

Automatic guidance of attention from working memory



DAVID SOTO

23rd March 2011

4pm Wednesday 23rd March

Ben Pilot Lecture Theatre,
Ben Pilot Building,
Goldsmiths College, New Cross,
London.

All Welcome

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I will talk about recent research showing interactions between the process of keeping information 'online' in working memory and the attention processes that select relevant information for action. I will show how human visual attention in health and disease can be strongly influenced by whether or not the stimuli in the scene match the current contents of working memory. Attentional guidance from the contents of working memory

occurs automatically, even when it is detrimental to performance; new behavioural data suggest that working memory guidance can arise even when the working memory content is not consciously seen. I will also present data from ongoing functional brain imaging projects delineating the distinct neural mechanisms supporting guidance of attention from working memory and from implicit memory.

David Soto was a post-doctoral research fellow at the Behavioural Brain Sciences Centre in Birmingham UK, visiting fellow at Harvard Medical School and then a research fellow of the British Academy at the Centre for Neuroscience at Imperial College London.

David is now Lecturer at Imperial College London, funded by a New Investigator Grant from the Medical Research Council. His main research interests revolve around the interplay between memory and attention, in health and disease.