproducts of illicit deletion operations (aka ‘chopping rules’) which deform an otherwise acceptable structure. Whereas the first approach views islands as reflecting limits on rule application, the second concentrates on the products of these computations. One implementation of this second conception piggy-backs on an MP innovation: It treats island effects as by-products of (some version of) Kayne’s (1994) Linear Correspondence Axiom (LCA), a linearization operation that maps 2-dimensional phrase markers into 1-dimensional strings for purposes of phonetic interpretation (Uriagereka 1999). In this talk we explore this second approach.

Des rafraîchissements seront servis.