The ability to learn and speak a language is the foundation of individual development, education, and active participation in society. While children seem to easily acquire their native language during development, it takes a lot of dedication and effort for adults to learn a foreign language, even though a native speaker performance level is usually not even reached. Thus, the question arises whether first language acquisition differs from second language learning and if so, in what way. Considering the multitude of cognitive and environmental factors that play into the process of language learning, there is most likely no easy answer to this question. Cognitive processes underlying first and second language learning appear to be rather complex and, as of yet, not well understood. The aim of this workshop is to present research on language learning and to discuss similarities and differences between first and second language acquisition with a special focus on the underlying cognitive processes.

**Keynote speakers:**
Harriet Bowden, University of Tennessee
Michael Frank, Stanford University
Sean Kang, Dartmouth College
Elizabeth Wonnacott, University College London

Workshop applications (see attached application form) should be sent to birgit.oettl@uni-tuebingen.de until October 15th, 2015. There is no participation fee for the workshop. Ten successful applicants (from outside of the University of Tübingen) will be selected for whom accommodation costs will be covered by the University of Tübingen.

Organization:
Katharina Braungart, Birgit Öttl, Barbara Kaup

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