Agency and Joint Attention
Herbert Terrace, Janet Metcalfe, and Betsy Sparrow, Co-chairs
Conference sponsored by The University Seminar on Behavioral & Cognitive Neuroscience and the Italian Academy

June 12-13, 2009
Columbia University
The Italian Academy (formerly Casa Italiana)
1161 Amsterdam Avenue
New York, NY 10027
Conference on Agency and Joint Attention

The conference brings together researchers focused on the concepts of agency and joint attention. Our main focus will be on the antecedents and the development of these cognitive skills. The conference participants are a diverse group of scholars who have investigated these issues from a variety of perspectives. Some have argued for the uniqueness of agency and joint attention in humans while others believe that some of the precursors exist in non-human primates.

**Developmental Joint Attention** 9:00am – 12:45pm – *chaired by Herb Terrace*

**Beatrice Beebe** - On knowing and being known in the 4-month origins of disorganized attachment

**Nathan Emery** - Why corvids may be better models of shared intentionality and joint attention than chimpanzees.

**Alison Gopnik** – Intentional action, correlation and causation: Why don’t Pavlov’s dogs ring the bell?

**Stefanie Höhl** – Neural processing of eye gaze and emotional expressions in infancy

**Andrew Meltzoff** - The development of gaze following in infants

**Atsushi Senju** - An ostensive signal is necessary for gaze following in young infants: A case for natural pedagogy

**Athena Vouloumanos**. - Infants' understanding of the communicative affordances of speech

**Agency** 2:00pm - 5:30pm – *chaired by Janet Metcalfe*

**Guenther Knoblich** - Cues to agency: The role of body, action, and thought

**Janet Metcalfe** – The heuristic nature of metacognition of agency

**Josef Perner** - Teleology: A basic grasp of intentional action

**Ezequiel Morsella** - The three pillars of volition: Phenomenal states, ideomotor processing, and the skeletal muscle system

**Wolfgang Prinz**. - Fingers, Flankers, Faces: How task sharing helps with task shaping

**Social Aspects of Agency & Joint Attention** 9:00am -1:15pm - *chaired by Betsy Sparrow*

**Fabia Franco** - Embodied attention in infant pointing

**Daniel Povinelli** - Joint attention in primates: Perspectives of a former monkey mind doctor

**Natalie Sebanz** - Agency as a social phenomenon?

**Betsy Sparrow** - The experience of agency in co-action

**Herb Terrace** - Innumerable gradations: Filling gaps in the evolution of language